

The collection on the farm contains more than 500 plants of 20 named sorts; these were planted in rows six feet apart and from three to four feet apart in the rows.

All of the above small fruits except the grapes have been allowed full possession of the land to the exclusion of any other crop. The land occupied by them is a fine sandy loam, but was not in good condition, and was very weedy at the time of planting with a large number of Canada thistles. The one-horse cultivator was freely used between the rows and all weeds cut out with hoes from between the plants until the end of August, which had the effect of thoroughly destroying the weeds, and also caused the soil to retain moisture enough to keep the plants growing nicely; after this cultivation was discontinued to give the new wood time to ripen up in order to enable the plants to stand the cold and trying winter. For further protection the soil was ploughed up toward the rows of plants which will be worked down again in spring.

STRAWBERRIES.

The plantation of strawberries consists of 90 named varieties and about 50 unnamed seedlings. There are 20,900 plants in all. These have been planted in rows three and a half feet apart and one foot apart in the rows. Most of the blossoms and all runners that first made their appearance were cut off. When the plants gained sufficient vigor to send out several runners at once those were allowed to grow and form plants thus making the rows about one foot in width at the end of the growing season.

The weather was very dry and hot during the period of their growth, but the frequent cultivation they received enabled them to withstand the drought and make very satisfactory progress.

Late in the autumn after the ground had frozen to the depth of two or three inches they were mulched with coarse manure and straw, most of which was put between the rows with just enough over the plants to nearly cover them from sight.

Many varieties were planted in sufficient quantities to test their value for market purposes. They are in a favourable condition to give a full crop of fruit in 1888, when they will be watched with much interest, as a large number of the varieties have never fruited before in this vicinity.

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