



FRUIT GARDENS



THE HOME

FRUIT PLANTING

By Leon C. Snyder, 1947

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The author of this publication emphasizes the fact that growing fruit in the garden and home orchard can become an interesting hobby as well as a profitable venture. By proper planning we can enjoy luscious vine- and tree-ripened fruits throughout the entire year.

Success or failure in growing fruits will depend on four things: the selection of the planting site; the choice of varieties adapted to your locality; pest control; and cultural care. It is the purpose of this bulletin to present information on the cultural requirements of each of the commonly grown fruits.

Site Very Important

The importance of having a fertile and well drained soil is emphasized. The need for an elevated site which reduces the frost hazard by promoting good air drainage is also stressed. Unfortunately most backyard gardeners have no choice in either soil type or air drainage. The soil may be built up if it is poor but a low frosty site is a perennial problem for which there is no good answer.

Planting Plan and Varieties

A carefully prepared planting plan is presented along with a table showing planting distances, approximate yields per plant and number of plants needed for a family of five.

The material on varieties is presented in the form of a table listing those suggested for northern Minnesota and those for the southern part of the state. All varieties are listed by name only, with no descriptive material or information of any sort. Although the reader is referred to another bulletin "Fruit Varieties for Minnesota" for complete descriptions, it would improve this publication if at least a minimum of such information was included.

Cultural Information

The bulk of the bulletin is composed of material on soil management, fertilization, pruning, thinning, harvesting and insect and disease control. Spray schedules for the various fruits are presented on the last four pages.

This bulletin contains rather complete information on fruit production except for the lack of variety descriptions. It should be of real value to the home fruit grower in regions with climatic conditions similar to those in Minnesota.

—W.P.J.