

FARM, LIVE STOCK, HORTICULTURE AND EVERYTHING OF FARM INTEREST

SUN-DRIED FRUIT IN THE OKANAGAN

By E. B. B. REESOR

W. H. Lyne, assistant fruit inspector for the Government of British Columbia, has been experimenting last year with sun-drying fruit in the dry belt of the Okanagan Valley with a view to promoting another industry for the fruit-growers. Mr. Lyne lived for some time in Southern California where the conditions for sun-drying fruit are ideal and where he had much experience in studying the process and in marketing the results.

Drying Fruit.—The fact that a grower may dry and market his own fruit in the dried state is of great advantage. Sometimes the market for fresh fruit is congested, for one reason or another; sometimes the fruit ripens so quickly that it is impossible to pick it at the right stage for shipping or for canning, and it is the fruit that is just ready to eat that is at its best for sun-drying. Culls and part-overs should be fed to hogs, not dried and sent to the market as Okanagan produce.

Sun-drying Simple.—The process of sun-drying the fruit is very simple and applies to apricots, peaches, plums, prunes, apples, pears, and some kinds of grapes. In the experiments in the Okanagan we first made our own outfit consisting of wooden trays and a sulphur box. Our trays were three feet square and the trays for two men are two feet wide and six to eight feet long, made of white sugar pine. For sides and ends we used 1/4-inch square material. Slat for body of tray 1 1/2-inch thick, 6 inches wide and 3 feet long, and slat for ends and sides 1 1/2-inch thick, 6 inches wide and 3 feet long.

Plum.—The trays were placed within the sulphur box and the fruit was laid on the trays in a single layer. The trays were then placed in the sulphur box and the fruit was laid on the trays in a single layer. The trays were then placed in the sulphur box and the fruit was laid on the trays in a single layer.

Making Sulphur Boxes.—For the sulphur boxes we got some common matched lumber, enough to build a bottomless box to accommodate the size of trays we made; nailed slats on the inside, one above the other, on which the trays were to be placed. The door snugly enough to confine the fumes within the box.

The empty trays were placed within the box and arranged so that the

large and the smaller pieces could easily be put on to separate trays, so that even drying of the fruit was assured, as the smaller sizes dry more quickly than the larger. The cutting was carefully done, a clean circular cut right around, the pit removed, and the fruit placed out side up on the trays. When the trays were filled we ran them into the sulphur box, in which had been placed one pound of powdered sulphur on an old piece of newspaper in a slight excavation on the eastern floor. The edges of the paper were set on fire, when the sulphur was set on fire, when the sulphur was set on fire, when the sulphur was set on fire.

We stacked the trays at night to prevent the possibility of moisture coming in contact with the fruit.

To find when the fruit was dried to perfection we took a piece of the fruit and bent or pressed it with the forefinger. When there was no sign of any soft, pulpy substance remaining, the fruit was stacked up until it had cooled off. It was then taken from the trays and put into boxes or bins, where it went thru a natural sweat before being packed and put on the market.

This year the small-sized apricots were dried in about six days, and the larger size in about nine days; but in hotter seasons it would likely take a day or two less. In drying pears, the fruit should be placed in clean water directly it is peeled and cored, keeping it immersed until ready to place on the trays, and then put into the sulphur box as quickly as possible, so that it will not discolor.

Prunes dried whole with the pit in them are dipped in hot lye water in order that the skin may crack. They are not sulphured, but placed in the trays direct from the lye bath and put into the sulphur box.

Evaporation Advised.—In order that there shall be no waste in drying fruit, the British Columbia fruit-growers are advised to build evaporators, so that the latest varieties of fruit may be dried when the season is at its height and the sunshine less heating.

One advantage of sun-dried fruit lies both to the grower and to the consumer. It was one way by which the grower and the consumer got the better of the transportation company, as the fruit was shipped in the dried state, and the consumer added it when he shipped it. It cost more to carry the fruit, it cost more to carry the fruit, it cost more to carry the fruit.

SOLD BERRY CROP BY CO-OPERATION

Oakville Fruit Growers Got Best Prices Thru Scientific Marketing

After a very successful season last year the Oakville Fruit Growers' Association intend this year to follow the same plan of selling their berry crop as was then adopted. A representative of the association visited many cities in the east to Orlino in the north, and arranged with the retail fruit merchants and grocers to receive their fruit direct from the association. The plan worked out successfully, and \$15,000 worth of berries were thus enabled to get better prices for their fruit, and the retail merchants were sure of receiving a line of dried and sound fruit. The greatest trouble experienced was with the express companies in getting a rapid delivery of the berries.

The association has also been very successful in the co-operative purchasing of supplies. This winter sprays, baskets, etc. have been bought in large quantities for the benefit of the members of the association, and a very considerable saving has thus been effected. The greatest trouble experienced was with the express companies in getting a rapid delivery of the berries.

The chief market for apples was found in the Canadian West, and the market will be supplied this coming season.

NEEDED PRECAUTIONS TO KILL PEACH BORER

Pest Must Be Destroyed in Spring and Autumn — Paints Not Satisfactory.

Those who grow peaches must take precautions to keep their trees free from the borer. These pests are hatched from eggs laid at the base of the trunk late in the autumn, and in the spring they hatch and bore their way into the sapwood and begin eating between the bark. Twice a year, each spring and fall, the soil should be removed from about the lower trunk, and the trees examined for the pests.

The dead sunken patches of bark and the gum and resin which exude from the presence of the borer. With a sharp knife cut away the dead tissues and kill the pests within. If borers are found to enter the heartwood, run a pliable wire in the holes and squash the offenders. Treat the wounds with Bordeaux mixture or other antiseptic after paring them smooth, and coat with a white lead paint. After the spring inspection, which should be completed by the time, precautions should be taken to prevent the insects from laying their eggs so low as to make searching for the borer a tedious and difficult matter.

There have been many substances compounded to paint the lower trunks to repel the pests, but none has proven very satisfactory. The best means of fighting the borer is to adjust paper collars about the lower trunks, forcing the adult to lay their eggs within. The worms can be easily reached in case the elements do not kill them. Before the last of May adjust collars of heavy building paper about the trunks, having them extend from a few inches below the ground to a foot or so up the trunk, and hold them in place with wire ties. Such a precaution will save a world of trouble and a multitude of trees.

KILL DANDELIONS BY USING SPRAYS

Experiments in Destroying Weed Prove These Means Successful.

DIFFICULT TO DESTROY

Other Methods Include Digging Root Out and Applying Kerosene.

The common dandelion is the most troublesome weed to deal with in both city and country lands. It is over its large leaves and brilliant yellow flowers it makes a lawn most unsightly and completely spoils the pleasing effect of a strip of clear green grass. It is also one of the most difficult weeds to eradicate, and for that reason it is seen year by year increasing in numbers. It perpetuates itself by a large fleshy root, which is very difficult to pull out, and which must be completely removed or killed before the weed can be stamped out.

One of the most common methods to get rid of the weed is to dig out as much as possible of the root with a long, heavy knife, or with a spud, and then to put a few drops of coal oil on the cut surface of the remainder of the root. The mere cutting off of the top of the plant is of no real value, as a new head will quickly spring up from the root, which is very hardy.

In England, where great care is taken of the lawns and where labor is comparatively cheap, sulphuric acid is injected into each plant by means of a syringe. This is a very successful method of dealing with dandelions, but has objections on account of the time required to go over the land and also because of the great corrosive and dangerous action of the acid on the hands of the operator.

Sprays Successful.—Recently numerous experiments have been conducted at the agricultural experimental stations in Canada and the United States, on the spraying of dandelions with different substances which would be strong enough to kill the weed and still leave the grass unharmed. The results with certain sprays have been very successful among which iron sulphate is the most satisfactory.

The spray is prepared by dissolving two pounds of iron sulphate in a gallon of water, and is applied by means of a spray pump which will send it out in a fine mist. This should be applied from four to six times a year, according to the requirements of the case. The first spray should be given before the dandelion flowers appear and the second very soon after an infestation of from four to six weeks. A single application is of little value as the roots are not killed by the spray, but are starved out by the continued killing of the heads which cuts off the food supply. The grass is sometimes blackened by the action of the spray, but serious injury is never done unless the spray is applied at an excessive rate.

This spray is cheap, easy of application and does not involve the use of any well repaid by the greatly increased beauty of a clean lawn.

WASTEFUL CHINCH BUG INVADES DOMINION

Pest-Caused Losses of Three Hundred and Fifty Millions in States.

The experimental farms branch of the department of agriculture has issued Entomological Circular No. 8, entitled "The Chinch Bug in Ontario." This has been prepared by Mr. H. F. Hudson, field officer of the entomological service. In the United States the losses due to the ravages of the chinch bug, during the last 60 years, considerably exceeded \$350,000,000. Fortunately no very serious outbreaks have as yet occurred in Canada, but the insect has established itself in Middlesex County in Ontario, and has been reported also from Nova Scotia.

The circular, therefore, is timely, and discusses the methods to be adopted in order to control the insect. In 1912 an investigation of the infested area in Middlesex County was made by the above field officer, and the life-history of the insect, etc., was studied. In the circular the information gathered during the investigation is given. Preventive measures such as clean farming, rotation of crops, etc., are discussed, as well as artificial remedies. Copies of the circular may be obtained free of charge from the publication branch, department of agriculture, Ottawa.

Coming Events

Calgary Industrial Exhibition, Calgary, Alberta, June 22-July 4.
Lethbridge Industrial Exhibition, Lethbridge, Alberta, July 6 to 9.
Canadian Industrial Exhibition, Winnipeg, Man., July 10-18.
Brandon Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, Brandon, Man., July 22-25.
Regina Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, Regina, Sask., July 27-Aug. 1.
Saskatoon Industrial Exhibition, Saskatoon, Sask., Aug. 3-8.
Edmonton Exhibition, Edmonton, Alberta, Aug. 10-15.
Cobourg Horse Show, Aug. 18-25.

HEAVY SOIL BEST TO PLANT BEANS

Wait Till Danger of Frost is Over Before Sowing Seed.

Many people seem to think that when land is too poor to raise anything else it may be planted to beans. This is of course a mistake for beans require a good soil just as much as any other garden crop.

Beans will come into bearing earlier on a sandy soil, but will produce poor in quality and in greater number if planted on a heavy soil. Beans are tender and should not be planted until all danger from frost is over and the ground is warm. If the soil is poor a good dressing of manure should be given when the beans are planted. The ground should be worked early in the spring and cultivated several times before planting so that a large number of weeds will be destroyed and much hard labor saved when the beans are growing.

In the garden plant the beans in rows eighteen inches apart having single plants about six inches apart. For field cultivation the rows should be about three feet apart in order to permit of horse cultivation.

Give frequent shallow cultivations until the blossoms appear, after which cultivation should cease as the lower end of the plant is liable to be killed by the hoe. Give frequent shallow cultivations until the blossoms appear, after which cultivation should cease as the lower end of the plant is liable to be killed by the hoe.

It is well to remember that beans will prolong the bearing season. Successful plantings should be made every two weeks until the middle of July to insure a constant supply of fresh pods.

BUILD NEW MILL

MEDICINE HAT, Alberta, May 23.—The contract for erection of a \$1,000,000 mill for the Maple Leaf Milling Company has been awarded to Archibald of Winnipeg, who will build a mill for the firm.

Speaks Well of the West

"Notwithstanding all that has been said about trade depression, there have been more mortgage and current debts paid off during the last year than in any former year I remember. In fact, the bulk of the products of the last two years crops have been sold at a profit," said Mr. Motherwell, Saskatchewan minister of agriculture, in Winnipeg, recently.

BACKWARD SPRING AFFECTED CROPS

April Proved to Be Trying Month for Young Wheat.

PEACH BUDS FROZEN

Apples, Pears and Plums Appear Promising According to Blossom.

The following statement regarding crop conditions in the province, based on the returns of correspondents sent in on or about the 15th of May, has been issued by the Ontario Department of Agriculture: "Fall Wheat.—In the April crop bulletin, which was based on statements of correspondents reporting on the first day of that month, what prospects were said to be encouraging, as the crop had come thru the winter practically unscathed. April, however, proved to be a most trying time for the young wheat, and it suffered severely from the formation of ice and from 'heaving.' The area plowed up this spring will not be relatively great, as farmers have preferred to drill barley or other spring grains in the bare spots, rather than lose the grass that was seeded down with the fall wheat. Some correspondents report a most promising outlook on high and well-drained land, but the bulk of the fields are more or less spotted, or patchy, with other grain. Very little injury from insects has been reported, and mention only being made of the Hessian fly.

Clover.—As in the case of fall wheat, clover fields are very variable in appearance. This crop also suffered more or less from the weathering of the early part of April, which caused considerable heaving, especially in low and poorly drained situations, although some correspondents report the fields as looking well on rolling and well-drained lands. Two-year-old clover is much poorer than that in the new fields, as the older meadows were greatly tried by last summer's drought. Some correspondents also point out that many pastures were rather too close cropped last year, and that the clover is suffering from the lack of rest.

Alfalfa.—This crop has not come thru the winter quite so well as clover. There is a strong desire expressed by correspondents for a harder variety of alfalfa suitable for the climate of this province, and Prof. C. A. Zavitz of the Ontario Agricultural College, has recently expressed himself as being hopeful that he will be able to satisfactorily meet this need very soon.

Correspondents differ greatly as to the present state of vegetation, some stating that the season is well formed, while others claim that it is a week or more late, the first two weeks of April having been too cold and wet for much growth. Cattle and sheep were reported to be on the grass dates ranging from May 1 to 11. When correspondents wrote, vegetation in the fields was well advanced, and some three-fourths of the orchard and forest trees were in bloom.

Vegetation.—The low and sustained dips in the temperature at times during the winter caused much anxiety among growers of peaches, while the cold and wet weather of the first two weeks of April, and the results have shown that they had reason for their fears. In nearly every case the buds have been killed, and in the Niagara district the loss will be almost complete, while in Essex, Kent and Lambton the injury has been lighter. One correspondent points out the fact that the varieties have escaped better than the later sorts. However, there has been comparatively no root freezing, and our great peach industry at the most is likely to suffer but one season's loss in bearing. On the other hand, apples, pears and plums are very promising as to blossom, but the presence of the Hessian fly and the oyster shell bark insect are threatening many orchards. The tent caterpillar is also much in evidence in York and other counties to the east. Small fruits have come thru the winter with comparatively little injury, and

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SYNOPSIS OF DOMINION LAND REGULATIONS

ANY PERSON who is the sole head of a family, or any male over 15 years old may homestead a quarter-section of available Dominion Land in Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta. The applicant must appear in person at the Dominion Lands Agency or Sub-Agency of the District. Entry by proxy may be made at any Agency, on certain conditions by father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of intending homesteader.

Duties:—The homesteader upon acquisition of the land in each of three years. A homesteader may live within five miles of his homestead on a farm of at least 80 acres, solely owned and occupied by him or by his father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of intending homesteader.

In certain Districts a homesteader in good standing may pre-empt a quarter-section alongside his homestead. Price, \$1.00 per acre.

Duties:—Must reside upon the homestead or pre-empted section in each of six years from date of homestead entry (including the time required to earn homestead patent, and cultivate fifty acres each year).

A homesteader who has exhausted his homestead right and cannot obtain a pre-emption may enter for a purchased homestead in certain districts. Price, \$1.00 per acre. Duties:—Must reside six months in each of three years, cultivate fifty acres and erect a house worth \$500.

W. W. CORRY, Deputy of the Minister of the Interior. N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

Cheese and Butter Prices

BELLEVILLE, May 23.—At cheese board today 1375 white, 475 colored offered; 475 colored sold at 13-10; 440 white sold at 11-13-10; balance white sold at 11-10.

LONDON, Ont., May 23.—There were 927 boxes offered; 240 sold at 12-1/2; 687 boxes offered, sold at 11-1/2.

ST. HYACINTHE, Que., May 23.—250 packages of butter sold at 22-8-0; 50 boxes cheese, offered, sold at 11-1/2.

COWANSVILLE, Que., May 23.—At the meeting of the Eastern Townships Dairywomen's Association held here this afternoon, 15 factories offered 735 packages of butter. Four buyers were present. All sold except one factory, at 22-1-0.

MONTREAL-NEW TORONTO-DETROIT-CHICAGO TRAIN SERVICE

Effective May 31st Westbound, June 1st Eastbound.

In connection with the coming change of time on the Canadian Pacific Railway, effective May 31st, many improvements in train service have been made, notable among these being the introduction of solid-luxe trains, carrying Buffet-Library-Compartment-Observation Cars, Electric-lighted Standard Sleepers, together with Standard Dining Car Service between Montreal-Toronto-Detroit-Chicago, via Canadian Pacific and Michigan Central Railroads.

These palatial trains will be known as "The Canadian," operated through the Michigan Central tunnel between Windsor and Detroit.

Westbound—leaving Montreal 8:45 a.m., arriving Toronto 5:40 p.m.; leaving Toronto 6:10 p.m., arriving London 9:25 p.m.; leaving London 9:25 p.m., arriving Windsor 12:10 a.m.; leaving Windsor 12:20 a.m., arriving Detroit 11:25 p.m. (central time); leaving Detroit 11:55 p.m., arriving Chicago 7:45 a.m.

Eastbound—leave Chicago 9:30 a.m. (central time), arrive Detroit 3:55 p.m.; leave Detroit 5:05 p.m. (eastern time), arrive Windsor 5:15 p.m.; leave Windsor 5:25 p.m., arrive London 7:55 p.m.; leave London 8:03 p.m., arrive Toronto 11:20 p.m.; leave Toronto 11:40 p.m., arrive Montreal 8:55 a.m.

General change of time May 31st. Particulars from Canadian Pacific Ticket Agents, or M. B. Murphy, District Passenger Agent, Toronto.

WINNIPEG GRAIN MARKET.

WINNIPEG, May 23.—Cash close, Wheat—No. 1 northern, 95 1/2; No. 2 do., 92 1/2; No. 3 do., 92 1/2; No. 4 do., 88 1/2; No. 5 do., 89 1/2; No. 6 do., 75 1/2; feed, 70 1/2; No. 1 red, 95 1/2; No. 2 do., 92 1/2; No. 3 do., 92 1/2; No. 4 do., 88 1/2; No. 5 do., 89 1/2; No. 6 do., 75 1/2; extra No. 1 feed, 37 1/2; No. 1 feed, 36 1/2; No. 2 feed, 35 1/2; No. 3 feed, 34 1/2; No. 4 feed, 33 1/2; No. 5 feed, 32 1/2; No. 6 feed, 31 1/2; No. 7 feed, 30 1/2; No. 8 feed, 29 1/2; No. 9 feed, 28 1/2; No. 10 feed, 27 1/2; No. 11 feed, 26 1/2; No. 12 feed, 25 1/2; No. 13 feed, 24 1/2; No. 14 feed, 23 1/2; No. 15 feed, 22 1/2; No. 16 feed, 21 1/2; No. 17 feed, 20 1/2; No. 18 feed, 19 1/2; No. 19 feed, 18 1/2; No. 20 feed, 17 1/2; No. 21 feed, 16 1/2; No. 22 feed, 15 1/2; No. 23 feed, 14 1/2; No. 24 feed, 13 1/2; No. 25 feed, 12 1/2; No. 26 feed, 11 1/2; No. 27 feed, 10 1/2; No. 28 feed, 9 1/2; No. 29 feed, 8 1/2; No. 30 feed, 7 1/2; No. 31 feed, 6 1/2; No. 32 feed, 5 1/2; No. 33 feed, 4 1/2; No. 34 feed, 3 1/2; No. 35 feed, 2 1/2; No. 36 feed, 1 1/2; No. 37 feed, 1/2; No. 38 feed, 0 1/2; No. 39 feed, 0 1/2; No. 40 feed, 0 1/2; No. 41 feed, 0 1/2; No. 42 feed, 0 1/2; No. 43 feed, 0 1/2; No. 44 feed, 0 1/2; No. 45 feed, 0 1/2; No. 46 feed, 0 1/2; No. 47 feed, 0 1/2; No. 48 feed, 0 1/2; No. 49 feed, 0 1/2; No. 50 feed, 0 1/2.

Dated at Toronto this 22nd day of May, 1914.

NORMAN L. MARTIN, Assignee.

Dated at Toronto this 22nd day of May, 1914.

DOUGLAS & GIBSON, Solicitors for the said executor.

Dated this ninth day of May, A.D. 1914.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Notice is hereby given that Midmer and Co. have made an assignment to me of all their estate and effects for the general benefit of their creditors.

A meeting of creditors will be held at my office, 64 Wellington street west, Toronto, on Thursday, the 28th day of May, 1914, at 5:30 p.m., for the ordering of the estate generally.

And notice is hereby given that after thirty days from this date the assets will be distributed among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims which they shall then have received.

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That Son-in-Law of Pa's

