

# Raspberry Management

You'll get fewer scratches, have easier weed control, and have more fun berry picking if you train raspberry plants to stand up straight. Proper pruning is also important. This will leave room for more productive new shoots and will reduce potential disease problems.

## Raspberry types

### Red

- **Summer-Bearing** types produce fruit in midsummer on second-year canes. Summer-bearing red raspberries suitable for all of Minnesota include 'Latham' and 'Boyne.'
- **Fall-Bearing** types produce a crop on first-year canes in early fall, then again on the same canes in the following summer. Hardy and productive fall-bearing varieties include 'Heritage' and 'Autumn Britten' and the yellow-fruited 'Fallgold.'

### Black & purple

- Can be a good choice for gardeners in the southern part of the state,
- Spread less aggressively than red-fruit relatives and tend to grow in clumps. The black raspberry varieties 'Bristol' and are suitable, while the purple raspberry 'Royalty' performs well.



A well-managed  
raspberry hedgerow

## Training Raspberries

### Hill System

- set a permanent stake or post at each hill
- tie the canes loosely to the stake.

### Narrow Hedgerow System

- Train the plants to stand in a row about 18-inches wide
  - As soon as suckers appear outside this row, cut them off.
  - A permanent trellis to hold the canes upright aids in picking & pest control
  - Make a simple trellis with stakes, twine, or wire.
- Set the stakes on one side of the row at 10- to 12-foot intervals.
- Use double wires or twine. Place canes between the wires and loosely tie them to the wire if necessary



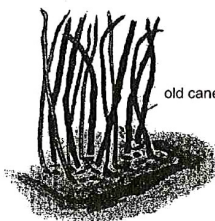
281 St. Andrews Drive, Mankato

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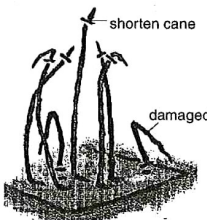
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## Pruning Summer Bearing Red Raspberries



- In fall cut and dispose of all canes that bore fruit that season.
- Thin new shoots to 3 or 4 of the sturdiest canes remain per foot of row.
- Do not compost these canes as they may be diseased.



- In spring cut back the fruiting canes to about 3-feet so they work in your trellis system and tie them in at this time.
- Never cut back more than one-fourth the total height of the cane. Severe heading back will greatly reduce your crop.
- Remove damaged/weak canes.

## Pruning Everbearing Red/Gold Raspberries

### One crop system

To get one large crop starting in August

- Cut all canes to the ground in fall after killing frost or in early spring.
- Remove any suckers growing up outside your trellis system

### Two crop system

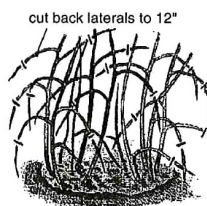
To get (two smaller) summer and fall crops

- Follow directions above for summer-bearing systems

## Pruning Black/Purple Raspberries



- In fall cut and dispose of all canes that bore fruit that season. The older canes will be thicker than the new growth.



- In spring, remove any weak or diseased canes leaving 4 or 5 of the strongest ones in a clump.
- Shorten lateral branches to 12". These branches will bear this summer.
- Tie canes to your trellis system at this time.

top new canes to encourage lateral branching



- As new canes grow, top them at about 4' to encourage lateral branching for fruiting next year.
- Remove new canes produced after July 4 as they will be weak next season.