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THE WHITESMITH GOOSEBERRY.



FRUIT growers are too apt to copy after each other. One is successful in making money out of a certain fruit, and immediately all plant largely of that one fruit, and so overstock the market. The wisest plan is plant a little out of the popular line, and better profits are likely to result. The gooseberry, for example, has not yet been very largely planted for market in Ontario; and yet, where land is suitable for growing the finer kinds, there is money in growing it. A high and dry land, a mixture of clay and sand, highly fertilized, will grow gooseberries to the greatest perfection, and often quite free from mildew, as witness those grown by Mr. Morton, at Brampton, or by Mr. Spillett, at Nantyre. Even the English varieties may now be grown nearly mildew-free by the faithful use of the Bordeaux mixture, and if such fine English sorts as the Whitesmith and Crown Bob, why plant the smaller varieties?

In our report of 1892, page 61, Mr. Thos. Beall, who has had considerable experience with this fruit, named as the three most profitable varieties, the Whitesmith, Pearl and Downing. We think he might well omit the Downing, for the Pearl is of the same character, often indistinguishable, except that it is a trifle larger and more productive. He further thought the gooseberry one of the most profitable fruits grown in Canada. Mr. T. H. Race, of Mitchell, Ont., on the same occasion, placed Whitesmith at the head of the list for profit. This gentleman has in his garden about 200 bushes of this variety, and is not troubled with mildew. His soil is clay loam, enriched with wood ashes.