

AUSTRALIAN BLACKBERRY IS ADAPTED TO ALL CLIMATES

Berries Have But Few Seeds Which Are Small and Is One of Best Shippers on Market—They Ripen Early Enough for All Purposes and Continue Until Frost—No Crop More Profitable.

California is the home of the Australian variety of blackberries, an illustration of which is shown herewith shown as grown by B. S. Kennedy of Sebastopol, Cal., who says:

In marketing small fruits I find this to be the most profitable and delicious berry in cultivation.

This strain of blackberry does not grow its roots through the soil like other varieties, which send up sprouts between the rows causing so much trouble, but it sends them downward into the moist soil, guaranteeing good crops of berries in the driest seasons when other kinds often blast, and outside of the hill there is no sprouts, except where the tips of the vines are buried for that purpose.

The Australian blackberry is adapted to all climates where the temperature does not fall lower than 15 degrees below zero. The berries have but few and small seeds, a small soft core which is almost destroyed in cooking; they are very firm, solid and one of the best shippers on the markets, and make a fine dried article. In cooking they form a rich delicious syrup which makes them desirable for canning and general family pur-

er of this berry has enabled me to discover a method by which ten tons of berries per acre may be grown, and averaged year after year. No crop could be more profitable. Some people are inclined to think that the Giant Himalaya, and Oregon everbearing, and the Australian Himalaya Blackberry are all the same variety but the Australian strain of blackberries are entirely distinct from the other two and while the Giant and Oregon everbearing may do well in Oregon they are almost worthless in California as they are soft small and seedy and unfit for market.

SECURING GOOD SUPPLY OF ICE

Small Cement House Makes Excellent Storage Room—Building Could Be Built Cheaply.

Start the next summer right by having your own ice. Unless you do, you will have to pay ice bills, or, if you can't get ice, hang the milk and butter in the well—both of which are unhappy chores.

Put up your own ice. A small cement house, cheaply made, is just the thing in which to store it. This house will last longer and keep the ice better than a frame building of the same construction, says G. M. Pratt, architect with the Kansas State Agricultural college.

Either blocks or cement poured in large molds can be used. The mixture should be rich enough that the walls will not be porous. Two thin walls re-enforced with rods protected from rust and separated by a three-inch air space gives the best combination. If blocks are used, large cores will save material and keep the temperature more even.

For an average family a building 10 by 20 feet and 15 feet high is a good size. It does not store more than two families can use. Ice keeps better when stored in such quantities, says Mr. Pratt.

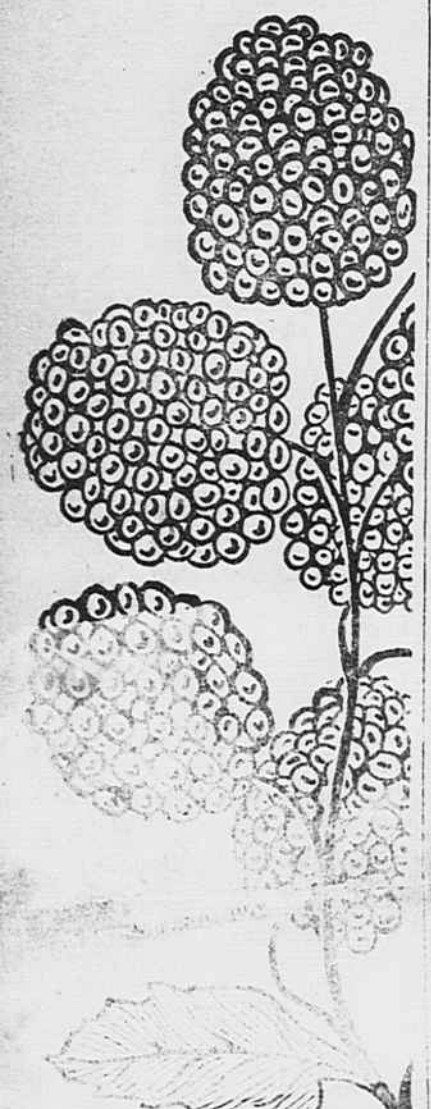
Such a building could be built for \$250. A neighborhood could build one a little larger that would do for all and the individual expense would be lessened.

The ice house may be filled from near-by streams as soon as they have frozen to a good thickness.

Drying String Beans.

Select young, tender, stringless beans, wash them, cut off the stem and blossom ends, cut in one-inch lengths, and put them on plates or trays prepared for the purpose. Cover with a net to protect them from flies, and put to dry in a strong current of air. Stir occasionally while drying. When thoroughly dried put into insect-proof bags, tie securely and keep in a dry, well ventilated place for future use. Some think beans are improved by steaming them a short time before putting them to dry. Try both ways, and decide for yourself which suits you better. By putting a few to dry each time beans are prepared for the table, a good supply may be preserved with very little trouble.

Keeping Boys at Home.
If we would keep the boys at home we must meet the demands for them that come from the cities. We must give them a chance to make money for themselves and broaden their opportunities for enjoying everything good in life within their reach.



Australian Himalaya Blackberry.

They ripen early enough for all purposes (about the eighth of July and continue until frost) and do not grow so much of the fruit inside the mass of vines causing tedious picking, but every spring they send out long laterals or fruit stems all projecting outside, and hanging down on each side of the rows, loaded with berries that are a pleasure to pick, and last but not least, they will yield three tons of berries per acre when only one year old and ever after that will more than double the yield of any other berry grown. The extensive experience I have had as a grow-

FRENCH SQUASHES AND PUMPKINS



French gardeners sow pumpkins and squashes in April in hotbeds, transplant the seedlings to other hotbeds and finally to the open ground in May. Several days before the plants are set out the holes are dug at a distance of one to two yards, according to the variety. These holes are then filled with thoroughly rotted manure, mixed with a little potash fertilizer and covered with soil. The young plants are watered frequently

and covered with a little straw if the sun is very hot. In frost or cold weather, which often occurs in France in the spring, a bell glass is placed over each plant. In very warm weather the plants are watered more frequently. The skin of the squashes shown in the illustration is so very tender that they must be handled and packed carefully in baskets for transport to shops and restaurants of the large cities.

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