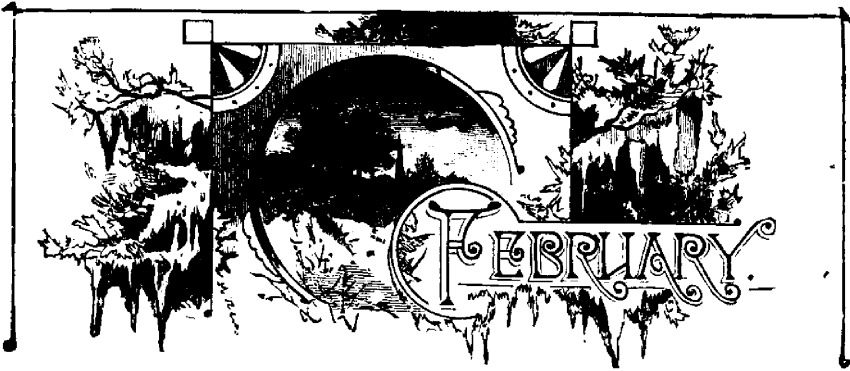


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THE ITALIAN PRUNE.



HE plum is a favorite in many of the commercial orchards of Ontario, especially in some districts bordering on Lake Ontario and on the Georgian Bay. Much more hardy than the peach, it will yield good crops almost annually and, the fruit being firmer, it can be shipped a longer distance and marketed to better advantage.

For a long time the curculio and plum knot were the bugbears which prevented fruit growers from growing plums to any great extent, but the curculio is less formidable of late since we have found that spraying with Paris green, just before the blossoms open and again just after they fall will, to some extent, destroy the parent beetles, while by careful attention to jarring the crop may be protected almost completely. The plum knot too can easily be kept in subjection by united effort among plum growers in cutting out and burning the knots as they appear. With the difficulties thus lessened, plum growing in Canada is of late receiving a fresh impetus and promises to be one of our most important industries.

That class of plums, known in commerce as prunes, is especially well adapted for cultivation in such localities as are situated at a distance from the great markets, for by reason of their firmness and keeping qualities, they will bear shipping well.

The drying of these prunes is an important industry and the prunes of Provence are well known in commercial circles. The Prune d'Agen is a favorite variety for this purpose and the German Prune is very highly valued in Ontario for profit, especially in the vicinity of Collingwood.

The Italian Prune (Felleberg) is another of this class. Our colored plates shows the very finest samples that

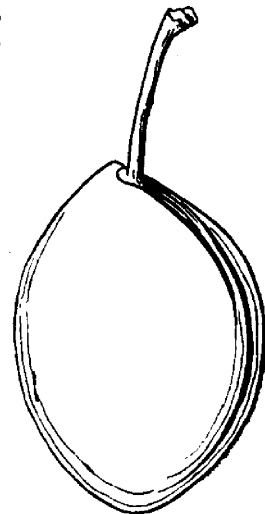


FIG. 899.  
ITALIAN PRUNE.