

PROTECTION AGAINST STOCK, ETC.

Eucalypts, like all other trees, must be securely protected against stock. It is only a waste of time, money, and good temper to plant trees for the farm animals to destroy. An ordinary seven- or eight-wire fence with plenty of battens will be sufficient protection against sheep, cattle, and horses, provided a space of 6 ft. is left between the fence and the nearest row of trees; but the fence must be kept tight and in good order. If rabbits and hares are numerous it will, unfortunately, be necessary to protect the plants while young against them also, by netting the lower half of the fence. The correct rabbit-netting is 42 in. wide, with a mesh of $1\frac{1}{2}$ in., and of 16 to 17 gauge wire. Six inches should go into the ground, and the remaining 3 ft. be stretched tight and well fastened to the posts and wire. If the mesh is larger than $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. small rabbits may pass through and live inside the plantation.

SEED-SUPPLY.

There remains the vital question of seed-supply. Intending planters by carefully using the foregoing descriptions may in many instances identify local trees and collect for themselves. If the twigs bearing the ripe fruits are laid out on a floor or hung up in a sack, the seed will within a few days fall out of the cases, and can then be easily separated with a sieve. But more frequently it will be found necessary to purchase the seed, and it is here that we encounter a great risk. The ordinary seedsman has to purchase from other seedsmen or from collectors. Quite honest collectors, unless possessed of considerable botanical knowledge, may make mistakes and unwittingly deceive the seedsman, who will then just as unwittingly pass the deception on to his customers. In this way the planter may find, after spending his time and money and waiting long years, that he has planted the wrong trees and failed of the result that he had a right to expect. Until the Government Forestry Branch can supply the seeds, or some one New Zealand seed-house will undertake to keep guaranteed stocks, planters who cannot collect from local trees will be well advised to import the Australian seeds direct from Andrew Murphy, tree-seed collector, Woy Woy, New South Wales, who knows all the timber-yielding eucalypts well, and is thoroughly accurate and reliable. The special Tasmanian species may be obtained from C. Creswell and Co., seedsmen, Hobart.

CONCLUSION.

Many farmers and settlers will no doubt desire information about numerous eucalypts not mentioned in this article. They must be