

Water Cress in the Garden.

Country and city people who have tasted the piquant leaves of cress and acquired a liking for it often ask if they would be able to produce it under conditions surrounding this plant, in its natural state, be taken into consideration, and duplicated as nearly as possible in the cultivated patch. Town and city folk even could enjoy much of the relish which this plant supplies, for a very small bed if properly handled will produce a large amount of leaves.

Moisture and coolness are prime requisites, and although fertility will hasten the growth of the succulent leaves it is not the most important factor. The bed should be made in the shadowy side of a building or shed, but if it is to be grown in the garden some artificial shade might be provided. Trestle work rudely constructed and covered with brush will answer the purpose, and it is only in the initial stages that the most precaution is necessary. When it becomes rooted and thoroughly established the rays of the sun do not jeopardize its chances to the same extent, and only recently the writer saw a magnificent bed, ready for cutting, in a greenhouse where it was exposed to the direct rays of the sun. After it is once rooted it will take its chances with the weather, but in the intense heat of summer it is better protected.

One may propagate water cress by cuttings or seed, but it is only under extreme and uncommon conditions that one should resort to seed to establish a bed. The plants do not amount to as much the first year, and run the chance of freezing out in the winter. There is so much growing in our creeks and small waterways that any country or urban dweller may procure it easily and without price. It is simply plucked out of the water or moist soil and transplanted into the bed.

Success will depend largely upon the preparation of the soil to receive the small plants. If possible select cool soil, retentive of moisture, and build it up by incorporating with it a large percentage of leaf-mould or well-rotted horse manure. Fertility is not the motive here, although it serves an important function, but the object in view is to prepare the soil so the roots will spread and reproduce the plants. In addition to this it will hold more moisture, and water cress will thrive in direct proportion to the amount of the supply of water. Some growers who have commercialized the production of water cress and who are located in the vicinity of breweries make use of spent hops, but they cannot be applied in the raw state for their effect would be negative rather than favorable without preparatory treatment.

With the bed thus prepared and well saturated with water, introduce the small plants from the brookside and keep it well shaded and watered until the rootlets get a firm hold on the soil. After this water frequently and keep it shaded from the sun, and in a short time you will have a garden plot that will supply many a dainty supplement to the otherwise ordinary meal.

Pleasant Winter Work.

Since a moderately good greenhouse is within the reach of all farmers at a nominal price, negligence should not be allowed to linger at the door for many future years. If located near a small town, it would be a source of handsome profit to the owner, and in addition it would give pleasant winter labor to the employee who customarily terminates his engagement with the farmer in the fall because he will not provide winter work. Some farmers are so constituted that they will not apply themselves to such work as operating a greenhouse where punctuality, exactness and perception are necessary, but there are others who will.

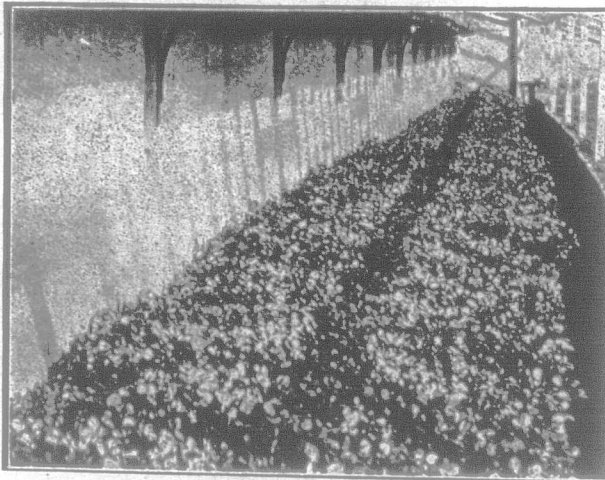
In the number of January 8, 1914, Mr. Van Valkenburg writes how they constructed a small house at a cost of \$150.00, and in which they produced 17,000 early tomato plants. This is an early spring crop, and during the winter lettuce and many other good-selling crops might be produced.

There is nothing about the production of lettuce that will not permit of its being grown in a greenhouse of ordinary dimensions. The seeds are first sown in flats, and for these common finnan-haddie boxes serve the purpose admirably. During the month of February the seed would be up in about four days, and when they are getting the second leaf they are transplanted into flats, being set about two and one-half to three inches apart. Here they are left and well watered until they have the third and fourth leaf started, when they are ready to be set into the permanent bed. Under conditions existing in February, four weeks from the last transplanting should be sufficient to develop the crop fit for cutting, and it will find a ready market at the last of February or the first of March. Lettuce may be produced at any time, but this particular time was chosen as it was necessary to designate the conditions in order to state the

periods when certain operations may be carried out.

The permanent bed is simple and easily constructed. Different growers have different methods, but a satisfactory bed may be made of one foot of cinders in the bottom covered with eight or ten inches of soil. The surface soil should contain a large percentage of leaf-mould or humus that it may be fertile and retain the moisture. Here the amount of water required is easily met by a large watering can or hose if an improved water system is available. The temperature for lettuce should approximate 45 degrees Fahrenheit at night and 58 to 60 degrees in the daytime.

This addition to the farm operations cannot be recommended to all farmers, but those located in canning-crop districts or situated near a town or city could produce saleable commodities during the winter, and provide themselves with plants for the early tomato or early cabbage field.



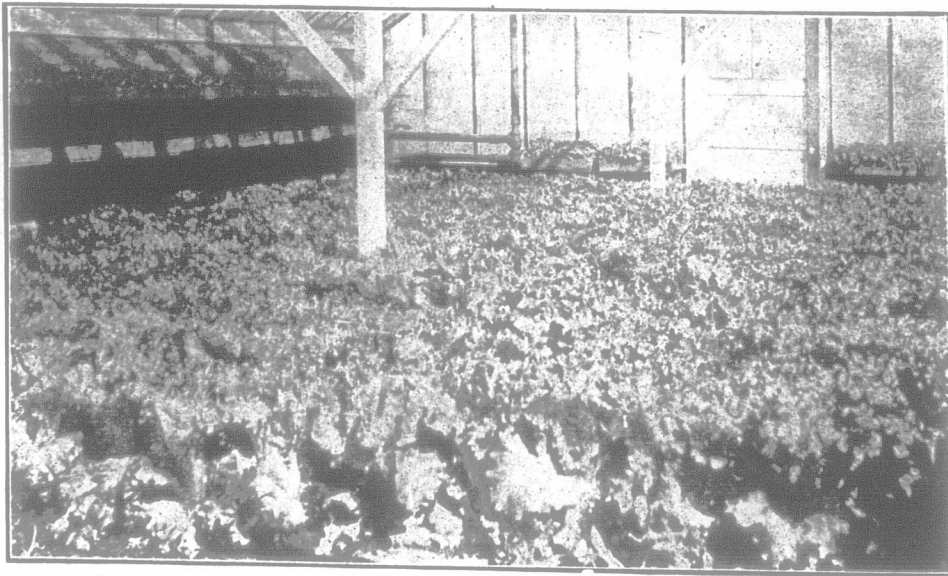
Water Cress in the Greenhouse.

FARM BULLETIN.

Milking Shorthorns Sold Well.

A very successful sale of milking Shorthorns was that held by Walter Pullen at his farm near Beachville, Ontario, March 10th, when his fifteen head, including calves just a few weeks, old and some cows well on in years averaged \$149.50.

The highest price of the sale was \$285, paid by W. Johns, Woodham, for the cow, Butter Belle; but the sensation of the sale was Belle of Beachville 2nd, a nineteen-year-old cow, which fell to the bid of J. J. Graham, of Ailsa Craig, for \$165. She is perhaps the heaviest milking cow of her age in Canada.



A Source of Many Salads.

A bed of lettuce fit for cutting in the greenhouse of Main & Collyer, London, Ontario.

The following is a list of animals sold, with their buyers:—

Belle of Beachville 2nd, J. J. Graham,	
Ailsa Craig,	\$165.00
Butter Belle, W. Johns, Woodham,	285.00
Belle of Beachville 3rd, J. Milton,	
Brantford,	195.00
Duchess of Maple Lane, H. Inglehart,	
Merton,	160.00
Maple Lane Queen, T. Wilks, Tavistock,	
Dean Star 6th, Wm. Weld Co., London,	220.00
Zora Lassie, R. Dunlop, Mohawk,	180.00
Erie Lass, John Virton, Woodstock, ...	160.00
Princess 7th, Jas. Weir, Dorchester, ...	80.00

Princess 6th, Alex. True, Woodstock ...	100.00
Model Lass, A. Pullen, Woodstock,	60.00
Duke of Athol, J. Lindsay, Embro,	250.00
College King, J. Johns, Ellinsville,	130.00
Royal Performer, J. Moyle, Paris,	62.50
Oxford Lad, S. Jackson, Woodstock, ...	55.00

London Shire Show.

Far-away readers interested in the results of London Shire Show just over, will be glad to learn that the strains of blood which did best on the two days were those of Childwick Champion (sired 14 winners). Redlynch Forest King (sired 9), Norbury Menestrel (sired the same number), Lockinge Forest King (whose offspring won 7 prizes), and Mimm's Champion, Birdsall Menestrel, Hendre Hydrometer, King of Tanridge, and Slip-ton King, whose stock stood in that order of merit.

The Show is still remarkable for the uniformity of quality-like Shires it attracts in huge forces. They turned out in eighties and nineties a class, but the judges, Forshaw, Thompson and Keene, never wavered, and did their work with praises earned all round. In yearling fillies the Edgcote Shorthorn Company, whose Shire stud promises to be as famous as the Shorthorn herd, won with Fine Feathers, a handsome bay by Babingley Nulli Secundus. Fine Feathers is of exceptional development, and it is seldom one sees a filly of her age with such substance. She stands well and her feet and joints are excellent. The Duke of Westminster's Eaton Modesty, a filly of similar character, but scarcely so forward as the winner was second, and J. W. Kenworthy's Delamere Combine, who was third, is a big, good-looking bay with capital joints and good bone and feather.

In two-year-olds, last year's winning yearling, the Duke of Westminster's Eaton Encore, was first. She has grown into a beautiful filly, with all the quality and character which she promised last year, and she looks like having another "unbeaten" year. The Edgcote Shorthorn Company were second with Blackthorn Betty, a big, well-grown, handsome filly with a good look out. Third prize went to Sir Walpole Greenwell's Marden Dorina, a nice stamp of mare.

Three-year-olds made one of the best classes of Shire horses that have been out for many years. First prize went to J. G. Williams's Snelston Lady, which made such a sensation last year when she beat Sir Arthur Nicholson's previously unbeaten Leek Dorothy. Second honors went to Sir Walpole Greenwell's Marden Ernestine. Sir Arthur Nicholson's Leek Dorothy, which took third, scarcely made such a good show as she usually does. J. G. Williams's Garston Surprise, the Ashbourne winner, was fourth. She has grown into a powerful mare and made an excellent show.

First in four-year-old mares fell to Whitley's handsome mare Sussex Pride. Sir Walpole Greenwell's Marden Constance was runner-up. Mares, five years and upwards, under 16 hands high, saw Sir Walpole Greenwell's Pailton Forest Lass win. The strong class among brood mares is always that for mares over 16 hands and not exceeding 16 hands 2 inches. First went to John Bradley's Halstead Royal Duchess, a winner at Leicester and the Royal. She has grown into a handsome mare, full of quality. J. G. Williams's Maid of Athens, who won several prizes last year, made a good second. In mares over 16 hands 2 inches, Whitley's much improved Lorna Doone caught the eye at once by her size, power and quality. The Duke of Westminster's Tandridge Mabel was second. Lorna Doone was chosen as the female champion, with Snelston Lady as reserve.

In yearling stallions, there was not much to choose between the first four. Potter's King's Choice, who was first, is a big, weighty colt, standing over a lot of ground, and looks like growing into one of those powerful stallions for which there is such a demand. The Edgcote Shorthorn Company were second with Edgcote Monarch, a bay built on very similar lines. Lord Rothschild's third-prize colt, Normandy Jesse, is a rather different type. He has scarcely the length which distinguish the two placed above him, but he is a compact, powerful colt, with ex-