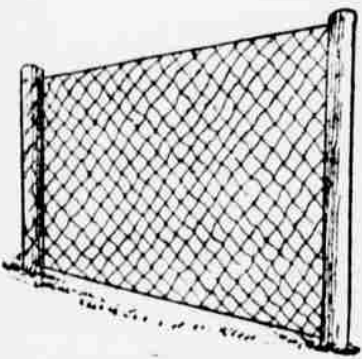


# HORTICULTURE

## BETTER THAN POLES.

Trellises Made of Slender Posts and Wire Netting Are Just the Thing for Cranberry Beans.

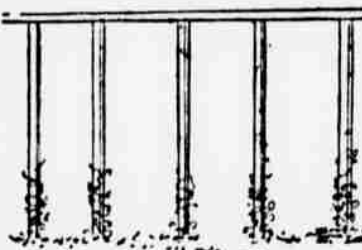
Bean poles are not to be had in many localities, and their presence in many gardens is objected to because of the unsightly appearance of such as it may be possible to secure. Get a strip of six foot wire poultry netting and set two stout posts the required distance



WIRE NETTING TRELLIS.

Stretch the netting tightly from one to the other. A row of cranberry beans can be planted on each side of the netting, to which the vines will readily cling, forming not only a convenient place for picking, but making a handsome screen or hedge also.

Where one cares for the looks of his garden he may think it worth his while



STILL MORE ATTRACTIVE.

to have some 1 1/2 by 1 1/2 inch stuff sawed at the mill to use year after year for cranberry beans. Have them sawed eight feet long for uprights, and other pieces to nail along the tops lengthwise of the rows, after the manner suggested in the second cut. With this arrangement the rough, unsightly appearance of the usual cranberry bean patch will be avoided. The same sticks can be used year after year.—N. Y. Tribune.

## THINNING OUT FRUITS.

It Must Be Done in Good Season If Really Satisfactory Results Are to Be Obtained.

The average farmer pays little or no attention to thinning fruit. If the tree is overloaded, so that the limbs bend almost to the breaking point, some will set props under the limbs to keep them from breaking entirely down, while others more careless will let the limbs break off. They may complain of the size and quality of the fruit when it is harvested, but few think it necessary or will take the trouble to thin out in good season, and thereby not only save the trees, but secure fruit of a much better quality. In nearly all cases a tree making a thrifty growth will, if left unmolesed, set more fruit than under ordinary conditions it should be allowed to mature. In fact, one cause, though not the only one, of trees failing to bear is on account of being allowed to overbear one year, lowering the vitality to such an extent that the tree is incapable of bearing the next year.

Thinning can be done to an advantage where fruit of good size and quality is desired. But if anything like satisfactory results are secured it must be done in good season, reasonably soon after the fruit sets.

The larger the fruit is allowed to become before thinning the greater the drain upon the tree and the less good will result.

It of course seems troublesome to go to fruit trees and take off from one-fourth to one-half the specimens, selecting those that are too close together and that are the least promising, yet when there is a full crop and uniform choice fruit is desired, thinning becomes necessary. And when it is to be done advantage should be taken of the first favorable opportunity for doing the work. Peaches, pears and grapes especially can be thinned to an advantage, and in many cases apples also.—N. J. Shepherd, in Farmers' Voice.

## Spraying with Petroleum.

"I have been using petroleum for spraying my fruit trees," said a well-known grower the other day. "This was recommended by Prof. J. B. Smith, of the New Jersey experiment station. Of course we always try these new remedies with more or less apprehension. It is that way with every new thing. They may be all right, and yet there is a certain amount of danger. I sprayed the trees before the leaves appeared, and I must confess that I watched carefully to see them start. There they are growing nicely, and apparently uninjured. The scales are, I think, destroyed. You will observe that the bark feels soft and greasy. I think this is a good thing, for it loosens the bark and prevents the tree getting into the condition which would be called hidebound in a horse."

Do not overfeed the dairy heifer. If you do she will become too fat. There is a happy medium, and this is what you want to strike.

## TRANSPLANTED TREES.

They Require More Care and Watching Than Most Farmers Are Inclined to Give Them.

Enough cannot be said in favor of mulching trees as soon as they are planted. It is all important to protect the roots from the effect of evaporation for at least six months after planting. The small fibers must be allowed to form and get a good hold of the soil, and large feeding roots must be able to reach out, so as to make sure of a supply of food and drink for the growth that takes place in limbo. It is not enough to pour on water from above. This, of course, must be done in very dry weather, but an irregular supply of this sort does not meet the demands of the roots. Cover the soil so far as it has been disturbed by the spade with a layer of three or four inches of coal ashes, or sawdust, or loose straw manure. Avoid using rich and raw manure. Tanbark is in some cases available, and where nothing else can be obtained use weeds or fresh cut hay. This application will retain the moisture in the soil, and what is equally important, will keep the roots at an equalized temperature. Without a mulch, the more you pour on water the more liable the ground is to baking and becoming impervious to a natural circulation of moisture. Above all, avoid sprinkling the soil with a slight supply of water.

The care of trees, for the first year after setting, consists in pinching out every bud that starts out of place. Besides keeping out the superfluous shoots, in October cut back the year's growth one-third to one-half. Some people advocate pinching in the growth during summer, in order to retard the flow of sap and hasten the formation of fruit buds. This can be done, but in the production of healthy, long lived trees it is unwise. By following these simple rules anyone can make a success of tree planting. It is very seldom that trees come from any nursery in such a condition that they will not thrive under this management.—N. Y. Tribune.

## SQUASH VINE BORER.

One of the Most Destructive Insect Pests with Which the Farmer Has to Contend.

One moth may lay 212 eggs. They hatch in six to 15 days and the larvae or borers attain full growth in four to six weeks. The moth flies from hill to hill, leaving an egg in each. The borer, after destroying the usefulness of the plant, enters the ground one or two inches and forms a cocoon in which it transforms to pupa. Never



SQUASH VINE BORER.

plant squashes on the same ground in successive years. Plant as early as possible a few hills of early squashes to serve as traps. Harrow lightly infested squash field in the fall so as to bring the cocoons to the surface; then plow six inches deep in spring. When the vines are of good size, cover part of them with earth so that secondary roots will be sent out. Vines badly infested should be taken up at once and burned. Cut out the borers and kill.—Farm and Home.

## SHEEP IN ORCHARDS.

An Insect Destroyer They Are Far More Reliable and Efficacious Than the Pigs.

I agree that when a pig gets an apple containing a worm there is no danger that that worm will ever cause any damage to the future apple crop. But as an insect destroyer the pig is nowhere with the sheep. The trouble with the pig is that it is too much like a man; when it lies down and goes to sleep it is oblivious of all its surroundings. It sleeps just as soundly and snores just as loud as its human cousin, and when an apple drops it doesn't hear it or go for it until its sleep is out. The instinct of the worm teaches it to get out of the apple just as quickly as possible after it drops. I have stood and watched an apple after it struck the ground, and seen the worm come hustling out in a hurry and go for some secure place, and before the pig gets the apple the worm is in some safe hiding place. Not so the sheep; they never sleep so soundly but they will hear an apple falling rods away, and they are up and there before the worm can get out, and that worm is traveling to that bourn whence no worm ever comes back to curse the apple grower. Yes, pigs are good, but sheep are a hundred times better.—J. S. Woodward, in Rural New Yorker.

## Canadian Peaches for Export.

Those Canadians who want all the trade they can get from England are now planning to send peaches in boxes of four or five peaches in a box, or in larger boxes parted like our egg cases, and they expect to get about 50 cents each for handsome peaches in London. At least, they sold readily at that price last year, and the demand exceeded the supply. Peaches are not successfully grown in England or on the continent, excepting under glass, or in sheltered localities, where they are trained to the wall. The United States should be able to supply this demand as well as Canada.

## An Accident.

"I understand," remarked the reporter to the manager of a railway noted for the unpunctuality of its trains, "that there was an accident on your railway last night."

"Oh, do you?" was the sarcastic reply.

"Yes, sir."

"Do you know anything about it?"

"Only that it happened to the train which was due here at 8:15."

"That train came in to the minute, sir," said the manager, firmly.

"Are you sure of that?"

"Of course I am."

"Thanks. That must have been the accident referred to," and the reporter dodged out safely.—Tit-Bits.

## Hard in Winter.

Kind Lady—You must have a very hard time in winter.

Tramp (between mouthfuls)—Yes, indeed, mum. Sometimes I darren't ask for a bite fur days, and I 'most starves, mum.

"What do you fear at such times?"

"I'd be axed to shovel snow, mum."

N. Y. Weekly.

## Large Eggs Too Handy.

"I wrote to you," said Barnstorm's friend, "and directed it to that California town as you advised. Didn't you get it?"

"No," replied Barnstorm, "we didn't show there. We discovered at the last moment that there was an ostrich farm quite near the theater."—Philadelphia Press.

## His Principles.

"You are a spendthrift," exclaimed the man of wealth.

"Yes," said the titled son-in-law.

"Have you no high principles in life?"

"Yes, sir. I am one of the people who consider it a disgrace to die rich."—Washington Star.

## Clear as Mud.

"Gentlemen of the jury," asked the clerk of the court, "have you agreed upon a verdict?"

"We have," replied the foreman.

"The verdict of the jury is that the lawyers have mixed this case up so that we don't know anything at all about it."—Tit-Bits.

## Justly Proud.

Butterfly—Magnificent, sir! There are scenes in your comedy that Shakespeare himself could not have written.

Dapter—You are too kind, really.

"Not at all, sir. Take, for instance, that railroad smash-up in the third act."—Brooklyn Life.

## Different Points of View.

Mr. Growells—What! You want a new bonnet? Why, I think the one you have is very becoming.

Mrs. Growells—Yes, and so do the neighbors; they think it is becoming very ancient and decrepit.—Chicago Daily News.

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