

About one bushel of medium sized beans is required to plant an acre. Of the smaller kinds, such as the Snowflake pea bean, half a bushel is sufficient. One pound of the Early Yellow Six-weeks, a medium sized bean, contains about 530 seeds. Planted four inches apart these would occupy about 176 feet of row. Probably to allow for loss by insects, diseases and accidents the usual recommendation is about twice this amount, or 1 quart to 162 feet of row. Usually beans are planted too thick and are not sufficiently thinned to allow the plants to properly develop. Having the plants too thick in the row favors the development of bean diseases and delays ripening. Plants of those varieties which grow to average size should be thinned to about 8 or 9 inches apart in the row.

Where beans are grown on a large scale the planting is sometimes done by means of a grain drill, a sufficient number of tubes being stopped to bring the rows the right distance apart. Special bean planters are made for planting this crop. The ordinary garden seed sower may be used for small areas or the land may be furrowed out with a small plow and the beans dropped by hand and covered lightly with the plow or with a hoe. In small garden areas the drill may be made by drawing the corner of the hoe along a tightly stretched garden line and the beans covered with the hoe.

Cultivation should be frequent and fairly deep early in the season and shallower later in the season. Deep cultivation late in the season is liable to cut off or disturb the roots of the plants. Cultivation should be given only when the plants are dry, otherwise the spores of anthracnose will be scattered through the crop and much injury result from the disease. Usually about four or five cultivations are sufficient for the crop and many bean crops are grown with only two or three. When the soil has been thoroughly prepared so as to be in good tilth, moist and free of weeds, the bean crop can be and is sometimes grown without any cultivation.

Harvesting.

In countries where beans are grown in large areas they are harvested by bean pulling machines. In this Province they are pulled by hand and left in small bunches for a short time until thoroughly dry. They are then either stacked outside or hauled immediately under cover. When grown on a small scale, as in this country, they are thrashed by hand. If thrashed in the fall they should be spread out and thoroughly dried before they are put into storage. The