

The raising of Norway spruce trees from seed is a difficult matter, and only experienced persons are likely to have any success. The seeds may germinate freely enough, but when about an inch high, about forming its second leaves, the life of the young plant may be blasted by a breath of unfavorable air, hot sunshine, or an atmosphere either too dry or too humid. The usual practice is to sow the seeds in a well-prepared seed bed which may be shaded when necessary either with evergreen boughs, or with an awning of thin cloth. The soil needs to be light and porous, and the seeds covered lightly and watered frequently. In warm wet weather the seeds will be liable to rot and the bed should be sprinkled with dry sand. Sow either in fall or spring.

Young trees may, however, be purchased from nurseries at so low a price, that we would advise our correspondent to buy them about a foot high. Great care must be taken in handling evergreen trees to keep the roots moist, for if they are exposed for even a short time to the drying effects of wind and sun, there is small chance of their living. The reason of this is that the sap of conifers is of a resinous nature, which drying renders insoluble.

Diseased Grape Wood.

9. FIND enclosed a small portion of diseased bark from one of my Salem vines. It first made its appearance last spring; I cut it off and thought nothing more of it, but last fall when I was collecting my grapes, I found that it had spread on the two branches of the vine to the extent of sixteen or eighteen inches. It peels off with the old bark and leaves the wood quite healthy. The vine is otherwise in good condition, and I would like to know what it is.—T. NEELAN, Port Hope.

Reply by Prof. Fletcher, Ottawa.

You wrote me a letter in May, enclosing one from Mr. T. Neelan, of Port Hope, enquiring about a diseased grape stem. As all my furniture and instruments were packed up and inaccessible, I sent this on to Prof. Farlow of Harvard University, for his opinion. Prof. Farlow, I may mention, is the highest authority we have in America upon microscopic fungi. His answer is as follows:

"The trouble is not due to a fungus. This peculiar kind of excrescence has in Germany generally been attributed to cold and severe weather in winter. How well that may apply to your case I do not know. The trouble, however, is climatic rather than fungous."

The Baker German Prune.

10. You would oblige me very much by giving me information about the Baker prune. I want to set out an orchard of prunes, and I see by your journal last summer that the Baker prune is highly spoken of. Please give me the name of the person I can buy them from.—GEO. HARRIS, Dungannon, Ont.

So far we believe this variety of the German prune is entirely local in the Collingwood district. Some of our enterprising nurserymen should propagate it and advertise in these columns, as we have numerous enquiries for it.

You might get some information about it by writing to L. Brillinger, Collingwood.

Apios Tuberosa.

11. I WISH for information on the proper treatment of the Apios Tuberosa. I cannot succeed with it. I have tried three times and always failed. I think my garden is too dry. What kind of soil suits it best, and how does it attach itself to its support? The climbers have so many different ways of laying hold of the prop, that the same thing will not do for all.—MRS. A. BOURN, Cobourg.