

AN OUTLINE OF THE WORK OF THE WISCONSIN STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Wisconsin State Horticultural Society conducts field work at sixteen different points as indicated on the map.

The work was begun in 1897 at Wausau for the purpose of testing the hardiness and adaptability of the different varieties of tree fruits in the northern or "cut-over" regions of the state.

These orchards comprise 55 acres and 5445 trees in addition to two acres of grapes.

The orchards at Wausau, Medford, Barron, Poplar and Maple are "Trial" Orchards, being for the purpose above indicated; the Sparta vineyard is also in this class.

The remaining orchards are located in sections where tree fruits are known to thrive and are designed as "Model" or demonstration orchards to show the best methods of culture, best varieties for market, etc.

An account is opened with each of the "Model" orchards with the confident expectation that a decided margin of profit will be shown at the end of 10 or 12 years. The orchards should then yield profitable crops for 20 years longer with but moderate expense for maintenance.

In these two ways the Society hopes to demonstrate the possibilities of fruit growing in Wisconsin.

The Society has recently (1909) undertaken the task of improving the grounds of the 7,000 rural schools of the state. (See 1909 Arbor Day Annual, p. 41.) A comprehensive plan has been adopted and the first steps taken.

Additional Aims and Purposes of the Wisconsin State Horticultural Society

Organized in 1865, being the legitimate successor of the Western Fruit Growers' Association, which was organized in 1853.

Chartered by the State of Wisconsin in 1871.

Purely an educational institution.

Its purpose the advancement of every branch of horticulture throughout the state.

Aims to accomplish this through publications, individual help and Conventions (two yearly).

Issues an annual report (250 pages) containing articles by experts on orchard culture, small fruit and vegetable gardening and the decoration of home grounds. Sent free to members.

Issues bulletins on practical subjects written in plain language and free from technical terms including pruning, spraying, planting, etc. Sent free to members and others who apply.

WE ANSWER QUESTIONS

Individual help is furnished through the Secretary, who obtains from reliable sources information on any horticultural topic. No charges for such services,

Receives an annual appropriation from the state for the support of the field work and other activities.

Maintains a membership of 158 life members and over 1,000 annual members. (Feb., 1910.)

Extends an urgent invitation, a promise of help and the hand of fellowship to all who want to learn about the growing of fruit, flowers or vegetables; to all who love the beautiful in nature a hearty welcome is assured.

Cordially invites every person in Wisconsin who knows something about fruit, flowers or vegetables to become a member, as such persons are needed to help along the splendid work in which the Society is engaged.

WM. TOOLE,
President W. S. H. S.,
Baraboo.

FREDERIC CRANEFIELD,
Secretary W. S. H. S.,
Madison.

Annual membership 50c.

Life Membership \$5.00

Remit to Secretary, Madison, Wis.