

VEGETABLE CULTURE.

Most kinds of garden vegetables are very easy to grow, but they need regular attention in order to get the best results.

Carrots, onions, and beets require richer soil for best results, than do tomatoes, beans and peas. Thorough working of the soil before the planting of the seed or the setting out of the plants will be well repaid by the better crops which will be obtained.

Carrots: In order to have nice, clean, shapely carrots, the soil should be of a loamy nature. In stiff soils they will be unshapely unless the ground is very thoroughly prepared and made as loose as possible by thorough working. There should be a good application of manure well mixed with the soil. The seed should be sown early in the spring in rows two and a half feet apart. When the young plants are large enough to handle they should be thinned to about two inches apart. If left much wider they are liable to grow too large. The soil should be kept thoroughly cultivated or hoed to keep down weeds, conserve moisture, and let the air into the soil. When hoeing, the soil should be drawn sufficiently against the plants to protect the roots from the sun, otherwise part of them will be sunburnt being green and unsightly. The best variety is the **Chantenay**.

Beets: Beets need about the same kind of culture as carrots. The seed should be sown early and the young plants thinned to from three to four inches apart. The **Eclipse** is one of the best varieties.

Onions: For onions the soil should be worked into a finer condition than for most vegetables. A good application of well rotted barnyard manure thoroughly worked into the soil is desirable, as onions need a large quantity of available plant food. The seed should be sown about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch deep in rows 14 inches apart. As soon as the plants are from three to four inches in height they should be thinned to from one to two inches apart. It is best to leave them somewhat thick as many of the plants are liable to be injured by the root maggot. After thinning, the soil should be at once cultivated or hoed quite shallow and the surface, henceforth, left loose during the growing season to destroy weeds and promote the rapid development of the onions. It is important to destroy the weeds when they are young in order not to disturb the onions. Onions are ripe enough to pull when the tops have died down, about one half. To ensure thorough ripening they must be planted early. As soon as the onions are ripe they should be pulled and left on the ground until they are dry and firm, turning them occasionally. The tops may be removed as soon as convenient after they have become dry. They should be stored in a cool dry well ventilated place. Two of the best varieties are **Red Wethersfield** and **Yellow Globe Danvers**.

The onion maggot is often very destructive, attacking the young plants below