

year, even when every care has been taken, led to the surmise that it was seed-borne. This opinion seems now to be established as a fact. A recent journal from England states: "Extensive research carried out at the Cheshunt Experimental Station has convinced the scientists that virus diseases are carried in the seed, so that the obvious method of reducing mosaic disease is to obtain seed as free from the virus as can reasonably be guaranteed." Clean seeds are grown best under glass, with all facilities for insect-pest control; or in a cold district where such insects as aphides and thrips are less troublesome. There is also the necessity of growing not only clean seeds, but seeds of good strain. Any one who goes to this trouble and can guarantee a large measure of success in these respects should find a good demand for the seeds. A grower saving seed from his own crop should be careful not only to see that they are saved from fruit of a good type but also that the fruit was borne on a plant that was sound and of good constitution.

#### Small and Sundry Fruits.

When the strawberry crop is harvested the beds should be cleaned up and given a dressing of bonedust and decayed farm manure, or fowl manure, or blood and bone, thus making best use of the autumn growing-period to build up the constitution of the plants in readiness for another cropping-season. If the beds have run out and are to be cleared it should be done at once and the land planted in broccoli or other winter crops, or sown down in cover-crop for ploughing under.

As the foliage of raspberries and loganberries is rather uncertain in its resistance to chemical sprays, summer pruning should be done promptly after the harvest has been completed, as by doing so a large measure of disease control is secured. Canes and vines are cut off close to the surface of the ground and carried out and burnt. The latter part of the operation is important; it is not sufficient to stack them in a plantation or pile them in a gully to decay, as such practices are fertile means of propagating disease. After training in the new canes and vines a dressing of bonedust or other fertilizer and sowing down in a green cover-crop is often suitable treatment, especially where well decayed farm or stable manure is scarce.

It is often an advantage now to cut out water-shoots completely in gooseberries and the old wood in black currants for the benefit of the new bearing-wood. Eight or ten years is about the profitable life of these crops; but with attention and under good conditions they will remain in profit much longer. However, so soon as vigour begins to wane new plantations should be made.

Where new plantations of strawberries or bush fruits are to be planted, the preparation of the land should be completed so soon as it is cleared of other crops; the eradication of all bad weeds is of special importance. In most cases it is best to plant strawberries as soon as the plants are available, and other bush fruits in early winter. The plants should be ordered now after careful examination to ensure clean, healthy stock, for delivery as soon as they are ready for lifting.

#### The Homestead Garden.

In the November number of the *Journal* the subject of planning new gardens and alterations or additions to old ones was dealt with. The time has now arrived to carry out such plans of this kind that have been decided upon. If the garden is fairly large it is advisable to submit the plans to some one who has had a wide experience with this kind of work. The common desire to carry out the work oneself is readily appreciated; the planning, too, should be an expression of the owner's tastes and ideals, but owing to a lack of experience with this kind of work one or two rather crude details are apt to creep in and be overlooked until it is somewhat expensive to alter them. Small gardens are a much easier problem, and with them this risk is not so great.