

wet at this moment, so as to favor the rapid germination of beans.

### **Cultivation**

*Hoeings and weedings.*—When sown in a well-prepared and warmed soil, beans generally come out after 8 to 10 days. In fair weather one can wait until all the stalks appear above the ground to give the first hoeing. But if, in the 4 or 5 days following the plantation, rains would happen which might have the effect of hardening and crusting the surface of the soil, it would be useful to mellow it by a light plowing, provided however there would be no danger of breaking germs while operating; because the least injury would then be sufficient, if not to kill the germ which is very breakable, at least to provoke a stop of the growth that will be nothing but prejudicial.

We must not forget, in fact, that the growth of the bean must be maintained vigorous during all the time of its vegetation, that is from planting time up to ripening. For this purpose, hoeings and weedings will be made as often as necessary to keep the surface of the soil well loosened, clean, and to provide the plant with the amount of moisture required.

When a light soil has been given frequent cultivation (alternated plowings and rollings, hoeings), previous to plantation, the first hoeing will generally be given only about 15 days after sowing and the second, a few days prior to flowering-time.

In compact grounds, intermediate hoeings should be made after each rainfall, as soon as the soil will have sufficiently dried up, so as to prevent the forming of a crust on the surface.

If hoeings are necessary to hasten the growth, it is not any less important that they be superficial and not made when the foliage of beans is wet. Should the teeth of the hoe penetrate deep enough to reach the running roots, there would certainly result a diminution in the yield and quality of beans, because they are the very ones nourishing the fruits. We shall consequently not come too close to the plants with the machine, when weeding. The work