

MORE FRUIT SPECIAL

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

AND SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

A Farm and Home Weekly for
The Carolinas, Virginia, Georgia, and Florida.

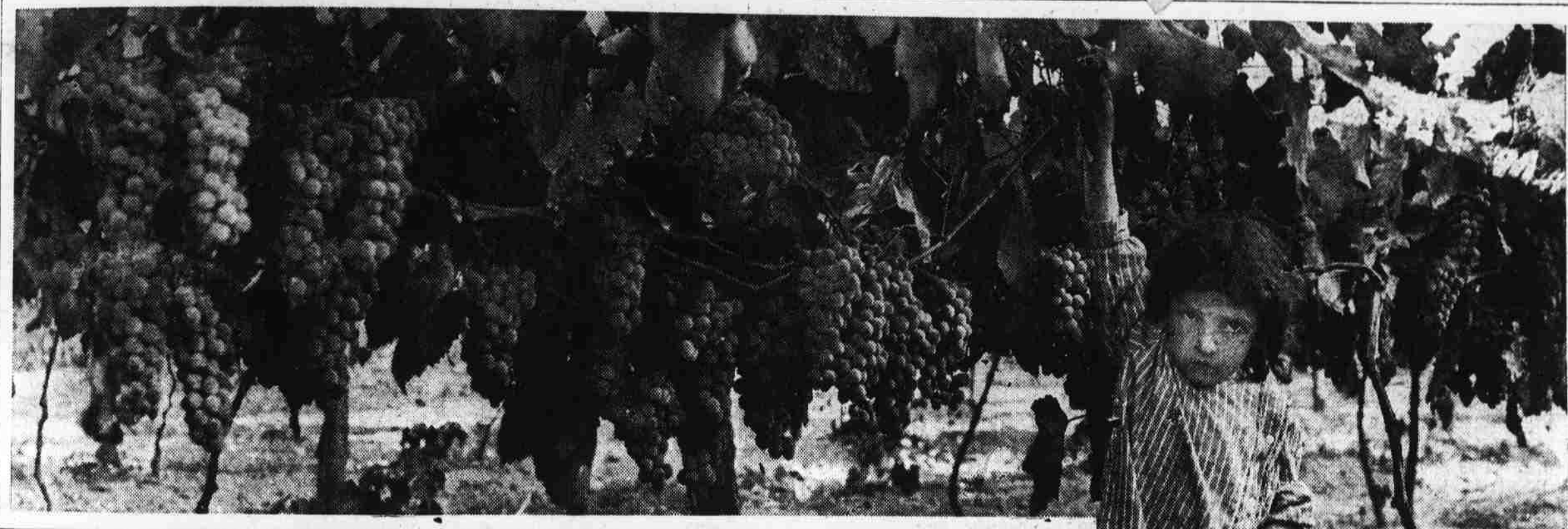
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A HOME ORCHARD FOR EVERY FARM HOME



GRAPES ON FARM OF CHAS. BRUNNER, TEXARKANA, TEX.

THE SOUTH as a whole does not raise enough fruit. Especially is this true in the Cotton Belt, where really good home orchards are all too rare. The trouble has been that we have not fully appreciated the value and importance of fruit as a part of our diet, and how it saves us grocery and doctor's bills; nor, even where the need for plenty of wholesome fruit has been understood, have we given our orchards the careful attention essential to success.

The Progressive Farmer believes in a home orchard for every farm home, and by an orchard we mean not merely a haphazard collection of trees, selected at random, and then left unpruned, unsprayed and untended, but a well laid out orchard of trees from a reputable grower, cared for in a manner that will insure the maximum returns. Some care is necessary in getting and keeping a good orchard, but the returns far outweigh the cost of the necessary attention. The main thing is to understand what is really necessary, and it seems to us that right here it is well to summarize the things vitally important in making the home orchard a success.

1. First of all, is the matter of location. Good drainage and convenience to the home are points that must not be overlooked, for orchards cannot succeed on water-logged land, nor can they be most satisfactory and useful when too far removed from the farm home.

2. Buy only from nurserymen of known reputation. There has been a great deal of fraud and misrepresentation in the business of selling fruit trees, and lack of attention to this important matter will mean regret later. Remember that any dealer's guarantee is worthless unless backed by strong moral and financial responsibility.

3. Write your state agricultural college in regard to the best varieties to plant. Remember that particular varieties fit particular local conditions, and it will be worth a great deal to you to know what is likely to succeed best in your section. With most fruits it is desirable that such varieties be planted that a succession can be maintained from the beginning until the end of the season. A fine example of how this may be done is found in Mr. Robertson's letter on page 9 of this issue.

4. Make a map or plan of your

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orchard before setting the trees. This plan should be sufficiently large for you to indicate on it each tree and the variety to which it belongs. Doing this will later be of much value in enabling you to determine varieties and their relative adaptability to your conditions.

5. Last but by no means least, prune, spray and cultivate. This "More Fruit Special" is filled with information about pruning, spraying and the general attention necessary to success in growing fruits, but if you need any further information, we will be glad to see that you get it. Remember, first, last and always, that "no spray means no pay;" but that an orchard of well sprayed, well cared for trees is usually the source of an abundant supply of fruit, as well as genuine satisfaction.