

other farm crops. If a choice of land can be made, select rich loams and sandy loams. Clay soils, however, in a good state of tilth may be expected to grow beans satisfactorily.

ROTATION.

In the rotation, beans should follow clover hay, pasture or meadow. They fall in the hoed crop class hence assist admirably in the preparation of the soil for grain crops and the accompanying seeding mixtures of grasses and clovers which should follow for best results.

MANURIAL REQUIREMENTS.

Applications of barnyard manure in fairly liberal quantities may be expected to produce a profitable crop of beans. A good dressing of well-preserved manure at the rate of 10 to 12 tons per acre, once in three or four years is sufficient. The application may be made in the fall, winter or spring or during the preceding summer. The manure, if ploughed in, should not be buried too deeply, but whether ploughed in or disced in, it should be thoroughly incorporated with the soil. Commercial fertilizers have not been used to any great extent in Canada nor are they likely to prove profitable where suitable dressings of barnyard manure are given and judicious crop rotations and cultural methods are practised.

PREPARATION OF THE SOIL.

Where it is necessary to use clay land for beans, it is generally advisable to plough in the autumn, turning a well set-up moderately deep furrow approximately 6 to 8 inches deep or as deep as the surface productive soil will allow. If lighter land is available good results may be expected from spring ploughing where the furrow is turned flat and not deeper than 4 or 5 inches. In either case the manure may be ploughed in or worked in on the surface with the disc harrow. A suitable seed-bed is fine and mellow at the surface but fairly firm underneath, which condition is obtained only by combined effort and thought on the part of the grower coupled with judicious use of the disc harrow, roller and drag harrow. The success of the crop depends largely upon this feature of thorough soil cultivation before seeding.

WHEN TO SOW.

As soon as weather and soil conditions will permit, beans should be sown. The last week of May or the first week in June is usually the most suitable time for planting, although the time of planting may vary slightly according to district and season, but should not be delayed after the soil has become warm and dry.

METHOD OF SEEDING.

Field beans are usually planted in rows 28 inches apart. The plants should be spaced from four to six inches apart in the row, but in seeding it is advisable to sow more thickly than this and thin to the required distance when the plants appear.

For planting special bean planters are available, but where the grower has a grain seeder that sows in rows, it can, by having some of the seed spouts closed, be used as a bean planter and thus save the outlay for a special implement.

The depth of planting will depend upon the kind of soil and its condition with regard to heat and moisture.

The amount of seed per acre will depend upon the size used. From 3 to 5 pecks of seed will give a satisfactory stand.