

fruiting-wood of the following season. From this it will be seen that prospective crops of peaches and nectarines depend very largely upon the care bestowed in keeping the trees free from the disease. It is to be noted that the strong winter formula of the Bordeaux mixture recommended above is not to be applied to the trees until they have shed their leaves.

GRAPE - CULTURE.

S. F. ANDERSON.

VINE WORK FOR MAY.

DURING the past month many growers experienced the common trouble of their grapes rotting, and in more than one instance this vexatious trouble has been put down to disease. It is not so, however. The matter has been carefully investigated by the Biologist of the Department, Mr. A. H. Cockayne, who states that "The only fungi present are saprophytic ones that would appear as soon as the grapes begin to rot, and they must have commenced to rot through having water on them." The trouble is more noticeable where the bunches have been imperfectly thinned, thereby preventing the water or moisture condensed on them from going through the bunch, or drying up. It is easily avoided by keeping the bunches more open.

The month of May is a quiet one so far as cultural operations are concerned. The renovation of old vine-borders (advised in the notes of the February issue) may now be proceeded with, provided they are not too dry or that the weather has not been continuously dry for some time. In this case, wait for rain.

GROWING OUTDOOR GRAPES.

As a branch of horticulture grape-growing has reached an important stage in this country. Although grapes are never likely to form an article of export, it has been conclusively shown during the last two years that local consumers can be supplied without the necessity of importing them from other countries, and this at reasonable prices. The production of good fruit, however, is capable of much greater extension. It would be better, too, for the production of the best outdoor table-grapes if the work were confined to small holdings—say, from 1 to 5 acres in extent—and if these areas were cultivated in a thoroughly up-to-date manner. Only in this way can the business be made to pay. It is most important that the site chosen should be on