

THE WATERDOWN REVIEW

Issued Every Thursday morning from the office, Dundas Street, Waterdown
 G. H. GREENE
 Editor and Publisher
 Member C. W. N. A.

GROWING SWEET PEAS

Getting the Very Best From This Beautiful Flower.

Location and Soil Suggested—Early Sowing Desirable—Good Support and Frequent Picking Necessary.
 (Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

Location.—An open, sunny position in the garden suits them very well. Close up to a building or near to a close board fence facing the south is not a good place for them as the intense heat of the sun induces attacks of insect pests. An east, west, or north exposure close to a fence is not so objectionable, except perhaps a direct northern exposure. Near to an open wire fence or trellis fence is not objectionable.

Soil.—A deep, fairly rich loamy soil is best. If the ground is poor or gravelly or heavy clay, dig a trench the length required from 12 to 15 inches deep and about 10 inches wide. Place about two inches in depth of well rooted barnyard manure or cow manure in the bottom of the trench, then fill the trench up with well enriched loamy soil. Deep digging is necessary for sweet peas even in good soil. Never sow sweet peas twice in succession in the same soil; a part of the soil at least should be renewed every year. Prepare trench or ground for sweet peas the previous fall if possible.

When to Sow.—Sow as early in the spring as the ground can be worked. The seed may be soaked in lukewarm water before sowing for six or eight hours to hasten germination.

How to Sow.—Make a drill about two inches in depth. Sow the seed about two inches apart. Cover with nearly two inches of fine soil. (The Spencer type of Sweet Peas is the best kind to sow.)

Thinning.—Thin the plants when about six inches in height to three or four inches apart.

Support.—Wide meshed chicken wire five feet in height, maple brushwood or coarse twine may be used for support. Netting made of coarse twine makes an ideal support, better than wire, as the plants cling to it better than to wire.

Watering.—Water thoroughly in very dry weather. Draw a drill a few inches deep and about four inches from the row on each side. Pour water into these until the ground is thoroughly soaked. Watering in this way once every week or ten days is far more beneficial than frequent light surface waterings. Sprinkle the foliage with water under pressure from a fine sprinkler every day in hot dry weather to keep down insects, such as green aphids and red spider. Sprinkle the under side of the foliage especially. Tobacco and soap solutions are also good for insect pests.

Picking Bloom.—Keep all the sprays of bloom picked off every second day to prevent seed from forming. If seed is allowed to form, the bloom will be inferior and the flowering season of short duration.

Fertilizers.—A watering once or twice with liquid manure solution towards the end of August will help to keep the plants vigorous and productive late in the season.—The late Wm. Hunt, O. A. College, Guelph.

Silo Facts.

In the silo you can store corn in a form in which practically every particle can be eaten.

Silage gives the effect of pasturage in winter; it is both palatable and succulent, and it also aids digestion in the dry-feeding season.

Animals fed silage are not more subject to tuberculosis, do not lose their teeth more quickly, and are not shorter-lived than animals fed other common kinds of feed.

The use of the silo often makes it possible to save corn that would otherwise be lost by frost.

A good silo should be round, airtight, water-proof, have walls that are smooth inside, and be strong and durable.

A silo should be placed where it will give the greatest convenience in feeding and where it will be least exposed to extremely cold winds.

One hundred tons of silage will feed 25 cows 40 pounds of silage a day for 200 days.

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