

### Bobbink & Atkins' New Hybrid Giant Flowering Marshmallow

THIS wonderful new hardy flowering plant is the most attractive of all existing plants. The flowers vary in color from white and light pink to the richest crimson and measure from eight to twelve inches in diameter. They grow from five to eight feet tall.



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### Small Fruits for the Home Garden

**STRAWBERRIES** being discussed elsewhere, we will consider the raspberry family, which consists of four sections, according to their colors, the red, black, pink and yellow. Prepare the ground the same as you would for strawberries or potatoes, or for garden culture, dig in plenty of good well-rotted stable manure, and make the soil fine and mellow with the spade and rake. Make the furrows six feet apart, and six inches deep, and set the plants two feet apart in the rows. The old system of growing was to plant in hills, four feet apart every way, but this has almost been abandoned. Cut back the plants before planting to six-inch tops, and set them as deep as they grew before.

To support them, set posts twenty feet apart, and run one wire three and a half feet from the ground, and train your fruiting-canoe to this wire. This is the method now generally adopted and is the cheapest which will give good results.

There is a "bush" system of growing raspberries which is especially adapted to the small home garden. The plants are set in furrows six feet apart, and three feet apart in the furrow. The plants should be trained in bush form instead of vines, by being pinched or cut back during the summer. Do not let the leading shoot, or "leader" grow more than three and a half feet high; the laterals should be started near the surface of the ground and kept to eighteen inches in length. It will require considerable pruning back during the growing season to make bushy plants, but it is worth the effort.

**BY EITHER SYSTEM** the old wood should be cut out every year, as soon as the leaves drop. Do not do it just after fruiting as some have advised. If you are not sure that you can tell the old canes from the new ones at that time of year, when they are in fruit tie a piece of raffia or colored twine around each cane that has fruit on it. All these must be removed every year as they will not fruit again. Remove them close to the crown, and clip off several inches of the tips of the new canes which have grown during the summer. Give the soil between and along the rows a dusting of a good commercial fertilizer, each year, at the rate of six hundred pounds per acre, which is one hundred pounds to a row one rod wide and forty rods long. Mulching over winter is beneficial, which can be worked into the soil between the rows in the spring.

The blackberry is one of the most paying of berry crops. It succeeds well in partial shade, and can be grown between fruit trees as an inter-crop while they are young. Prepare the ground the same as for raspberries. Set them out in the garden or lot where they will compel you to attend to them more they will soon become worthless. Keep them under control by removing all surplus wood, which is not difficult or expensive if done regularly. They can be grown as vines or by the bush system the same as given above for the raspberry, but they must be planted further apart. When set out cut the first canes back to six inches from the ground. Set in rows eight feet apart, and three feet in the row.

The gooseberry, like the currant, does best in partial shade—the east side of a clump of trees or a building suits it exactly. As soon as the leaves appear, spray the whole bush with a solution of one ounce of potassium sulphide to four gallons of water, to prevent mildew.

Prepare the soil for the currant the same as for raspberry. Set the plants in rows five feet apart and four feet apart in the row. Currants should be planted as early as possible, as this is the first fruit to start vegetation in the spring.

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(\* Quarter-sawn oak costs about two and one-half times as much.)

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