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Department of Information
and Agricultural Journalism
Institute of Agriculture
University of Minnesota
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

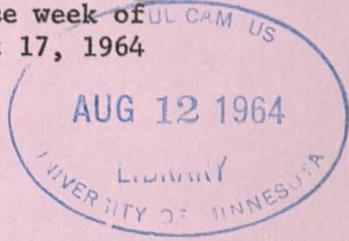
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Yard 'n' Garden

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For use week of JUL CAM US
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C. GUSTAV HARD ORRIN C. TURNQUIST
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ST. PAUL, MINN. 55101



PRUNING RASPBERRIES

As soon as your raspberry harvest is completed, your plants should be pruned. Prompt pruning after harvest will improve your prospect for a better crop next year.

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To do a good job of pruning, you should understand the growth habits of the raspberry. The raspberry is a perennial and lives for years without replanting. However, only the roots and underground portions are perennial. The canes above the ground are biennial. They come up in one year and produce vegetative growth, then produce fruit on short branches the second year. After fruiting, the canes die.

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Pruning consists of cutting out all old canes that have borne fruit. In addition, the new canes that have come up this year have to be thinned out. If you follow the hedgerow system, thin the plants to three or four canes per foot of row. If you grow the canes in hills, thin them to about six to nine strong canes per hill. Always leave the straight, sturdy new canes.

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Pruning can be done with a small hand pruner. Make all cuts at the ground level.

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If anthracnose is bad on the old canes, it may be desirable to spray with ferbam after pruning is completed. This disease produces small white sunken spots on the canes and leaves.

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