

In some districts—Hawke's Bay is one—the best crops of *peas* are from those sown in May. Be sure to sow two kinds at the same time—a dwarf and a medium-tall variety. They will succeed each other. If for any reason it should be decided to sow one kind only, this should not be a true dwarf, as a medium-height variety would give better returns, though a week or two later.

SMALL FRUITS.

Loganberries are best grown on new rods every year. There is seldom any difficulty in securing a sufficiency each season. The old rods should be cut out if there are enough young ones for fruiting. If there are not, some of those that fruited last season may be kept. They will fruit again if the bearing-twigs are reduced to short spurs.

Gooseberries may be pruned as soon as the leaves are off. Remember that there is nothing gained by having a crowded bush, and the latter is a constant nuisance. If the branches are kept open to light they will give their best, and only then. Prune so as to secure a bush that is so open that fruit can be gathered in comfort. Such a bush has as much wood as it can properly furnish with fruit. Cut out branches where necessary. The young growths in the centre should be reduced to spurs, and those on the outside shortened to strong buds. Keep an open centre.

Red and *white currants* should be kept to a single main stem. They should not be allowed to throw up stems from under the ground. Keep a perfectly open centre. All shoots except leaders should be reduced to short spurs. They never bear fruit on young wood. Shorten leaders to about 10 in. *Black currants* should be allowed to stool. Underground shoots provide a means for frequently renewing the bush and an effectual method for defeating the borer. The latter takes time to destroy a branch, which can be replaced by new wood. The black currant bears on the wood made the preceding season as well as the older wood. Advantage should be taken of this habit by leaving young shoots where needed. A hollow centre should not be grown, and the bush need not be kept so open as gooseberries and red currants, but the branches should not be crowded.

THE FLOWER-GARDEN.

Planting of every description can be undertaken, due allowance being made for local conditions. Planting should never be done while the soil is in a sodden state. Unless the soil is in good working-condition the roots of plants will not take to it. There are physical reasons also against planting in wet ground, or, indeed,