

stems that quickly fill up any vacant spaces between the grass plants and thus prevent the growth of weeds. White clover is generally used in making a lawn, as it grows close to the ground and fills up all spaces not occupied by the grass roots.

While spring is the best time in which to seed a new lawn, it may be done at any time if the proper conditions of moisture can be obtained. A very large amount of manure or fertilizer and a moist condition of the soil will enable one to seed a lawn successfully at almost any time of the year, but these conditions are not so certainly secured at any other time as in spring. In fall seeding, unless done very early, the young plantlets are likely to be thrown out by frosts and a second seeding be required in the spring. Another reason why spring is better than summer for seeding is that weed seeds do not grow so readily and abundantly at this time. Coarse stable manure should never be used upon the surface of the land because it encourages the growth of weeds; but if turned deeply under, nothing can be better to hold the moisture in the soil and encourage deep rooting of the grasses.

The amount of seed to be used will depend somewhat upon the season when sown and the probable amount of weed seeds that will germinate with the grass seed. When sown in April, May or September, less seed should be used than if sown in June, July, or August, and more seed than when it is comparatively free from such pests.

It is always best to use an abundance of seed, as there may be some uncertainty of its all germinating. Perhaps the quantity per acre that will give the best results under the average conditions is two bushels of bent grass, i. e., red top or its varieties, two bushels of June grass and ten pounds of white clover. One half of this quantity would be sufficient if it was all certain to

germinate and if no weed seeds started into growth.

After the land has been made perfectly smooth and fine by raking, rolling and re-raking, the seed should be divided into two or more lots. The first lot is then sown in strips or lands, as evenly over the surface as possible, and then raked in, taking care not to move the soil from place to place, thus bunching up the grass seed with it. The second lot of seed is then sown in strips crossing the land in the opposite direction from the first sowing, thus securing the most even distribution of the seed possible.

A rake with long teeth set about two inches apart is better than the common iron-toothed garden rake. If nothing better can be obtained, the common wooden hay rake will be found to work well.

It is the general practice to roll the ground with the garden roller after the seed is sown, but in extremely hot and dry weather, while the soil may be more thoroughly firmed about the seed by rolling, the smooth rolled surface leaves the young seedling so much exposed to the action of burning sun and drying winds that grass often does better if the surface is not rolled at all."

Potatoes Too Small.

1210. SIR,—My soil seems very rich and everything grows well except potatoes and they are very small; what can I put on my ground to increase their size? It has been enriched from the barnyard every year.

D. LAW.

Probably our correspondent has used too much stable manure. The best growers advise no stable manure for the potato, unless it be the year preceding the crop; for they say it lessens the crop and predisposes to rot. Better try superphosphate in the hill at the rate of say 200 lbs. per acre, raked into the surface soil just before planting, and just before the last hoeing sprinkle with wood ashes.