

Apple Trees and Dwarf Pears.

701. SIR,—In planting an apple orchard, would it pay to fill in between the standards with dwarf apple trees?

R. J. B., *Round Hill, N.S.*

No, we would not advise such planting, unless you are crowded for space. Dwarf apple trees live a long time and would soon interfere with the standards.

Pruning Plum Trees.

702. SIR,—When is the best time for pruning a young plum orchard?

R. J. B., *Round Hill, N.S.*

A young plum orchard should be pruned during the first mild weather of spring, before the buds begin to push. Summer pruning, to induce fruitfulness is sometimes resorted to in cases of an older orchard.

Fertilizing Fruit Trees.

703. SIR,—Would it be a good plan to use a small quantity of bone meal in each hole at the time of planting young fruit trees?

R. J. B., *Round Hill, N.S.*

This manner of fertilizing would be of little or no use. The little tiny rootlets, as they grow outward and into the soil, are the ones that take up nourishment in tiny particles, not in bulk. The best way, therefore, of fertilizing, is to carefully incorporate the fertilizers with the soil, and the little rootlets will search after it.

Sowing Seeds of Fruit Trees.

704. SIR,—Will you kindly inform me, through the HORTICULTURIST, when is the best time to plant apple, pear, plum and peach seed?

ALBERT MORDEN, *Vernon, B.C.*

Apple and pear seeds may be sown in the fall, when fresh and plump from the cider mill. Many persons simply sow the pomace thickly in wide drills in the fall, and cover with about half an inch of earth. Most of the seeds will grow the following spring, and are transplanted at the age of one or two years into regular rows. The seeds may also be kept in sand until the following spring, and then sown. It is usual to splice-graft yearling apple and pear seedlings. They are pulled in the fall, kept in green sawdust, and grafted in the winter season.

Peach and plum pits should not be allowed to become very dry. The