

THE EARLY PURPLE.



THE earliest dessert cherry is the Early Purple, a foreign variety known in France as the Early Purple Guigne. The tree is a vigorous upright grower, not subject to black knot, and it becomes quite productive as the tree acquires age. A tree about thirty years planted at Grimsby yielded, in 1886, 144 quarts; they were harvested on the 11th of June, and sold in the wholesale market at an average of 12 cents per qt. This is the tree's best record, for usually the birds destroy the fruit before it matures, and if gathered as soon as colored red it is little more than "skin and bones." The last few days of growth it fills out wonderfully, and becomes almost a so called "black cherry." The variety is quite hardy south of Lake Ontario, and is worthy of trial farther north.

The branch which we have photographed for the illustration was taken from the tree above referred to, and shows the habit of fruiting, as well as the cherries in natural size.

Tree.—Upright, vigorous, healthy, productive when full grown.

Fruit.—Medium size, roundish heartshaped; skin dark red to purple; stem two inches long in a shallow cavity; suture obscure.

Flesh.—Color, red to purple; texture tender, juicy; flavor sweet and pleasant.

Season.—June 10th to 15th.

Adaptation.—Grown at Grimsby for thirty years and quite hardy; fairly hardy in Maine and Michigan.

Pleasure Grounds.—Grass lawns that have become browned by the recent dry weather should not be mown very closely. Raise the knives in the machine well up, and remove the grass-box, so that the cut grass may remain as it is scattered about by the machine; it will then assist in keeping the lawn green. If the lawn has not been mown for some time owing to the drought, it will be well to mow it lightly over with a sharp scythe before the lawn mower is used on it again. Grass-edgings should be kept tidy by clipping with the edging shears, and narrow verges of grass in dry situations require to be well watered during dry weather.—Gardeners' Chronicle.

A little girl in Aberdeen brought a basket of strawberries to the minister very early on Monday morning. "Thank you, my little girl," he said; "they are beautiful. But I hope you didn't gather them yesterday, which was the Sabbath day?"

"No, sir," replied the child, "I pulled them this morning. But they was growin' all day yesterday."