

Hardy Vines.

560. SIR,—Please give a list of hardy climbing vines for the north side of a house in Cape Breton.
D. S. McD., *Mabou, Cape Breton.*

Not being familiar with the climate of Mabou, we can scarcely give a very complete answer. The following would be worth trying: *Ampelopsis Virginiana*, *Celastrus scandens*, *Clematis Jackmani*, *Clematis viticella*, *Lonicera Halleana*. Will some reader reply more exactly?

Pruning Plum Trees.

561. SIR,—About four years ago I had two white plum trees given me, and I was strictly charged and warned not to prune them, but let them grow as they liked, because, if I pruned them, they would die. Well, now they are large, straggling trees, and last year bore a few plums, the most of which were spotted. What must I do; and when is the proper time to prune them?
M. E. S., *Mount Royal Vale, Que.*

It is a mistaken notion that any of our fruit trees will do as well neglected as if cared for. No branches should be allowed to grow long and straggling; all such should be cut back in the spring. It will be difficult now to bring these trees into proper shape, but a good deal can be done by the intelligent application of the knife in March or April.

Varieties of Cherries.

562. SIR,—In an orchard of one thousand trees or so, would it be better to plant equal proportions of sweet and sour varieties, or would you, in Southern Ontario, plant a larger proportion of the Hearts and Bigarreaus?
ALLAN BROS., *Winona.*

In Southern Ontario we would advise the planter to include in his orchard an extended list of the best varieties. The Heart and Bigarreau cherries are like peaches, very uncertain, but when they do yield a crop the prices are high enough to make them profitable. At Maplehurst the following varieties have succeeded well: Hearts—Black Tartarian, Early Purple, Elton, Governor Wood, Knight's Early Black; Bigarreaus—Mezel, Napoleon, Elkhorn. Windsor might be added to these. Of Dukes and Morellos, the Early Richmond, the two varieties of Montmerency, English Morello and Reine Hortense, the latter an excellent variety for all purposes.

Training Grapes.

563. SIR,—I was overtaken with winter before I pruned my vines last year; and the weather this month is so far (March 13th), very unfavorable. Kindly inform me what is the latest period suitable for pruning the vineyard?
GEO. STRAUCHEN, *Woodstock.*

The only objection to pruning the grape in the month of April is the loss of sap, commonly termed bleeding. Many vineyardists do not finish the work till past the middle of that month, and the loss of vitality, so far as we have noticed, is not observable.