

FRUIT, TRUCK, VEGETABLES.

DO YOU GROW FIGS?

Some of the Best Varieties of this Delicious Fruit.

When man was living in primitive purity we find the first mentioned tree placed for his benefit to be the fig. (Gen. 3:7). The leaves, being of a broad and thick nature, were used for making aprons. And this fruit has accompanied man in all his wanderings since his expulsion from the Garden of Eden.

There are many reasons for this fact. The fig requires less dressing of the land, less pruning, less attention, has no borers, no tent caterpillars, no yellows. The goat even doesn't nibble it. It is practically immune from the depredations of animal and insect enemies, and from these many advantages we may suppose it to have been adopted by the human family in all its perignations, since for men it was a food, a shelter from the sun's scorching rays, and a medicine both internally and externally. When we consider the ease with which this fruit can be propagated, and its persistent way of taking care of itself, there seems to be no wonder that it so clung to man and his habitations.

To propagate the fig you simply get cuttings from 6 to 7 inches long of young wood—last year's growth preferred—from $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter down. Place them in some good well-broken ground, (take a row in the garden), set them at an angle of 45 degrees, with the top just above the ground, firm the soil around them, and you will get at least 90 per cent to live. This should be done during February and March—before the buds swell too much. I have known these cuttings to bear fruit that ripened the first year. If they attempt to set fruit, brush it off, so that the growth may all go toward making wood.

The countries lying adjacent to the Mediterranean Sea produce the finest figs on earth. The United States Department of Agriculture some years since furnished me with quite a variety from those parts of the world. Many of them, I found to my sorrow after waiting for years, hoping and trusting to "sit under my own tree and eat thereof" refused to yield ripe fruit—especially those large, late varieties, and I would recommend these varieties to be not planted unless you wish "barren fig trees," namely, Peagustrata, Adriatic, White Marseilles, White Genoa. But you can safely plant, and ex-

pect to eat fruit therefrom the next year, three kinds: Brown Turkey (known also by other names) a medium size but delicious fruit; Celestial (white) the earliest, well adapted everywhere in eastern North Carolina; Black Ischia, a Grecian fig, that is, as its name implies, dark, but a fine large flat fruit (from stem to bud)—doesn't bear until it assumes tree size—then you can sit under your own fig tree, get whipped cream and eat them and feel thankful that you can enjoy this combination.

My favorite "sweetness" these spring days, when the appetite goes "whim-dazzling," is fig preserves flavored with lemon, spread with good home-made "cow butter" on light bread.

E. D. PEARSALL.

Pender Co., N. C.

THE CABBAGE LOUSE AND THE TERRAPIN BUG.

How to Control the Two Worst Insect Enemies of Cabbage and Collards.

Whole fields of cabbage and collards are often almost utterly de-

lowed, in all of its details, you need have little fear of cabbage lice. If from failure to do so your crop becomes infested, you have trouble cut out for you. Pull up and remove all badly infested plants; crush with the fingers the lice on the others, or spray with soap solution. Both of these methods are laborious, expensive and only palliative at best.

When danger of severe freezing is over you should fertilize your cabbage heavily, cultivate rapidly and well, and they will, to some extent, outgrow the ravages of lice.

The Terrapin or Harlequin bug, while not very destructive in the spring, does a great deal of damage later. The comparatively small number that appear in the early spring should be hand-picked, else they will multiply and spread to the later fields in such numbers as to ruin them. Like the louse, they suck the inner juices of the plant and cannot be killed with poisons. Hand-picking is the only effective remedy.

I set my crop of winter cabbage in rows $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet apart and in late February I sow turnips and mustard in rows between. These act as a trap crop, the bugs preferring them to the cabbage. I hand-pick the bugs. The turnips and mustard are quickly ready for market, and the bugs and

A BARREL SPRAY PUMP AT WORK.



[Courtesy Tennessee Experiment Station.]

Here is a practical spraying outfit for the farm orchard, and one that is likely to be cheaper in the long run than a smaller machine.

stroyed by insect pests. It is imperative that preventative measures be adopted. If your fields once become infested it is almost impossible to get rid of them. In dealing with insect pests an ounce of prevention is worth thousands of pounds of cure.

The cabbage louse is the only insect that gives much trouble with cabbage set in the fall and winter. The lice multiply and flourish in cool, damp weather, almost disappearing in the hot summer. To keep the plants from being infested the seed should be sown in land remote from growing crops of the cabbage family. The plants should not be set near growing fields of collards, kale or rutabagas. As a further preventative measure, the plants, after being drawn should always be treated by being immersed for 20 minutes in a solution made by dissolving one pound of any ordinary soap in four gallons of water.

You may not be able to see any lice on plants, but, to be on the safe side, you should treat them anyway. It will do them no harm, and may be the means of doubling the value of your crop. If this method is fol-

eggs that escape hand-picking are removed with them.

G. L. B. PENNY.

Wake Co., N. C.

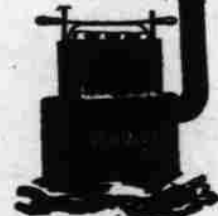
Many Farmers Need Mowers.

About ten years ago my brother and I purchased a McCormick mower, which has been a success, and now I would not think of farming without a mowing machine. A. J. MOYE.

The great man is poised and satisfied—no matter what happens. The little man is always full of trouble; and this trouble he always lays to the fault of others.—Elbert Hubbard.

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