

weed seeds to germinate before it was necessary to sow the crop. When we were ready to sow the seeds we went over the drills with a chain harrow (a brush harrow or half of a spike tooth harrow turned upside down would do) and sowed the seed immediately. This proved to be a splendid process for killing weeds. But as the season was very dry we had some fears lest the seed would not germinate well. To our surprise, however, the seed on this portion of the field came up much more quickly and grew more rapidly than on the adjoining portion of the field where the drills were made and the seed sown the same day. The following year we tried a larger portion of our field with even better result, and for the past few years have made it a practice to handle our entire root field in this way.

This system may not be suitable for all parts of Canada nor all kinds of soils but so far it has certainly proved satisfactory on the College farm.

The quantity of seed sown per acre is from 2 to 3 lbs. This is sown with a seeder imported from Scotland and which is the best machine of the kind I have yet seen. While I am aware that unless you have an absolutely reliable machine it is not safe to seed so lightly, it must be borne in mind that within the safety limit the less seed you sow the less labor you will have in thinning. I would further add that nobody should be deterred from growing turnips simply because it may be impossible to get a seeder in the neighborhood. It is not a very serious matter to sow quite a large field of turnips by hand. A bottle with a quill through the cork or a tin paint cup with a hole punched through the bottom are both good devices for hand sowing. A pointed stake makes a very good implement for making a mark for the seed which can be well covered with the back of a hand hay rake.

We start the cultivation as soon as the plants are up sufficiently to enable one to follow the row and we keep it going at intervals of from a week to ten days until the leaves are so large as to prevent it.

We begin thinning as soon as the third leaf is well out, using a hoe only. The plants are left to from 12 to 15 inches apart at the first trimming.

But we find it necessary to go over this the second time to cut out plants which may have been missed during thinning and to kill any weeds which have so far escaped.

A detailed statement of the average cost of growing an acre of turnips is as follows: