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SUGGESTIONS FOR TRAINING
BOYSENBERRIES AND YOUNGBERRIES

By

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Federal Cooperative Extension Service
Oregon State College
Corvallis

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Starting in the spring, the new growth is divided in half and trained each way from the crown along the ground under the trellis wires. Short stakes or wires are driven into the ground to hold the new vines in place.

After harvest, usually in August, the old canes are cut off close to the ground and removed from the planting. Some growers of Youngberries and Boysenberries in recent years have reported that they get better crops from training the new canes on the trellis wires in late August or early September before they harden. Other growers train Boysenberries and Youngberries in the spring and take their loss due to cane breakage and interference with canes after they have hardened.

Caution - The mild winters of the last few years during which Youngberries and Boysenberries have been grown have been favorable to fall trellising. When severe winter weather prevails with continued freezing and thawing, winter injury can occur to fall-trellised canes. On the other hand, many buds are often killed when canes are left on the ground all winter.

Spacing Boysenberry and Youngberry Plants - Boysenberries and Youngberries are usually trained on a 2-wire trellis with the first wire about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the ground and the second wire $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the ground. These wires are on posts 16 feet apart. Trellised plants are usually spaced in rows 8 feet apart and hills are 8 feet apart. When small garden tractors are used for cultivation, rows may be as close as 6 feet in rich soils. When large tractors or teams are used, rows may be 10 feet apart.

For home gardens of only a few hills of Youngberries or Boysenberries, stakes 6 to 8 feet high with a 1-foot cross arm at the top to hold the vines may be set in rows 6 to 8 feet apart each way and the canes trained to these stakes and cut off at about 7 or 8 feet from the ground.

Training Systems - (See Figure A) - One system of training in use. Two men on opposite sides of the Boysenberries or Youngberries work at the trellising. (1) The canes are picked off the ground and passed on the opposite side of the lower wire; (2) and back on the side next to the trainer and over the top wire; (3) and then they are carried forward about 3 feet and downward on the opposite side from the trainer over the top wire; (4) then brought inside or next to the trainer to the lower wire. These vines are then cut off about 12 inches from the ground. Even in recent years of mild winters growers in unprotected areas find it safer to train in the spring.

A common system of training - (See Figure B) - The canes are left 12 to 15 feet long with this system and are trained along the upper and lower wires either in the fall or spring. Objections to this system are cane breakage and time required to place the canes.

SYSTEMS OF TRAINING BOYSENBERRIES AND YOUNGBERRIES*

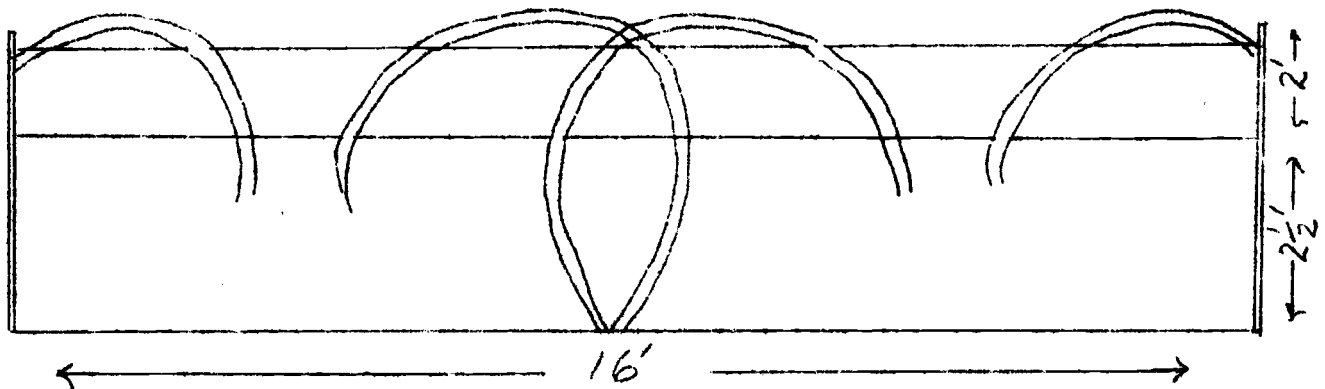


Fig. A

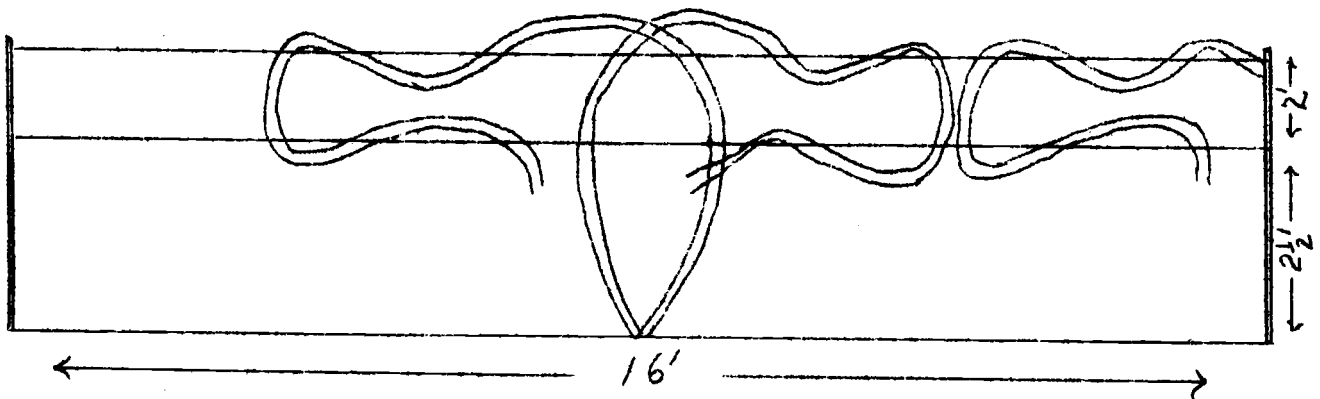


Fig. B

*Acknowledgment is made to George Waldo, Small Fruits Specialist, U. S. Department of Agriculture, for suggestions regarding this circular. The Department of Horticulture at Oregon State Agricultural College has in preparation a bulletin on systems of pruning and training red raspberries, Youngberries, and Boysenberries. This publication setting forth more detailed information should be off the press sometime during the winter of 1940-41.