The HALEHAVEN peach developed by the Michigan station and introduced in 1932 has come to be a leading variety in Michigan as well as in many Eastern States. The higher prices for which this variety sells as compared with other varieties of its same season resulted in an estimated added income to Michigan peach growers in 1945 of $500,000.

from U. S. Dept. of Agriculture
Report on the Agricultural Expt. Sta., 1945



## STRAWBERRY PRODUCTION

By A. N. Brooks, 1945.
Fla. Agr. Ext. Circ. 125. 20 pages.

Strawberry growing is an important horticultural enterprise in Florida. The total acreage varied from 7,000 to 11,000 acres during the 1932 to 1938 period. During recent years the acreage has been decreasing steadily primarily because of the scarcity and high cost of labor.

### Varieties and Yields

The Missionary is the most important variety and is being planted almost exclusively at the present time. The characteristics which make this variety desirable are a long fruiting season which lasts from December to June, self-fertile flowers, high yields of fruit which is of good quality and size, and firm enough to withstand long shipment. The plants produce runners freely and are fairly resistant to the most common strawberry diseases.

Blakemore produces better crops than Missionary under wet, cold weather conditions but is not consistantly as good as the latter variety. Klonmore produces firm fruit of good size and shape, and is worthy of trial by commercial growers.

The yearly average yields range between 2,000 and 2,500 quarts per acre of marketable fruit. Maximum yields of 5,000 quarts per acre have been reported but are not to be expected in most large plantings.

### Cultural Methods and Harvesting

Plants are secured from Northern sources and set out in February, March or April. These plants produce runner plants which are set out mostly in September and October.

Cover crops of velvet beans, cowpeas or crab grass should be plowed down

every 2 or 3 years or oftener to help maintain soil organic matter.

Strawberry plantings are fertilized with two or three applications of a complete fertilizer such as a 5-7-5 to increase yields of fruit. A top-dressing of a nitrogenous fertilizer may also be helpful in February or March when yields start to decline.

Mulching with pine needles or native grass straw is practiced in the Starke-Lawtey section but not in the southern areas. The mulch is applied at about bloom time over the entire bed and the individual plants are uncovered by hand.

Although injury by frost usually is not a serious problem, several methods are used to avoid such losses; these include covering the plants with cypress board troughs, pine needles, or kraft paper.

Irrigation is an important practice to insure adequate soil moisture.

Suggestions are included concerning picking, packing, grading and marketing. Pre-cooling strawberries before shipment to Northern markets is advisable.

W.P.J.

## THE WORLD'S HUNGER

By F. A. PEARSON and F. A. HARPER, 1945

Cornell Univ. Press. 90 pages

This though-provoking book contains data on food production and consumption in different countries of the world. Although the information is not of direct value to fruit growers, it is of interest to all producers and consumers of food materials.

The authors indicate that only 7 per cent of the world's land area has a proper combination of favorable sunlight, temperature, topography, soil fertility, and rainfall to be suitable for food production. Extensive drainage and irrigation projects have been carried out in many countries. Such methods of crop production are expensive and the increased yields secured usually are sufficient only to pay maintenance costs. In most cases the original cost has not been paid and there is no indication that it ever will be. However, about 1 percent of the