

instead of stakes if desired. Tomatoes grown by this method are very clean and more attractive-looking than those grown on the ground.

In parts of Canada where the nights are cool in summer, as on the prairies and in some parts of British Columbia, it has been found that tomatoes will ripen sooner when staked than when the plant is left on the ground, and even in the warmer parts they are sometimes earlier. Tomatoes trained to stakes may escape a light frost when plants on the ground are badly injured.

The tomato is not affected by many insect pests or fungous diseases. If tomato plants are sprayed with Bordeaux mixture, beginning in the hot-bed and keeping the plants covered until the fruit is nearly ripe, several diseases can be controlled, and the flea beetle, which is sometimes quite troublesome, is prevented from doing much injury.

The best varieties of tomatoes change from time to time. At present, the Earliana, of which there are several strains varying somewhat in earliness and smoothness, is the best extra early, and Alacrité, a very early variety of the Earliana type, originated at the Central Experimental Farm, ripens a very large proportion of its crop early. Bonny Best and Chalks Early Jewel are also very good early sorts, the latter being a good main crop variety also. They are smoother than those of the Earliana type. Of later varieties, Matchless and Trophy are two good scarlet sorts, and Livingston Globe and Plentiful two of the best purplish-pink varieties. Ignotum is especially good for canning.

### TOMATO CULTURE UNDER GLASS.

It is found quite profitable in Canada to grow tomatoes under glass. Moreover, persons having small greenhouses and who are fond of tomatoes can readily grow a few plants and have enough fruit for home use in this way when there is none outside.

The best and most profitable time to have ripe tomatoes in the greenhouse is during the months of November and December, and the months of April, May and June. By sowing the seed in good time in the summer the main part of the crop will be set before the days become very short and before weather becomes very cold and prevents the thorough ventilation and dry atmosphere which are desirable to ensure a good distribution of pollen and a good set of fruit. The spring crop, on the other hand, should come on as late as possible so that there will be a minimum amount of fuel used, but the crop should be over before tomatoes grown outside are ripe as the price will soon drop when they are. It has not been found profitable to have tomatoes ripen in the greenhouse, on account of the poor light at blooming time, the conditions are unfavorable to setting of fruit. Tomatoes should have abundant sunlight and there should be means of good ventilation. Each cropping season covers between two and three months.

If it is desired to have ripe tomatoes in November and December, seed should be sown during the latter part of June to the first week of July. For a crop in April, May and June, seed should be sown during December. The seed is sown as if the plants were to be grown outside and the young plants are pricked out into flats three by three inches apart as soon as the first rough or true leaf appears. The young plants should be carefully watered so as to keep them thrifty. In about three weeks or less they should be transplanted to three and a half or four-inch pots, in which they remain until they are needed for planting in the bed. They should be ready for planting in about eight weeks from the time the seed is sown. If it is known in good time that the greenhouse will not be ready to receive the plants before they are liable to become pot-bound or stunted in the pots, it is desirable to transplant them into larger pots, as it is important to keep them growing. Some growers make two or three successive sowings of seed at intervals of two weeks, and in case they have not gauged the time of the first sowing accurately, they use the plants from the second or third. The rapidity of growth depends very much on the kind of weather and ventilation given; thus, the plants for the spring crop are usually longer in reaching the desired size for