

furnished with too many leaders. These are often so crowded together that it is impossible for a good supply of fruiting laterals to develop. Trees readily fill up the open spaces arising from the thinning out of leaders. Such pruning not only causes the remaining leaders to become stronger, but also is the means of causing a large number of thrifty laterals to be developed, and these in due course should carry heavy crops of good fruit.

*Planting Trees.*—The most suitable time for planting trees must be determined by the individual grower after due consideration to local conditions. Where it is intended to plant in the early spring, planters should delay until the danger of frosts and of cold winds is over. It is advisable that late spring planting should be done while the soil is still moist to enable the trees to become established quickly without suffering a set-back due to drought. The distance apart at which the trees should be set is at least 25 ft. for lemons and 20 ft. for oranges on the square system. The holes should be prepared before planting-time. The soil should be worked up finely over a wide area and to a good depth. Some organic matter such as cow-manure, sheep-manure, or blood and bone at the rate of 4 lb. per tree should be worked well down and clear of the soil which is to come into direct contact with the roots. On arrival at the orchard the trees should first be cleared of all packing materials and then "heeled in" if planting is not to be proceeded with right away. The roots should not be allowed to become dry. Just prior to planting, the roots should be puddled in mud of a thin consistency and then placed in position in the hole in the proper alignment. The roots should be spread out in a natural position, fine soil should be packed in amongst them by hand in order to separate the roots, and then the remainder of the soil should be spaded in and tramped down firmly. It may be advisable to water occasionally so that the young trees do not suffer from lack of moisture. In cases where trees have been in nursery rows in the orchard they can be lifted with the soil intact around the roots, transported on a sledge to the holes, and planted without serious injury to the roots or set-back.

If the trees arrive in good condition, pruning back of the shoots is unnecessary, but if they suffered in transit a little cutting back and defoliation may be necessary. Where the shape can be improved by a judicious cut or two this may also be done, but it must be borne in mind that with citrus trees one cannot always be sure of getting growth from each and every bud. Little or no pruning should be done to citrus trees until about the third year, when an attempt should be made to develop an open framework of about five sturdy leaders.

*Shelter.*—Where, in spite of all warnings given to the contrary, trees have been planted out without the provision of adequate shelter-belts, some temporary expedient should be adopted, such as the use of scrim supported by stakes, light brushwood around each tree, or the planting of maize in a couple of rows 6 in. apart. The stalks of the maize remain well into the winter and afford considerable protection.

*Cultivation.*—This may now be proceeded with. Underneath the spread of the trees the weeds should be removed and the ground lightly hoed. Care should be taken, particularly when a push hoe is used, to see that no damage is done to the trunk of the tree, as any injury is likely to afford entry to bark-blotch organism. The cultivation of the lands between the trees should be done by plough, discs or rotary hoe, according to the method best suited to the district and the implements available. In a citrus grove the initial spring cultivation is often delayed later than that with other fruits, particularly where the cover crop has been sown late in the summer, in order to avoid the necessity of carrying out the main picking-operations in long growth, which on a dewy morning remains wet for a considerable time after picking is possible. With cultivation, as with other operations, the individual grower must use his judgment. Cultivation of the soil in the early summer, and an occasional harrowing to keep the weeds (moisture