

\$100,000, and one retail druggist exported \$1,600 worth. From along the Kingston & Pembroke Railroad fully \$20,000 worth was shipped. The price realised was from \$3 to \$3.50 per pound for dry roots. The question is now being considered whether it would not pay to cultivate it. Such is done in some parts of the United States, and in order that readers of this bulletin may understand how to do it, the writer inserts a description of the process taken from the December issue of the *American Agriculturist*:

CULTIVATION. "It appears to thrive best in loamy soils, such as are usually found in sugar maple and oak forests at the North. Shade seems also to be essential, for when the plants are exposed to the direct rays of the sun they soon die out, and for this reason open field or garden cultivation of the plants has rarely or never been attended with success. The proper way to start a plantation is to select a piece of land at the edge of some forest where the plants are found growing wild. Then clear out all the underbrush and small trees, leaving just enough of the larger ones to afford the shade required. This should be done in spring or during the summer, then break up the surface of the soil with a harrow, steel rakes, hoes, or other implements to the depth of two or three inches, removing all weeds, grasses and their roots. The bed thus prepared will be ready for the reception of seeds and small unsaleable roots as collected in the autumn, the season of ripening depending somewhat upon latitude.

"Ginseng berries are of a crimson color when ripe, each containing two seeds, produced in small clusters at the top of a central peduncle elevated above the principal leaves. When gathering the seed the roots may also be dug up, and all small and unsaleable ones preserved and replanted in the prepared bed. The seed should be rubbed from the pulp very carefully with the hand, and then sown, or better pressed into the ground with the finger about half an inch deep, and one every six inches along the row. The rows should be from one to two feet apart for convenience of removing weeds, should any appear. Both seeds and plants should be in the ground before hard frosts occur in autumn, for when these come the leaves of the large trees will fall on the bed and give the natural protection required.

"The following season no cultivation will be needed—if the bed is thinly covered with leaves—except to cut out sprouts and remove any large coarse weeds which may spring up from seeds or roots left in the ground. If winds blow away the leaves needed as a mulch, a few old dead branches of trees may be scattered about to hold the mulch in place. At the end of the third season the roots will have reached a marketable size and may then be dug, and the same bed worked over and restocked with seeds or small plants.

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