

Cleaning and grading

After being sifted to rid them of foreign matter, beans are afterwards hand selected, if remunerative prices are to be obtained. When doing so, care must be taken to remove all discolored seeds, split, spotted, shrivelled, diseased or otherwise altered.

Sacking

Awaiting their sale, they are generally kept in heaps, in a dry and well ventilated place. Stored in a place somewhat damp, they would become mouldy.

When selling time has come, they are sacked in strong linen bags, with a capacity of two bushels or 120 pounds: beans weighing 60 pounds to a bushel.

Diseases and enemies

The bean has, both in the vegetable and animal kingdom, numerous enemies, the most harmful of which are:



FIG. 9.—Anthracnose.

Anthracnose.—Disease caused by a mushroom making itself known by the appearance of small round-shaped brown spots spreading and eating gradually all parts of the plant except roots. The disease usually originates from the planting of diseased seed. It then starts on cotyledons of the plant whose rapid destruction may be occasioned in rainy weather. If not, it spreads from cotyledons to leaves whose veins become black, thence to pods (Fig. 9) and seeds and finally, from one plant to another. This often results in considerable losses and in the danger of future crops being contaminated.

Rust.—Disease occasioned by a mushroom (*Uromyces Phascoli*). Its characteristic is the appearance on leaves and pods (Fig. 10), of small circular pustules, of a yellow color at first, but afterwards changing to a rusty brown and black. Though less to be feared than the former, it however depreciates the commercial value of bean crops, particularly in years of rain.

Bacteriosis.—Its coming into this country is quite a new one. It particularly attacks bush or dwarf varieties and is caused by a bacterium (*Pseudomonas Phascoli*). It generally appears on stems, leaves and specially fruits, during the very wet and hot days of August in the shape of greasy spots becoming cankerous, from which flows a visquous liquid promptly drying in surrounding itself with a pink border.