

## ADDRESS

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In the first place, I have no explanation to make for these Early Blacks. It may be we should have shipped them in cardboard instead of white pine.

Since I have been here I have talked to several growers in regard to raising cranberries in Wisconsin—how much it costs you, and the frost protection measures you have to take, etc. We have frost protection, but we do not have to use it as much as you do.

Dr. Franklin at East Wareham has been trying to find out what caused a lot of our bogs to wither and die. The soil became loose and the vines seemed to have no roots. He went into the soil to find out what was the matter and found some very interesting worms, very much like your common grub worm that you find in your garden and dig for fishing. In some places we would find but a few of them and in other places, they would completely wipe out bogs. He made many experiments as to how to get rid of them and finally gave us a solution of the problem, which is a cyanide solution of about 6 oz. of cyanide to 100 gallons of water applied at the rate of 1 gallon per square foot. On a 100-acre bog it is quite a job. His next conclusion was that those particular grub worms do not show up on cranberry bogs under twenty-five years of age. The only explanation of that fact that I can give you is that those grub worms feed on the small fibrous roots of the plants, and in a young bog the roots are not sufficiently developed in the soil for the worm to live. After the soil becomes filled with these little fibrous roots, the grubs do live in great numbers. I have walked over a piece of bog sprayed from five to six weeks previously and by a little digging have found a great many worms that had been killed by this cyanide poison. This ought to be done sometime in June, or possibly the first of July, mainly because the ground will not receive one gallon to the square foot and in the fall it is dried out and much harder and we do not get the results that we do in the spring when there is more moisture in the soil. Another interesting thing is that it is a four year development. The young worm hatches out, lives four seasons, and then turns into a beetle which crawls around for a while. Birds get a few, but not many. Then it goes back and lays eggs, and comes back another worm.

That is one of the things we have there that you do not have here. It is known in Massachusetts that if not this year, within five years we will have to spray every piece of bog we have at least once a year. I sprayed for fire worm four times on one bog this year, and even at that lost a lot of berries, besides the damage of dragging the hose over the bog. This is just another one of the pests we must control.

As far as false blossom is concerned, I don't think you can point out a piece of Howe vines in Massachusetts to-day that does not show some false blossom. It is everywhere. We have used quite a few

methods of control, most of them pyrethrum sprays, and in some cases found it has actually killed the leafhopper, and in addition the false blossom itself seems to be going away from that particular section. It seems to be weakening its hold, but we do not know enough about it yet to advise this method. We only know it checks it to some extent.

Mr. Lewis suggested to me that we had too many cranberries on Cape Cod, especially Early Blacks. He thought it would be a good idea to flood them next summer until the first of August, which would help the Wisconsin crop out in good shape. I will carry that idea back to the first meeting they have, and I am sure they will receive it with a lot of enthusiasm.

I might say a few words in regard to the depression in general. In every town I visited, from New York to Denver, with the exception of Minneapolis, the average dealer and broker said "The depression is bad, but not as bad as in Cedar Rapids, or Cleveland, and Denver." But in Minneapolis a man said, the other night, "I think we have the best of the depression here. I might say that Minneapolis is suffering a slump in the depression."

#### CRANBERRY FINANCE

Until the crops of cranberries raised by small and casual growers are marketed in an orderly manner there is little likelihood of prosperity returning to the industry as a whole.

It appears to be useless to expect full co-operation in any marketing plan from those to whom the cranberry business is merely incidental and not their main reliance. Such growers are not much concerned about the general effect on the market if their fruit goes into already glutted markets.

They sell, or consign, their fruit as soon as it is picked, at any price they can get and add fuel to the fire which feeds the market glutting.

It would not take a prohibitive amount of money for the larger growers, to whom the stability of the business is essential, to buy such crops and market them through their own organizations.

Some sort of cranberry finance corporation would do the trick and in controlling the sale of such fruit, determining when, where and how it should be shipped, most of the present difficulties will be removed.

In order for the big growers to be prosperous the small growers must likewise prosper. There must be more uniformity in prices received by big and small growers. The big growers must see to it that the smaller ones have an opportunity to dispose of their crops at prices which will remunerate them for their efforts and which will keep the "cheap fruit" out of the competitive markets.

It is a problem which "big business" would solve by the consolidation method, but one which for the cranberry growers must be solved by other means such as we have suggested.

Considering this plan now and not waiting until next year when the crisis becomes acute will prevent much "grief" to those who have big interests at stake.

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