

The Wisconsin Horticulturist.

VOL. IV.

JULY.

NO. 5.

CONCERNING CRANBERRIES.

The cranberry output of Wisconsin last year was about 40,000 barrels. This was less than half the crop produced in '93, owing to the wholesale destruction of vines by fires a few years ago. Many of the marshes which were then burned over were afterward re-planted with vines and are now coming into bearing.

At the meeting of the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society last winter, the opinion was expressed that cranberries had brought more money into our State than apples and strawberries combined.

In view of the importance of this industry the Legislature appropriates \$250 annually to the Cranberry Association to aid them in their work of experimenting.

At present this Association is testing 150 different varieties of cranberries. Some of the Wisconsin berries are considered the finest in the world.

Propagating from seed is so slow a process that the general practice is to propagate from cuttings. They mow the vines of the varieties they desire to plant, run them through a feed-cutter to make them about two inches long, then sow them over the ground. The marsh must first be made level. After sowing them water is turned on to the marsh to keep them moist and in about six months they will come up like a green crop.

One of the essentials of successful cranberry-growing is a supply of water which can be turned on and off at will.