

moisture, and should be pruned back severely in the spring.

When planting either the trees or shrubs mentioned, or others, the breaking or dividing up of the lawn should be avoided as much as possible, as the planting and the lawn itself are much more effective when the trees and shrubs are set towards the corners, at one side, or at the rear of the lawn, and it is better to group them as much as possible, instead of having them dotted here and there, without any apparent relationship to each other.

Unfortunately, a hedge is a rare sight on a farm, and yet there is nothing which defines the limits of the home grounds as well as a hedge. A hedge is more effective along the side or back of a lawn than in front, as a hedge in front of the house lessens the effectiveness of a nice approach to it. A hedge should be planted far enough back from the edge of the lawn to leave room for a wide flower border between it and the lawn. If a narrow border is left, it will probably get narrower from year to year as the grass grows, and in time there will be little left. We should advise setting the hedge far enough back so that there will be at least six feet in width for a border. The Arbor-vitæ or White Cedar makes the most satisfactory hedge, and young trees can often be obtained near the farm. The best satisfaction is obtained from planting young trees about two feet in height, and it is important to get them with living branches to the ground, as, unless the branches come to the ground, the hedge will look ragged. As the Arbor-vitæ throws out roots readily along the branches, it may be planted deeper than some other trees, and hence, if it is not possible to get them with branches to the ground, they may be planted deep enough to bring them down. Although the Arbor-vitæ will succeed in most soils, it does best in good loamy ground, and we should advise a thorough preparation of it before planting. The trees may be planted in a single row about 18 inches apart, and the earlier in the spring they are set, the better the results will be. As the trees will probably be uneven in height if dug up in the fields or woods, they may be made the same height by cutting back the tallest ones after planting. Nursery-grown trees are to be preferred when they can be obtained.

For large grounds, the Norway Spruce makes an excellent hedge, being a rapid grower and presenting a fine appearance. The young trees should not be set so close as the Arbor-vitæ, three feet apart being near enough. The hedge will not be formed quite so quickly set at this distance, but it will be more permanent. The Buckthorns make excellent hedges, and if an evergreen hedge is not desired, the Cathartic and Alder Buckthorn are good substitutes. The soil should be kept well cultivated about a hedge during the growing season to get the best results.

Later we hope to make some suggestions and recommendations regarding the making of flower-borders and flower-beds, and the growing of flowers.

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Vegetables for the Farmer.

Now is the time to get ready for the vegetable garden. The first thought is, what ought we to have in our gardens as early vegetables, and how are we to succeed in growing them. For those that have proper hotbed sash—or the window storm sash will do very well—make hotbed any time before April 15th to sow early cabbage, cauliflower, tomatoes, celery, lettuce, etc. The hotbeds are very simple to those who know how to make and manage them, but the beginner scarcely knows where to start. The first thing is to know the size of your sashes. Suppose they are 3 by 6 feet, and you have four, that will make a nice bed, and will take two good loads of hot manure. Mark out your bed 8 feet by 14 feet; if the soil is not frozen, dig out about 9 to 12 inches deep. Put the manure in evenly to the depth of 15 to 18 inches at this time of the season; 2 feet, if made up in March. Have manure nice and damp, and tramp well. Now make your frame. Have back board 14 or 15 inches, front board 10 inches, side boards to raise 2 inches above back and front boards, to protect the sash from the wind; use 2 x 4 for cross bars for sash to rest and slide on. Have frame nice and square, so that the sash will fit and slide easily. Now put soil in to the depth of 6 or 7 inches—nice light, rich soil. If the soil is not rich enough, mix rotten manure well with it. Now put on the glass sashes, if you have them; if not, make sashes and cover them with factory cotton. Stretch tight, and tack with leather-headed tacks. Let them stand for three days. By this time fermentation has become quite active all through the bed, and the soil warmed through, and the weed seeds near the surface have germinated. Then remove the sashes, rake the surface thoroughly to kill the weeds, and make a smooth, fine seed-bed. Now have your seeds ready. If you live near a market, sow one sash with celery—Paris Golden Yellow. You can raise about 2,000 plants, and in the same sash you can sow

half a dozen cauliflower seeds. Dwarf Erfurt or Snowball, as they generally come out of the same bag. Sow cauliflower evenly all over the bed, then cover with back of rake, and tread the bed well after seed is sown. The cauliflower plants will be ready to prick out in boxes, or another bed, in about three weeks, and the celery will be nicely up. The shade of the cauliflower is a protection to the delicate little celery plants for the first stage of growth, rather than otherwise. One sash can be used for tomatoes, one for cabbage, and one for lettuce, and a row of Prizetaker onions for planting in the garden. Do not forget a few flowers for wife and daughters, or friends. Just one row in the bed of asters, petunia, phlox Drummondii and marigold, will make a nice show by August, when sown in a hotbed and transplanted. Now you have the hotbeds made and sown, be careful not to destroy



A Charles X. Lilac, showing how a Lilac should be grown to get the best results. Note that there are flowers quite to the ground.



The Large-flowered Hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora*) is one of the most desirable hardy shrubs. This specimen shows how it should be grown with flowers to the ground. This is brought about by pruning.

your plants for want of air or ventilation. Every day the sun shines raise the sash 3 or 4 inches, back or front. Avoid letting the wind blow in on the plants, and use common sense as your guide. Those who have not hotbeds, but have a sunny window, can sow seed in boxes and place them in the window. Use boxes to suit your window. Never have the boxes more than three inches deep, and, if possible, make them of old boards, as young plants like to feed on decaying wood. Have soil same as for hotbeds, not too rich. When the plants are up, turn the boxes to the light every day. To keep plants straight, keep soil always moist, but not wet. Use the water at same temperature as the room. I have seen fine plants raised in window boxes. When in Parry Sound District last summer, near Bow Lake, I saw a fine patch of cabbage, 3,000 just as good as any market gardener near Toronto.

to had. The plants were sown in window boxes in April, and transplanted outside the last of May. The varieties of seeds I recommend are: Cabbage, "Jersey Wakefield." Cauliflower, Dwarf Erfurt. Celery, early, Paris Golden; late, Giant Pascal. Lettuce to be transplanted outside, to be used from the hotbeds, Grand Rapids and Simpson's Black Seeded. Peppers, Long Red and Ruby King. Tomatoes, Red, Earliana and Dominion Day, Pink Plentiful. J. W. RUSH, York Co., Ont.

POULTRY.

Incubator Rules.

United States Farmer's Bulletin No. 236 thus summarizes its instructions regarding the running of incubators:

- Study your incubator.
- Acquaint yourself with all its parts.
- Read the manufacturer's directions for setting it up.
- Set it up carefully, and according to instructions.
- Never try to run an incubator in a drafty place, nor near a stove, nor where the sun shines upon it.
- Set fertile eggs only. Waste no effort on those that are doubtful.
- Learn how to trim and clean a lamp.
- Keep the lamps full, and the wick and tube clean.
- Avoid smoke.
- See that the eggs are clean and dry before setting them.
- Balance all eggs, large end up, a few hours before placing in the tray.
- Do not overfill the tray.
- Turn every egg the third day.
- Cool the eggs every morning.
- Be sure your hands are clean when handling the eggs.
- Test all eggs by the seventh day.
- Test again by the eleventh day.
- Test again by the fifteenth day.
- If the air space is too large, supply moisture; if too small, put a saucer of dry lime in the room, and run without moisture a day or two.
- Do not expect to learn all about the air cell the first hatch. You will learn that later.
- Do not disturb the eggs after the evening of the eighteenth day.
- Have a regular hour for incubator work.
- Do not tinker too much with the regulator.
- Get the adjustment right, and keep it so.
- Heat your machine and make your adjustment before placing the eggs in the egg-chamber.

Feeding Young Chicks.

In "The Farmer's Advocate," of March 22nd, I gave some notes from Prof. G. M. Gowell's poultry farm at Orono, about half a mile from the University of Maine. Below will be found some particulars about the method of feeding the young chicks:

These were first fed upon the infertile eggs, which had been boiled, then ground in a meat-chopper, shell and all, and mixed with about six times their bulk of rolled oats, by rubbing both together enough to break the egg into small pieces. This was fed sparingly for two or three days in the litter and sand on the brooder floor. About the third day a mixture of hard, fine broken grains, such as cracked corn, wheat, millet and pinhead oats, was given as soon as the birds could see to eat in the morning—only a limited amount, however, that they might be ready for a good feed at ten o'clock when the rolled egg and oat mixture was placed before them for five minutes, in tin plates with low rims. Removing these, they scratched for a little of the fine broken grain. At 1 o'clock the hard grains were fed, as in the morning, and at 4:30 to 5 o'clock they were given all the rolled egg mixture they would eat till dark. When about three weeks old this mixture was gradually replaced by one made up of two parts by weight of good clean bran, two parts corn meal, one part linseed meal, and one part fine beef scraps, moistened with water—just enough to be crumbly. Hard broken grains were used all the way along, but the chicks grew faster with the mash, and it was used moderately. Grit and charcoal were freely provided, and by the partial use of hard food the digestive organs were kept normal.

By June the chicks were well started, and a change in the plan of feeding was made. Cracked corn, wheat and beef scrap in separate slatted troughs, with movable roofs, were placed where they could help themselves. Not more than one-fourth of the grain was wheat for the pullers, while in the cockered division only cracked corn and beef scraps were used. Grit, bone and oyster-shell were always supplied. There was no regular time for feeding, but the troughs were never allowed to get empty. There was no rushing, as is usual at feeding time; the birds ate when they felt like it, selecting any kind of grain they wished, and balancing their own rations. This winter the dry mash like that fed during the winter, is to be added to the corn, and the troughs containing it will be placed in places sheltered from the wind. M. B. A.