

more and more attention to the details of plant growth. The "Green Thumb Garden Record" should be a valuable assistant to any home owner or hobby gardener in attaining this goal.

—W.P.J.



STRAWBERRY GROWING IN NEW JERSEY

By Ernest G. Christ, 1949

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This bulletin contains a wealth of good down-to-earth information for the strawberry grower. All of the practical details of production are discussed briefly but completely.

In the introduction the author states that strawberries need intensive culture. An acre grown well will yield as much as 2 or 3 acres grown with less care. Do not plant strawberries unless you can spend enough time and effort on proper care of the planting.

Fall Planting

Late summer and fall planting is not recommended as a general practice. Strawberries set out late in the season produce practically no runners and much be mulched for two winters before a good crop is produced. On irrigated market garden plots it may be quite practical to plant in late summer if about 30,000 plants are set per acre. A crop is picked from these plants the following spring. Sometimes the fields are held for a second fruiting season.

Without irrigation this would not be successful.

Cultural Operations

Complete instructions are included relative to planting and cultural operations. The grower is advised to attach a coulter to the cultivator shoe during the last two or three cultivations. By this procedure the late forming runner plants will be cut and not dragged into the row, otherwise the row will become crowded with plants.

Fertilization practices, irrigation, renovation of old plantings, mulching, yields, cost of production, and picking and handling operations are discussed in this helpful bulletin.

Varieties

The author emphasizes the importance of selecting varieties which are productive in the territory in which the grower is located. It is not wise to plant extensively a new variety not generally grown on nearby farms. It is best to make trial plantings of 25 to 100 plants. The grower can observe plant vigor, yield and fruit characters in these tests and make larger plantings of the varieties that are satisfactory.

The varieties grown most extensively in New Jersey are Blakemore, Lupton, Sparkle, Premier, Catskill, and Fairfax. Other varieties of importance are Pathfinder, Dorsett, Redwing, Aberdeen, Chesapeake, Joe, and Midland. Some newer varieties that are being planted on a limited scale include Fairpeake, Fairland, Robinson, Temple, Massey, Redstar, and Redcrop.