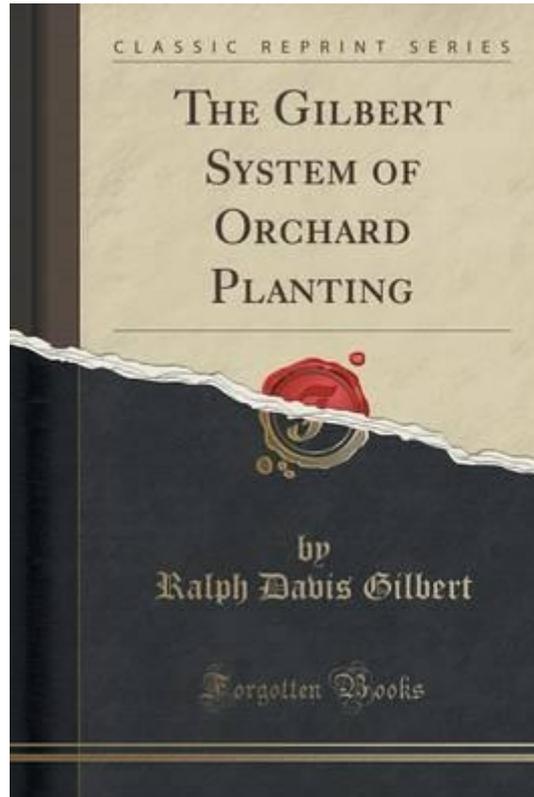


Download The Gilbert System of Orchard Planting (Classic Reprint) Ralph Davis Gilbert



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Excerpt from The Gilbert System of Orchard Planting

Vantages of planting are as follows: the land to be more fully occupied all the time than when the trees are planted in squares, and that the thinning may be done as needed, without spoiling the final symmetry of the orchard. On the scale shown the original trees are planted so that each is 20 feet distant from six others, thus forming a hexagon and in the mature orchard each tree will be 40 feet distant from six others. In square planting forty feet apart there are 27 trees to the acre while in hexagonal planting there are 33 trees. If the six additional trees produce three barrels of apples each it adds 18 barrels to the acre which at per barrel means an increase of per acre per year; an item worth considering. It makes provision for cross pollenization of two varieties, which is very important, and is so arranged that the number of trees in the permanent orchard may be equally divided between two varieties, or if one variety proves to be much more profitable than the other, the trees of that variety may predominate. No man can say today, which variety would be the most profitable to grow in 1930, and planted in this way, you have an option on varieties until about 20 years after the orchard is planted. The fillers may cost 30c. Each and 20c. To set them, but in 8 years.

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