it, a slight moisture should be maintained, and as in the preceding case, it should be kept in a warm place. When the majority of the seeds split the outer coat, and the white embryo plant shows, the time has come to sow.

SOWING.

On account of its tenuity it is difficult to spread the pure seed equally over the seed bed. The most practical way of obtaining this result is to mix the seed with some non-active matter, such as fine burnt sand, mould, &c., in the proportion of $\frac{1}{10}$ of seed to $\frac{9}{10}$ of sand. A suitable medium is semoule, a non-hygroscopic substance, which does not agglomerate, is easy to sift and of about the same density as the tobacco seed; this allows of a homogeneous mixture. A thimbleful of seed ought under good conditions to sow a surface of 9 feet square; this ought to be sufficient for the requirements of transplanting for a surface 75 to 100 times greater, according to the fertility of tho seeds.

In every case the grower should seek to have his forcing beds of equal density, in which the plants will not be too close together, in order that these last may develop under favourable conditions, strike out the necessary beardroot, and not stretch out threadlike roots too early.

The seed having been spread over the forcing bed, which has been previously rendered sufficiently moist by a moderate sprinkling, the latter is slightly pressed down either by the hand, or better still, with a little board, after having been powdered over with a very thin coat of fine mould kept for the purpose. The next thing is to put on the sash. The plant will spring up in six or eight days, according to the degree to which the seed had been germinated at the time of sowing and the temperature of the seed-bed.

The forcing bed being [illegible] satisfactorily humid state, and the sash, retarding great evaporation, condensing [illegible] the frame the steam produced, and maintaining over the young plants an atmosphere saturated with moisture, the sprinklings are not necessary at the beginning. One thus avoids chilling the seed-bed by unseasonable visits, and by letting in the outer air whilst sprinkling. The coming up of the plant should be easily observed through the glass sash, but in case sashes of cotton or paper are used, it is necessary to examine it through little windows in the side of the wooden frames.

When using glass sashes it is necessary to watch that the young plants are not surprised by too warm a sun, as may happen during the fine spring days.

In such a case, one draws over the glass a cloth which he can keep in place by crosspieces of wood, or in some other manner, or he can obscure it by whitewashing with lime. The cloths used for this purpose can be utilized on clear nights to prevent loss of heat through radiation.

In a fairly extensive seed-bed it rarely happens that all the seeds thrive equally, and give young plants ready for transplanting at the same date; but in order to allow transplanting to be gone on with without stopping [illegible] to have an abundant supply of young plants continuously, it is well to seed forcing beds at intervals of some days, or to seed on the same day half-warm forcing beds with dry seed, swollen seed, or germinated seed, the young plants from which will come up one after the other more or less rapidly.

The grower is the best judge as to what precautions to take to effect this. He has, moreover, other means at his disposal to hasten or retard, in a normal year, the coming up of the seedlings in case any slight mistake should be made at the time of seeding the forcing beds.

SPRINKLING.

Sprinkling ought to be carried out with great moderation. It ought never to deluge the forcing bed, but merely keep up the moisture. When the grower judges it proper to put sprinkling in practice, he should do so, particularly at first, in the warm