

as clover, starts in the spring as early, and by this similarity of habit makes a suitable grass to mix with it.

For pasturage we greatly value orchard grass, for three reasons: It stands a drouth better than any other, will bear heavier stocking, and comes forward in the spring very early.

We have often been surprised to observe how quickly orchard grass recovers and grows after being closely cropped; a week or ten days of summer growth will make quite good pasturage. Orchard grass also, by its great amount of fibrous root, tends to improve instead of impoverishing the soil, and we have observed an orchard grass sod generally turns up a good dark color on being ploughed. It is not at all fit for a lawn, as it sometimes grows in bunches or tussocks, especially when sown thin. The proper quantity when sown alone is two bushels per acre, when sown with clover one bushel is sufficient. It grows better than most grasses under shade. Orchard grass weighs about twelve pounds to the bushel.—*Rural Advertiser.*

Orchard and Fruit Garden.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CULTIVATION OF THE GOOSEBERRY.

Gooseberries are raised from cuttings, or from seed, and some raise them from suckers, but the latter is not a good method, as bushes raised in that manner are more liable to throw out suckers than those which are raised from cuttings or seed. Spring time is the best season for planting cuttings, always cutting them from the strongest and cleanest shoots. The length of the cuttings should be from six to eight inches, planting them on an eastern or northern border, at the distance of one foot from row to row, leaving them about three inches above ground. By planting at this distance, it will be practicable to hoe and keep them clear of weeds. Water them frequently in dry weather during the spring.

The gardeners about London plant the gooseberry in rows from eight to ten feet apart from row to row, and six feet from plant to plant in the rows.

In spring time if you find it convenient lay a good coat of rotten dung on the ground, then dig in and plant early potatoes, but not so near to the gooseberries as to hurt them.

The roots of gooseberries should always be kept clear to admit the sun and air. In small gardens we would recommend planting them in a quarter by themselves, at the distance of six feet between the rows, and four feet from the path; the ground will then be clear for cropping,

and a man by setting one foot on the border can gather the gooseberries without injuring the crop.

As gooseberries love a rich soil, they should be manured every year, or at least have a good coat of dung once in two years.

Never plant under the shade of other trees, as it will injure the flavour of the fruit.

It is a practice too common in pruning gooseberries, to let them branch out with great naked stems, suffering them to remain in that state for years. When that is the case, they should be cut down near to the ground in the winter pruning; this will make them throw out fine strong healthy shoots, which will bear fruit the second year. Gooseberry bushes, in general, bear their fruit on the second year's wood. Care should be taken in summer to keep the middle of the bush clear, so as to admit a free air into them, leaving the finest and strongest shoots from six to ten inches distant from each other. This will help to ripen and harden the wood. It is a practice with some gardeners to shorten the shoots in the autumn or winter pruning, this should be always near to a wood bud, which may be known, by its being single, whereas fruit buds are in clusters. The shoots may be shortened to eight or ten inches, according to their strength, some leave them at full length for three or four years, thinning those that are superfluous. Always leave a proper number to be trained up between the full length shoots, to succeed them when they are tired of bearing; then cut the old ones down to the young ones that are to succeed them. By these means, you will always keep the bushes in a constant state of bearing.

It must be observed, that those branches which were cut the first year, will in second throw out short dugs or spurs, which produce the fruit, and these should by no means be cut off, unless the branches are in a sickly state, and require to be cut close down, when the bushes are overloaded with fruit. It will then be necessary to cut a good deal of the old wood, in order to assist nature to recover herself, after producing so great a quantity of fruit, for in some years the bushes are so loaded, that the branches are beat down to the ground. Gooseberries are well worth paying attention to, as they supply the table so amply, till the large fruit comes in.

There have been considerable additions made in the varieties of the gooseberry of late years, from the great attention that has been paid by gardeners, and the growers at Manchester and its neighbourhood, to the raising of gooseberries from seed. The catalogues of the Manchester growers, now contain between four and five hundred sorts or varieties, but some are so very similar to each other, as hard-

ly to be distinguished. By mixing up a rich soil to plant those in, which have been raised from seed, and by watering, shading, and thinning the fruit, they have grown to a size much larger than any that had ever been seen in this country. They have made it their principal study to improve this valuable fruit, and have given great encouragement, by establishing societies for distributing prizes annually, to those who raise the largest and finest new sorts. It must however be allowed, that some of the largest, are much thicker in the skin, and not so well flavoured as some of the old sorts.

Great attention should be paid to the cultivation of the early and late sorts. In some old gardens, in particular, there are very valuable sorts, that have been of late too much neglected, we should therefore recommend to those who live in the neighborhood of such gardens, to observe their time of ripening, and to cultivate those especially which are early and late.

It is a practice with some to clip the tops of gooseberries with a pair of garden shears, as they would clip a thorn hedge, this plan however we by no means approve of, as the fruit will not be half the size, nor of so fine a flavour, as when the bushes are kept clear of superfluous wood.

Care should be taken in spring and summer, to stock, or grub up all the suckers from the root of the bushes, leaving their stems clear and unencumbered.

Many of the Lancashire sorts are apt to grow horizontally and the branches frequently trail on the ground, which renders them liable to be broken by high winds, especially when they are loaded with fruit. In that case we would recommend two or three hoops to be put round them, to which the branches may be tied, to support them, and prevent their being broken by the wind.

Those who wish to have their gooseberries very late should plant on north walls and palings between the other trees, and they may be removed when the trees begin to meet. If laid in thin, they will bear very fine and handsome fruit. We would advise to plant the finest late sorts, as by this method the table will be supplied much longer than by the common custom of planting in quarters.

Gooseberries are very much infested with a small green caterpillar, which frequently devours both leaves and fruit.

Great attention must therefore be paid to observe their first appearance on the bushes, for if not destroyed early, they will increase so fast that they will soon devour all the leaves, and the fruit will then be good for nothing, they make their first appearance generally on the edges and under sides of the leaves.

Take some sifted quick lime, and lay it under the bushes but do not at first, let