

Owing to the large percentage of water in the fresh material (60 % to 80 %), it is good economy to pile the sea-weed on the shore and allow it to dry out partially before hauling.

Sea-weed acts as an excellent fermenting agent for mixing with peat in the compost-heap—and at the same time supplies much valuable plant-food.

THE EMBELLISHMENT OF HOME-GROUNDS.

Flowers and showy foliage being professedly used for ornament should of course occupy the choicest site of the home-grounds. The work being necessarily formal and artificial, there will be no incongruity in the close proximity of rigid lines ; and the dwelling-house may be as near as will best suit the general convenience in the use and enjoyment of the garden. The nature and extent of the collection will of course vary with the taste and means of the owner. The finer the design and the greater the variety of plants the better, so long as there is ample room for all in fitting proportion to the intrinsic merits of each kind, and to the general plan of the whole garden. It is well not to make any ambitious or pretentious display unless it can be easily and willingly kept in perfect order at all times. The immediate setting or surrounding of the garden should be in keeping with the central design. It is poor taste to make a gaudy show of fine flowers or bright foliage if adjacent grounds are weedy and seedy. It is equally bad taste to intrude such plants in formal masses into outlying portions of the grounds mainly devoted to other uses. Even on the ordinary lawn the quiet repose of the green sward may be disturbed by some garish mass of high colors. The discord is equally great when formal beds of like character are scattered along the lawn border amid irregular groups of shrubbery. This incongruity lasts the year round, for after the tender exotics die or are removed, the bald plots look equally foreign to turf and coppice. A lawn is one thing, a flower-garden another. Grass has recently supplanted gravel in the garden, thanks to the lawn-mower. But only in city lots can the plants be properly in such relative proportions to the turf as to convey the idea of both garden and lawn.—Wm. McMillan, before the Society of American Florists.

Pot-grown Strawberry Plants.—By the use of pot-grown plants, we market our early crops of potatoes, peas, etc., and afterwards, by setting these pot-grown plants, we may obtain a full crop of the finest strawberries the following season less than ten months from the time of planting, from the land that has produced a crop the previous season. One of my neighbors grows all his strawberries from plants set the preceding August or September, and he markets the choicest fruit grown to my knowledge.—R. N. Y.