

(*Central Experimental Farm Bulletin No. 5.*)

After the land has been well prepared, mark off with a corn marker, or stretch a line to plant by. Take pains to have the rows straight; it adds to the appearance of the plot and time is also saved in the cultivation. Trim off all dead leaves and old runners from the plants; shorten the roots to three or four inches; keep them moist and where the wind cannot reach them while out of the ground. When planting, make a hole deep enough to admit the roots without doubling them up. Take the plant in the left hand, place the crown on a level with the surrounding soil, spread the roots out fan-shaped, fill in the soil, working it in among them, and press so firmly that by giving a quick jerk on a leaf it will break off without moving the plant. Only plants of the previous year's growth should be used.

Figure 1 shows the correct way of setting the plant. In Figure 2 the roots are all in a bunch, instead of being spread out evenly as in Figure 1. They cannot, therefore, make such a vigorous growth. When planted too deep, as in Figure 3, they are nearly always smothered and will rot off at the crown. In Figure 4 the crown is above the level of the surrounding soil and, therefore, too high. When thus planted, they generally wither and die in a few days.

Several different systems of planting have been practised successfully. The method of planting should be regulated by the quantity of land to be

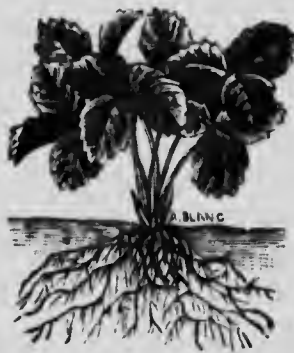


Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

used, the amount of labour and manure at the disposal of the planter, the varieties to be planted, whether for market or for a city garden, or on the farm for family use.