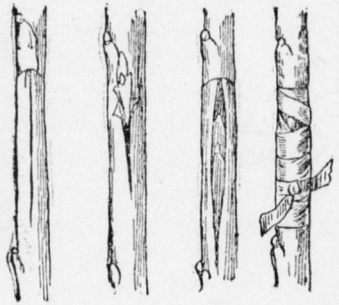


# AGRICULTURAL HINTS

## SCIENCE OF BUDDING.

Clip This Article and Study It Carefully as Often as You Get the Time.

Budding is the operation of setting a single bud, bearing little or no wood, upon the surface of the stock. It is the method most commonly employed in propagating fruit trees. There is no general rule of when to bud, but it can be done at any time when the buds of the new growth are sufficiently formed for setting and the bark on the stock will peel or slip easily. Early summer or June budding is practiced to a considerable extent by nurserymen on peach and plum trees, where they wish to obtain a growth from the bud the same season. New and valuable va-

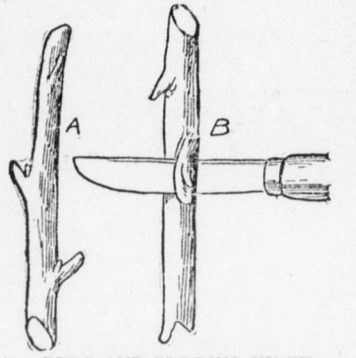


METHOD OF SETTING BUDS.

rieties are usually worked in this way.

Among northern nurserymen and fruit growers, budding is commonly practiced in July and August. Orchardists are taking up this system of propagation and using it in place of or in connection with top grafting. If the buds fail to live the branches can be grafted the following spring. The operation is more easily and quickly done than grafting.

The illustrations show clearly the different steps in the operation. A branch of the new growth with well developed buds is selected (a), the leaves cut off, leaving part of the leaf stem a half-inch or more in length. This serves as a handle in setting the bud. A sharp budding knife is used, having a rounded point



BUDS AND BUDDING KNIFE.

and an ivory tongue to raise the bark. The bud is cut (b) so as to take off a thin strip of wood. A slit is made lengthwise in the bark of the stalk one and one-half inches long and a transverse cut at the top of this, as shown at c. The edges of the bark are peeled back and the bud slipped in as at d, being pushed down to the position shown at e.

Strips of raffia are commonly used to tie it. The string is started below the bud with a full turn and then placed above where another full turn is taken, when it is again passed below and tied, as shown at f. The edges of the bark are tied down securely over the bud, but not so tight as to stop circulation.

The bud should be examined within a week or two. By this time it will have become fast, if it does not fail to grow, and the raffia should be cut with a knife to allow for the growth of the stock. Unless this is done the rapidly growing branch will outgrow it and soon be spoiled. Nothing more needs to be done with the bud until the following spring, when the stock should be cut off with an oblique cut about one inch above, and all buds on the stock should be rubbed off to aid the growth of the initial bud.—Orange Judd Farmer.

**Inferior Butter Injures Trade.**  
Inferior butter lowers the price and injures trade in that article. It would be considered an offense to inform the wives of some farmers that they do not know how to make good butter; yet thousands of pounds of butter reach the market that could be of a higher grade if the farmers and their wives were not prejudiced against "fancy farming." A silo, a pure-bred animal or improved methods of farming are regarded as innovations, being forced on farmers only after more progressive neighbors leave the former methods behind and find profit in so doing.

**Calves Need Gentle Care.**  
The calf should be gently handled from the start. The future disposition of the cow depends upon her treatment when young. To make a gentle milker the calf should never receive a blow or a harsh word, in order that it may have confidence in the attendants, and it will not thereafter be nervous. It is easier to break in a calf than to worry with a vicious kicking cow.

## THE FARMER'S PAINT.

White Gives the Best and Most Harmonious Effect in a Setting of Green.

Many of our readers may not be able to do the painting of the home and out-buildings that was contemplated last spring when the crops were planted. The drought will undoubtedly prevent much of the usual farm improvements, yet it is wise to study all phases of the subject and be prepared to do this work, which is intended to be decorative as well as preservative, most effectively.

How many farmers when riding through a section have noted which color of paint has best displayed the house and barn on the farm? If thought is given the matter they will note that the dark colored paints at a distance give the appearance of no paint, or of much worn paint. On the other hand, observe the well-painted white house. It can be seen a long distance, is harmonious with its setting of green and looks clean and thrifty. At least in our study of the painting of farm homes this has been our deduction that the "white house" is the one that should adorn the farm. Farmers may not regard this feature in painting of importance, but if the home is ever put on the market for sale appearance will increase its money value, and the family will be more wholesome for the gratification of taste.

A durable whitewash, which is said to embellish the east end of the president's house at Washington and that is used by the government to whitewash lighthouses, can be effectively used on many buildings, is as follows:

Take half a bushel of unslaked lime. Slack it with boiling water. Cover during the process to keep in steam. Strain the liquid through a fine sieve or strainer. Then add a peck of salt, previously dissolved in warm water; three pounds of ground rice boiled to a thin paste and stirred in while hot; half a pound of Spanish whiting and one pound of clean glue, previously dissolved by soaking in cold water and then by hanging over a slow fire in a small pot hung in a larger one filled with water. Add five gallons of hot water to the mixture, stir well and let it stand for a few days covered from dirt. It should be applied hot, for which purpose it can be kept in a kettle or portable furnace.

A pint of this whitewash mixture, if properly applied, will cover one square yard. It is almost as serviceable as paint for wood, brick or stone, and is much cheaper than the cheapest paint.—Rural World.

## ADULTERATED MILK.

Sold in Enormous Quantities in Large Cities in Spite of Rigid Pure Food Laws.

A New York justice, in fining some milk dealers for watering their milk, told them that if they came before him again and were convicted of the same offense he would send them to the penitentiary. It is asserted by the officials in charge of the enforcement of the laws against food adulteration that it is almost impossible to prevent the watering of milk. So alarming have conditions become that the Medical Society of the County of New York has appointed a committee to devise methods of improving the milk supply of New York city. Doubtless the doctors have found the bad milk one of the greatest obstacles in the way of the recovery of their patients and the thrift of children forced to live upon it. The above-mentioned commission has hit upon what it believes to be a practical scheme. It has selected a few dealers that are known to be above suspicion and has issued to them a label that may be used on each bottle of milk, certifying that the milk in the bottle is pure. By so doing it is hoped the consumers will buy only of those dealers that have or may have the labels. By this means the rogues should be frozen out of business.—Farmers' Review.

## A SERVICEABLE GATE.

People Can Pass Through It Easily, But Cattle and Horses Cannot Find Entrance.

It frequently happens that much passing to and fro is done through certain fences where it is not desirable to have animals pass. In such cases the simple device shown in the accompanying cut will be found to serve admirably in the place of a gate or bars, and it is very easy to build. Having driven



HANDY LITTLE GATE.

the center post and constructed the two cross-arms (which should be about two or three inches and 2 1/2 feet long), bore a three-quarter-inch hole in the top of the post and through the center of the cross-arms. Ream out the hole in cross-arms a little so that it will work easily. Put it in position and drive a three-quarter-inch iron bolt into top of post. The head on the bolt will keep the revolving cross-arms in position. People can pass through easily, but cattle and horses cannot.—Ohio Farmer.

## An Objectionable Practice.

The practice of hauling back skim milk and whey from factories in the same cans that are used for milk is objectionable. If this cannot be avoided the cans should be emptied at once on reaching home, and thoroughly cleaned and sterilized.

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