

HORTICULTURE

Care of Orchard, Garden and Lawn

Elmer Lick, Ontario Co., Ont.
On the average farm, help is not over plentiful. Plan for best results with least labor. The apple orchard should be pruned in March,—the brush burned and the limbs worth saving cut in firewood lengths. If ovary shell scale appears, the trees should be sprayed with Gillett's Lye or any other lye—three to eight cans to 40 gallons of water, using 10 to 20 pounds of lime. If neglected when trees are dormant, use three cans to forty gallons of water when the lice are running.

Plow the orchard not over four inches deep, as early as possible in spring and harrow. Cultivate until July 1 to 15th and then sow a cover crop of clover, buckwheat, rape or barley, using a fairly heavy seeding.

For case-bearers and bud moth, spray with arsenate of lead (two of three pounds to 40 gallons of water) and also use Bordeaux mixture at the same time, or use one half of three-quarters pound of Paris green, instead of arsenate of lead. Apply with a fine nozzle, just as the buds are breaking. After the blossoms fall, use same mixture as before, only using in the Bordeaux three pounds of blue stone to 40 gallons of water instead of four pounds. Use a coarse spray this time and drench the trees thoroughly. If needed, spray again in two weeks' time. (Note.—Directions for making Bordeaux mix-

to plant near the house. If any danger of hens, run a light fence on small spots over the last rows of asparagus. Put this up in spring and leave until fall.

Run a fence also on the other side of this plot three rods wide and seven rods long. Fix the ends temporarily, so that the fence can be rolled back quickly. In this space, grow onions, lettuce, radish, early beets, and any other vegetables, using horse cultivation as much as possible. There should be a strip along the ends, at least ten feet wide, on which nothing is grown; this should be kept clean. Plant this garden plot with a string so that rows will be straight. Use plenty of well-rotted manure. Parsnips, late beets, carrots, and salsify should be grown in the field with the other root crops as they are easier taken care of there.

LAWN MANAGEMENT.

A farm lawn should not be too large. It takes a lot of work to keep a large lawn in good shape.

A lawn should not be broken up by trees or shrubs. Keep those at the sides and back. Place also the flowers at the sides or near the house. Each house and surroundings will determine to a large extent what is best practice for the lawn.

Personally, I do not like to see as much work put on a lawn as will grow four or five acres of corn, neither do I like to see a neglected lawn. The happy medium should be striven for and should be encouraged as much as possible.

Planting Strawberries

Wm. Platts, Jr., Welland Co., Ont.

When planting strawberries, we mark out the rows three and one

Cultivation and Manuring

Harold Jones, Grenville Co., Ont.

Actual results have proved that it pays to cultivate our orchards, but the heavy losses we sustained about four years ago, brought out the problem that now confronts us in how far dare we go in this matter of cultivation and save our trees from winter injury in the colder sections of Ontario. Since 1904, I have been preaching a modified system of cultivation in my bearing orchards that is giving very satisfactory results in well ripened wood and well colored fruit of large size.

To outline this system, I may say that instead of continuing clean cultivation until the middle of July or the first of August, as formerly, I plow as early in the spring as possible and about the 20th or 25th of May I harrow the ground level and sow to some cover crop either red clover or oats, as I find the fertility and the condition of the soil warrants. This leaves the ground in a level condition for the mower which is used at intervals during the summer to check any weeds or tufts of grass that are bound to appear during the season. The last cutting is made just before picking. If oats are clipped during the summer in this way they will remain quite green until fall.

I find this system gives me an early vigorous growth, both in wood and fruit buds, and the cover crop sown in this way does not draw any appreciable amount of water from the soil until the latter half of the summer.

When cutting allow the material to lie where it falls, as it aids in supplying humus for the fruit following, and retards evaporation by wind and sun

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during hot dry periods. We have got a much shorter growing and ripening season than our neighbors to the west of us, and I find the system outlined above will give the early, vigorous growth that is necessary, followed by conditions very similar to sod during the ripening season.

Fertilizing and barn yard manure every two or three years spread at the rate or ten to twelve loads to the acre during the late fall or winter, with an annual spring application of about 100 lbs. muriate of potash, keeps the soil up to a high standard of fertility and also in good mechanical condition. From a pamphlet issued by Ontario Fruit Growers' Association.



For Next Year's Strawberry Crop Plant This Spring

The illustration shows a gang of planters at work on plantation of Mr. Wm. Platts, Jr., Welland Co., Ont.

ture were given in the issue of Farm and Dairy for March 4.—Editor.)
For best results, orchards should be manured in winter or spring before April 15th. Small orchards may be left in sod, if on good soil, and mulched with a liberal supply of straw manure.

CARE OF THE GARDEN.

I like a garden laid out so that the part near the house is about seven rods square. On one side put two rows of rhubarb, four ft. apart. Next to it, put in seven or eight rows of asparagus. This, at four feet apart, will leave about fifty feet for other vegetables that it is desirable

*As the orchard, garden and general home surroundings will be considered by the men who will judge the dairy farms' competition that is being conducted by Farm and Dairy, the pointers given in this article should be of particular interest and value to intending competitors. Further contributions on this subject will be welcomed for publication.

half feet apart. With a spade, a man makes a hole in the ground and a boy drops a plant in it, taking care to have the crown of the plant just at the surface. With his foot the man covers the roots with soil and firms it. The plants are placed 18 to 20 inches apart in the rows.

As soon as we can, we run the cultivator. It has seven teeth, two small teeth being on the back, so as not to throw the ground on the plant. There is a sweep tooth also on behind, about 18 to 20 inches wide, which is kept sharpened. We cultivate between the rows about once a week. The ground is made level and the weeds are all cut. We hoe the plants about five times during the summer.

If you have no spray pump purchase one at once. Get after the insects and diseases that are killing the trees and robbing you.

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