

## BULBS FOR VASES.



THOUSANDS of vases standing upon lawns remain empty all winter. They might be filled at small cost with either hyacinths or tulips, and thus add a charm and cheerfulness to the home in early spring. In planting vases with bulbs, be sure they have perfect drainage. Let there be openings sufficiently large to allow a free escape of water at the bottoms of the vases. Over these openings place two or three inches of broken crockery or charcoal, and next a layer of moss or shavings, to keep the soil from clogging the drainage, in which case the earth in the vase would soon become sour and the bulbs diseased.

Soil for bulbs to be grown in vases should consist of equal parts of thoroughly decomposed horse-manure, turfy loam and fresh water sand. The bulbs can be planted two or three inches apart, so as to form a good, solid mass of bloom. Protect the vases with four inches of clean straw, put some bagging over the straw to keep it in place, and tie it neatly around the stems of your vases. Uncover the vases at the time recommended for uncovering the beds. When the bulbs are in bloom they need water at least twice a week. Be sure to soak the soil thoroughly, as the plants when in flower delight in plenty of moisture at the roots. They will also need staking. Galvanized wire of sufficient strength to keep the flower-stalks in place is much neater and better than sticks, and will last for years, if put away carefully when the bulbs are out in bloom.

When bulbs in the vases have ceased flowering they can be taken up, placed in some shaded spot, and lightly covered with soil. If no such spot is convenient, plant them in a sunny one and shake a little straw over them, taking care that it does not lie heavily atop. After a rain it should be shaken up to admit air and prevent rotting. When their leaves have all dried up, clean the bulbs off nicely, place them in bags or boxes, and set them in some cool, airy place until needed again for planting in the fall.—American Gardening.

## THE WHEATLAND PEACH.

Nine years ago I planted six Wheatland peach trees in my trial grounds. They made very fine trees but lack fruit; we never have picked over a 12-quart basket of fruit off any one tree in a season. We consider them not worth the ground they occupy, and have dug out all but two. Those are kept for variety. This last season they bore a basket and a half of very fine fruit; while a late Solway, in the same row, planted same year, same soil and cultivation, had nine 12-quart baskets of very fine fruit. I cannot recommend the Wheatland only for exhibition purposes, being large and good flavor, but not as well colored on our grounds as colored plate in December number of HORTICULTURIST.

*St. Catharines,*

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