

has been planted, if it was rather dry than 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 up soil, beans generally come out after 8 to 10 days. If the weather was fair, one can wait until all the stalks appear above the ground to give the first hoeing (1). 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



FIG. 7.—Bean harvester

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 in a vigorous state during all the time of its vegetation, that is from planting time up to ripeness. For this purpose, hoeings and weedings will be made as

(1) In dry weather, hoeings are worth waterings, in mellow soils. It is of the highest importance to hoe on the eve of flowering-time, specially when the land is dry and in order to prevent the fall of flowers.