

PLANTING.

Work the land up thoroughly and plant as soon as soil is warm and mellow. **Corn of this type should be sown as early as possible but under no circumstances before the soil is well warmed up.** Plant in hills three feet apart each way, 4 to 6 kernels to the hill, or in rows three feet and a half apart with the corn 6 to 8 inches apart in the row. As a rule, plant on the flat but where soil is rather heavy or not particularly well drained, throwing up into low ridges will help warm things up and get the crop off to a little better start. Test the seed before planting.

CULTIVATION.

It is essential to provide such conditions as will compel rapid growth in the early stages. If slow in coming up, running over the field with the tilting harrow or a light drag will help. Frequent cultivation, thorough hoeing and even slight hilling will all help speed up growth in the early stages.

"PUTTING THE CORN BY".

Unless the season is very dry or the field very weedy it is usually advisable to "put the corn by" at a little earlier date in the case of these large varieties than where the smaller, earlier-maturing sorts are used. Stopping the cultivating somewhat early has the effect of hastening maturity and will usually result in a rather better quality of ensilage, although the weight of the crop going into the silo will be relatively reduced.

THE HARVEST.

This corn should be allowed to stand as late as possible. A slight touch of frost will not very injuriously affect the feeding value and will quite possibly improve the keeping qualities of the ensilage.

Some Notes on Other Crops that may be used to advantage either alone or in conjunction with corn for the making of ensilage.

CLOVER.

JUST AS VALUABLE FOR ENSILAGE AS FOR HAY.

Clover cut at the right stage and run through the cut box makes most excellent ensilage. If run through in conjunction with the corn it makes a mixture most nutritious and most palatable. It is in the best shape to put into the silo when the blossoms are just beginning to die.

A crop cut in mid-June or a little later, then again about the end of July, should be in just about right shape to cut when the corn is ready. If the season is dry then possibly only one cut will have been taken before corn ensilage time.

ALFALFA.

MAKES GOOD ENSILAGE WHEN MIXED WITH CORN.

It is usually difficult to cure alfalfa in September and the third cutting is, therefore, often made into rather poor hay. Running it green through the cut box along with the corn makes an exceedingly valuable ensilage and guarantees against any loss from exposure to weather or barn heating. It is worth trying.