

fourth rows first, that is cut and tie up as I go along; then I come back on the first and second and any heads that I cut I drop

in the row I did first. The fifth and sixth rows are treated in the same way. I leave the twine on till I trim them in the barn."

GROWING CUCUMBERS FOR EARLY MARKETS *

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OUR soil is well adapted for growing a few varieties of vegetables. Most of you, I suppose, grow for the local market. Ours are entirely for shipping; we do not try to sell anything in town. Everything goes by express and the express company gets every year \$1,300 to \$1,400 from us. We grow cucumbers, melons and tomatoes chiefly. I will start with early cucumbers.

It would be useless to attempt the kind of business we are doing without some form of greenhouse to start with. We start all our plants in some kind of greenhouse. There are some 40 greenhouses within two miles from my place. New ones are being built every year, and these houses are used for starting plants to be moved outside. Tomatoes are grown in some of them. We start to grow our plants about the first or second week in March.

The chairman: "What variety do you grow?"

Answer: "We have been growing two varieties, the White Spine chiefly, and Arlington. I would prefer something of the same nature with a deeper brighter green. Bervcy's Extra Early White Spine is an early variety and of fairly good size.

"The seeds are started in flats, and when the third leaf is on we transplant them into other flats. We use a flat two feet long and one foot wide and about three to four inches deep. Formerly we used a much deeper flat, but we have found that using less soil is better. The way we discovered this was, that my little boy made some boxes two inches deep and picked out some of the

cull plants and set them out in these boxes and every one of his plants beat ours. He used just about an inch and a half of soil and he got more stalky plants. After he had been doing this for three or four years we began doing it and we found that we got a much better rooted and more stalky plant, and we cut all our trays down. That goes to show that we may learn from people whom we think know much less than we do.

"What I say about cucumbers will apply to all the plants that we grow. We use the same plan for transplanting. We transplant the cucumbers in rows, using a stick, something like the head of a wooden rake, in which I have fingers. I make the holes with that."

Question: "What distance apart is it best to have the plants?"

Answer: "The first time put them two by three. With the cucumbers, when they begin to crowd, we put them into larger beds and boxes. I would rather transplant them twice if I had time. The oftener you transplant them the better root you get. You can get a thick, stalky, clump of roots and a more stalky plant and one that will resist checking very much better by transplanting two or three times.

"The man behind the hose has a wonderful lot to do with the plants. I like to let my plants dry out pretty well before I water them and then give them a good wetting and allow them to thoroughly dry again before watering them. Watering too often makes a soft plant that will not stand transplanting."

Question: "What object do you aim at

* Extract from an address delivered at the first annual convention of the Ontario Vegetable Growers' Association, held in Toronto at the time of the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition.