tender state, are liable to injury. Two or three days without frost will, however, ensure them to stand very severe weather.

The cultivation necessary to the best success is the same as for Currants.

Gooseberries, except where they can be grown near protection from winds and wintered under a snow-bank, are not a success in this country. From the nature of the bush it is a difficult one to protect in the winter, and without protection the crop produced will be small, if not an entire failure. A good deep snow-bank ensures a good crop of fruit. Gooseberry bushes require considerable moisture and to secure it should be set out five feet apart each way. This, with the same cultivation as for currants, generally affords sufficient moisture even in the driest year.

Strawberries are the most uncertain of all the small fruits. As a rule the roots stand the most severe weather, only to succumb to spring thaws and frosts. If both these are weathered the blossoms are almost sure to be caught by frost later on. If this critical time is passed in safety, which rarely happens, dry weather sets in before the fruit is matured and the crop is at best a poor one.

Mulching in winter to retard early spring exposure, and consequently the blossoming period, together with irrigation, or abundant rains may cause the production of a fair crop. In some places irrigation for small plots is available, but the benefits of mulching have not as yet been clearly demonstrated. Very often plots not mulched have given the best results, while in other years the mulched plots, if uncovered at the proper time, have given the larger yields.

The great difficulty is in hitting on the right time to uncover.

In previous years on the Experimental Farm, mulching was done in the fall before the snow fell. It is the intention this year to mulch with straw or coarse manure just before the snow commences to melt in the spring, as where snow is