

THE SOIL

to in Getting the Ready.

NECESSARY

digging, Planting, turning Which Will get Started

STON. Vegetable Department of Ontario.

workshop in which

the constituents of the plant food.

so treated that a condition that takes up by the plant so that and mature.

some manure to it up well before manure may be from various

our home. Every thing entirely with willing to supply rate. On heavy

ly recommended ions are made in will be of a much

that it will retain plan food. Manure will be benefited of time. This

m various sources ctor and builder, alers, and may be

ash lime or even time should be surface of the soil

has taken place, amount should be surface of the

the soil just pre- of the seed.

necessary in all will be turned over

other during the or that it may be

We find that les of the back- caused by digging

the spring. One to tell when the

ing is to gather the fingers over

be hand sets in a mass the time is

anced for com- If, however, the

several small assured that it is

necessary for the to purchase many

arden. Those who vegetables. In

number of years their supply until

years they have special tools

or particular over Complaints

that the exper- ence a backyard

Many very ens have been

harvests obtain- and comparatively

A digging fork or a hoe are about

at at the out- set, sensitive.

SEEDS. When it that the soil is

and the weather is necessary that

ed in the garden. A possible should

the little seeds ate and grow. To

tly, evenly, and siderable practice

ow may be made fairly tight a

m one portion of er and using this

g the trenches or the seeds in. After

dropped in they covered with soil

some of the loose seeds with a

th the hands. This er, not be heaped

should be placed at of the garden

ra. Backyard gardeners to grow immense

It is necessary need to secure a

the more slender ed out soon after

Children Cry for Fletcher's

CASTORIA

The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of

and has been made under his personal supervision since its infancy.

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Chas. H. Fletcher

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McClary's Gas Ranges

AND NOW FOR SEEDING

Soil Should Be Allowed to Warm Up before Planting.

SOME FIRST CROPS TO PUT IN

Beans Are a Splendid Food Product to Grow This Year—How to Proceed in Several Lines.

(By S. C. JOHNSTON, Vegetable Specialist, Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

Having discussed the methods of preparing the garden soil to receive the seed we now turn to the sowing of the seed itself. There is no need to hurry the sowing of the seed. Better results will be obtained if the amateur gardener will wait until the soil is warm and easily worked. The vegetables discussed are arranged as nearly as possible according to the time they should be planted.

LETTUCE. Lettuce is grown for its leaves, and is our best known salad plant. It is a short-season plant, and is often grown to follow or precede another crop. It is quite hardy and may be planted quite early in the spring, grown to maturity, and followed with a tender crop such as tomatoes, or it may be planted between any plants of the cabbage family. It is a good plan in a small garden to plant only a few feet at one time and follow this with successive plantings made every ten days or two weeks until July 1st. The lettuce seed may be sown in rows comparatively thinly at a depth of a quarter of an inch. The plants should be thinned to stand two inches apart.

If one desires large single heads of lettuce the plants should be thinned to stand from seven to nine inches apart. The thinnings may be transplanted to another part of the garden.

RADISH. The radish plant is grown for its roots, which are eaten raw just as soon as they are large enough to use. It is quite hardy, and may be planted very early in the spring. Radishes are frequently sown with other crops which are not such rapid growers, such as parsnips. They should, however, be pulled out before the parsnips or other crops need the ground. Successive planting is also advised for this crop. Radish seed may be planted in rows, four inches apart or broadcasted, the depth preferred being from a quarter to half an inch only. Radish as a general rule require no thinning, and the soil between the rows should be kept loose with the hoe. A crop of winter radish may be obtained if the seed is sown about the first of August. These should be thinned out to three inches apart.

SPINACH. Spinach is a short season crop which is grown to provide table greens. The plant matures in about six weeks from planting, and seed should be sown very early in the spring, as the plants run to seed during the hot summer months. The seeds may be planted in rows or broadcasted, and should be sown at a depth of one-half inch. Successive planting may be made if so desired. When the leaves are large enough to use they may be pulled off or the whole plant may be cut from the root.

ONION. The onion is grown for seasoning, pickling, and for eating raw. A large percentage of onions stored for winter use are grown from seed planted in the soil very early in the spring. The soil should be rich, moist and well drained, but fresh manure is not the best to apply. The seeds should be planted at a depth of about one-half inch, and the rows should be from twelve to fourteen inches apart. The seed should be planted very thinly so that there will be need for extra thinning of the onions. Cultivation about and between the onion tops are such a size as to prevent easy work. In the fall when the tops are about two-thirds dried down the onions should be pulled and laid in windrows so arranged that the bulbs are covered with the tops of the onions. This prevents any sunburn which causes considerable trouble in storage. After they have been kept in this position for five or six days they may be gathered up and placed in a slat box or basket and tied up some way so that the rain will not get at them and the wind will have plenty of chance to circulate around the bulbs. The tops may be removed from the onions at this time if so desired, or they may be left on. Dutch sets may be planted as close together as they will stand in a straight row very early in the season. They should be barely covered with soil, which should be well firmed by tramping on it, and the green onions should be pulled as soon as they are ready for use.

PEAS. Peas may be planted very early in the season, and for the early crop the seed should be sown in a furrow two inches deep and the seeds placed an inch apart. Some arrangements should be made so that the pea vines will have some support. Limbs of trees or chicken wire may be used for this purpose, as the vines will cling to this for support and will be kept up from the ground. This support should be set preferably at the time of planting. This soil should be drawn up around the vine.

BEANS. Generally speaking, it is not a good practice to add fresh manure to the soil where one expects to grow beans. They prefer a moist, deep loam. The seeds should be planted fairly early in the spring. The rows being at least eighteen inches apart. A furrow two inches deep may be made with the corner of a hoe and the seeds placed from two to three inches apart in the bottom of this furrow. Another way which is sometimes followed in planting beans is to make holes two inches deep twelve inches apart and in each hole three or four seeds be placed. It is always advised not to touch the plants when they are young.

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