

Mrs. Margaret Ober

Her Green Thumb Raises Great Fruits, Flowers

by Mrs. Charles McSparran
Farm Feature Writer

This is the season for luscious raspberries. If anyone has a yen to go out and pick their own, one of the best places is at the farm of Levi S. Ober, Elizabethtown RD1. To reach his farm go west on Bainbridge Road from Elizabethtown. Turn left on Miller Road and right on West Ridge Road, and it is the first farm. Overs have about three acres of black raspberries in three different patches. They have three varieties—Bristol, Cumberland and New Logan.

They started ripening about two weeks ago and there should be some for another week or so but Overs advise phoning ahead to be certain there are some. It is not uncommon to see about fifty automobiles parked there about daybreak or soon after and pickers all over the patches. There's no possibility of buying a box that is already picked. Mrs. Ober says "We don't even pick them for the preacher. He picked them in his good clothes."

Mrs. Ober is a floor lady at Marvin Bodenstein Co. garment factory but she takes her vacation during raspberry season to receive phone calls, park cars, direct the pickers to the right patch and collect the money. She also cans raspberries

for pies and to use in the winter for their favorite desserts.

Levi has been raising raspberries for 25 or 30 years. He starts all the plants and they are certified by state inspectors. Mrs. Ober helps plant some of the new plants. They sell them in bunches of 25 plants in the spring.

Levi works the best part of the year with his raspberries. He cultivates and mulches them to keep them as weed free as possible.



Mrs. Ober holds a star hobnail compote and a blue flowered ironstone bowl from the Ober family antique dish collection.

Levi is the third generation to own this fifty acre farm. His grandfather, Levi Sweigart bought it originally. Besides raspberries he raises ten acres of corn, twenty acres of grass which a neighbor harvests on the halves and three and a half acres is in pasture land. He also plants about 3,000 Jersey and vineless sweet potato plants from which he harvests about 75 bushels of sweet potatoes.

He has all kinds of fruit and nut trees. Mrs. Ober says "He's pretty good at grafting." He has grafted many trees, grape vines and started many raspberry plants. He has cherry trees to attract the birds away from the raspberries. He has black cherry trees, six red sweet cherry trees, several yellow cherries, two Montmorency sour cherry trees and a water cherry tree (they look more like blueberries than cherries and they are also sweet and juicy and good to use).

Overs have at least ten apple trees—Transparent, Winesap, Stark's Delicious, Northern Spy and Greening. They have Seckel, Bartlett, two Kieffer pear trees and several young pear trees that Levi grafted. They have an apricot, three peach trees and three young peach trees. They have twenty plum trees. One of the plum trees is an Early red June plum that Mrs. Ober sent to Tennessee for four years ago. This year the fruit on it is so thick the limbs had to be propped and probably will have to be thinned. They have four shellbark nut trees, four chestnuts, black walnuts and English walnuts. They also have blueberries, elderberries, gooseberries, many



Mrs. Margaret Ober is expecting a large crop from this four-year-old Early Red June plum tree she sent to Tennessee for.

grape vines and a few red raspberries for themselves. Mrs. Ober sells some of the fruit, particularly plums where she works. Some people come there to pick cherries.

Mr. Ober keeps five Holstein cows which he milks by hand and Hershey Foods buys the milk. He raised most of his heifers. He did keep more cows but is cutting down on them. He has one horse which he doesn't use now. He also has twelve dogs. Three are thoroughbred Airedale and the rest part Airedale.

Mrs. Ober has many hobbies. Probably her favorite is raising

flowers. Most of them are perennials and annuals. Also a
(Continued On Page 22)



Mrs. Ober holds her most prized vase from her collection of 65 vases.

GARBER OIL CO.
TEXACO
HEATING OIL
BURNER SALES
AND SERVICE
MOUNT JOY, PA
Ph. 653-1821



FREE SAMPLE COPIES

Copies of LANCASTER FARMING are not always easy to find — they are not sold on newsstands — and perhaps some of your friends may not be acquainted with our weekly service.

We'll be glad to send, without charge, several copies of LANCASTER FARMING to your friends or business associates. Just write their names and addresses below — (You'll be doing both them and us a favor!)

_____	_____
To	To
_____	_____
Street Address & R. D.	Street Address & R. D.
_____	_____
City, State and Zip Code	City, State and Zip Code
(You are not limited to two names. Use separate sheet for additional names.)	
_____	_____
Your Name	Address

- CHECK here if you prefer to send a Year's (52 issues) GIFT subscription for \$2 each (\$3 each outside of Lancaster County) to your friends listed above. If so \$..... enclosed, or
- Bill me later.

Please mail this form to:

LANCASTER FARMING

P.O. BOX 266, LITITZ, PA. 17543

REMINGTON CHAIN SAW SALE



MODELS SL10A
SL10K
SL10

- Cuts trees up to 30"
- Light Weight
- Easy to handle
- Fun to use
- Try it and see

GEHMAN BROS.

SALES & SERVICE

1 mile North of Terre Hill
along Rt. 897

East Earl RD1
Penna.

Phone 445-6272

Mon.-Wed.-Fri.
7:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Tue. - Thur.
7:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Sat. 7:00 A.M. To 3:00 P.M.