

Garden Crops

A few notes are given on some of the garden crops that may be successfully grown by the western farmer, together with suggestions as to the best varieties to use.

ASPARAGUS.

At the beginning of the vegetable alphabet is found asparagus. It should be found also in every garden in the West, as it is one of the easiest to grow, and never fails. While some advocate trenching and heavy manure before planting, it is sufficient if our soil is plowed or dug twelve inches deep, the roots planted in rows thirty inches apart and two feet apart in the rows. Each fall after frosts set in a heavy coat of well-rotted manure should be applied, and in the spring dug in about the roots. For asparagus, a bed should be set apart by itself, as the one set of roots will continue for years to produce abundantly. Conover's Colossal and Barr's Mammoth are good sorts.

BEANS.

Beans are not a sure crop. They are easily injured or killed at any stage of their growth, and should never be sown too early, and only the earliest varieties grown. They are never out of danger if plants are out of the ground before June 15th. Dwarf Extra Early, Early Six Weeks and Extra Early Refugee are among the best varieties.

BELTS.

This vegetable can be sown as early in the spring as the soil permits. The seed is slow to germinate and will stand a heavy frost. In heavy soil the turnip variety is best, as it grows chiefly on the surface. For light soil the long varieties are better suited, and are rather better keepers than the round sorts, though both varieties can be kept during the winter and spring