

HORTICULTURE.

HORTICULTURAL TIPS.

BY CHAS. S. SIMPSON.

Now is the time to keep an eye on the orchard, whether newly planted or an old bearing one. Do not allow the trees to suffer from drouth. Turn on plenty of water and allow it to run until the soil is thoroughly moistened, remembering of course that the necessary amount of water depends upon the character of the soil. Trees growing on land of high, gravelly nature require an abundance throughout the growing season, while trees growing upon land more or less influenced by sub-irrigation would require little or no surface water.

The writer has observed a considerable amount of wormy fruit in the orchards this season and would advise removing it from the trees every day. The hogs will enjoy eating it, if no better use for it can be found.

Geo. H. Winstock, Orillia, Wash., is planning to erect an evaporator of good size to care for the fruit crop of his and neighbors' orchards.

T. H. Brew, commission merchant, a tireless rustler, has been spending several days in Seattle. He reports that carload shipments of green prunes commenced Monday from North Yakima to the East and that from now on a car a day will be sent from that station by the three leading commission firms—Brew, Ward and Morgan. These firms find co-operation and united effort a great aid in handling the farmers' shipments.

BUDDING.

The trees to be budded must be growing at the time, so that the bark will lift easily from the wood. Twigs of the present season's growth, with pretty well ripened wood, is the kind to use. Having a sharp, thin-bladed knife, with the point rounded off on the edge side, or if it be straight, at an angle of about 30 degrees, it will answer; the latter is preferable with me.

When preparing the bud twig, cut off the leaves to within a half inch of the bud; this is to hold the bud by while inserting it. Select a smooth place on the tree and cut across one-third around the tree, if one-half inch in diameter; then cut downwards from this one inch or a little more. Next, with the middle of your blade set, cut out a bud, starting one-fourth inch above the bud and down one-half below, making a clean, smooth cut.

Take the stub of the leaf stock in your left hand, between the thumb and forefinger, with the knife in the other hand, lift the bark up on one side near the cross cut, and then on the other; then lift one side while you get the lower part of the bud in; then the other and push the bud down until the top is

even with the cross. Now it must be bound with bass bark, Roffia, or even strips of old muslin or calico will do. If the former is not on hand begin to wrap below and wrap pretty tight up to and above the bud, but not over it. In two weeks one can tell whether the buds have taken, as if they have caught the stem of the leaf will drop off; if still there, dry and tight, you may be sure the bud has not caught.

In three weeks the bandages may be taken off, or at least loosened, so as not to cut into the tree. As to the time of budding, it can be done now with plum and cherry; but for peach it is better to wait until the middle of August on young trees. I have even budded young peach trees successfully as late as the 20th of September. The Maheleb cherry sometimes takes the buds best later on, but the wood on buds to be put in is sometimes too ripe. Where growing shoots can be got to take buds from, late budding on Maheleb stalks take the best. Apple and pear can be budded from now until the bark binds, and if the early budding starts to grow the wood usually ripens enough to stand the winter.—Rural World.

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