

largest number of big berries and are the best for shipping. I have tried perhaps fifty other varieties and am hoeing them all out. The Campbell bears a light crop of grand berries of large size and quality, late to very late.

A. E. Gale, Victoria: I find the Improved Sharpless does best with me, either for home use or local market, but for shipping, the Magoon is the best we have tried so far. We plant in the fall, in October, if the ground is well drained, or in the spring, in April, as soon as the ground is dry enough to work. We plant in rows 3 feet apart and 18 inches apart in the row. Keep all runners cut off and pick off all bloom from spring planting. We keep horse cultivator going at frequent intervals to destroy weeds and retain moisture. Yes, I certainly recommend mulching during the fruiting season; any kind of straw will do, but I prefer clean oat straw. We always put it on from three to ten days before the first berries are ripe. With an average crop the local market is entirely overdone. It would not be wise to encourage planting anything but shipping varieties.

George Every-Clayton, Burnaby: Your first question *re* strawberry culture is dependent entirely on local conditions of climate and soil, and can only be answered by a practical test, but should recommend (a) Jocunda or Magoon, (b) Magoon, (c) Clarke's Seedling or Paxton. Have not as yet found a strawberry appreciably earlier than the Jocunda that was worth cultivating. I recommend planting during April, early in the month if season permits. I prefer the hill system of cultivation, planting in rows 3 feet apart, plants 15 inches apart (at least) in row. Keep all blossoms and runners cut off first year and cultivate with horse often enough to keep down weeds and prevent soil packing. Have had no experience of mulching, having excellent results without.

Andrew Strachan, Victoria: As to my opinion of the best varieties of strawberries and methods of culture for this locality, I may say that, after experimenting with many varieties, the most suitable for this locality are: (a.) For home use, the Improved Sharpless; (b.) For local market, Improved Sharpless. It gives a large crop of berries of fine quality and carries its size well through the season. (c.) Shipping; so far the Magoon has proved the most productive of the varieties tested and also given the best satisfaction in distant markets. (d.) The Paxton has also been shipped this year with fairly satisfactory results, but, in my opinion, it is more suited for the local market. I have had the best results from planting in the spring, as early as the ground is in suitable condition, in rows 3 feet apart and plants 18 inches apart in the row. Give clean cultivation and frequent, with a view to conservation of moisture, especially after rain, to prevent the surface getting caked. I have not experimented with mulching further than straw between rows before picking commences, to keep the berries clean; this I put on about two weeks before picking commences, and carefully place under fruit and between rows.

J. C. Metcalfe, Hammond: In reply to yours *re* inquiry as to strawberries, may say that I recommend Excelsior, Warfield, Magoon, for home use and local market, and Wilson for shipping. I recommend spring for planting, narrow hedge row for light soils and varieties that do not make