

The soil for turnips should be rich, (but not too highly manured), mellow, free from weeds or grass, and not too dry. Newly cleared land, abounding with vegetable mould, is very suitable, when not too weedy.

The time for sowing is from the 20th of July to the middle of August. About the first of August for this climate may be considered the proper time. Advantage should be taken of the chance for rain, in order to bring up the seeds speedily. About half a pound of seed is the usual rate per acre.

A dressing of wood ashes sprinkled over the ground will greatly promote the growth of turnips.

The following article is just in time, and gives sound advice; but we presume most farmers will object to the amount of labour bestowed.—*Ohio Cult.*

PARSNIPS.

A correspondent has written to inquire, "whether we know, by our own experience, the quality of the parsnip for feeding and fattening pigs?" In answer, we beg to state, that, at our farm at Catlands Bingham, we have been in the habit of employing parsnips for that purpose, for some time. Upon reference to our books, we find that on the 11th of October, 1847, we put up two shoats of eleven weeks old, and fed them on skim milk and parsnips, for three months, when they were killed, weighing two hundred and thirty-one pounds. They were well fattened, firm in flesh, and the meat of excellent flavor. The quantity of parsnips consumed by them was nine bushels each.—*Sussex (English) Express.*

We have often wondered that no account is made of this valuable root. All the world is alive to the value of the carrot, while this esculent is entirely overlooked. That the parsnip contains more saccharine matter than the carrot, or even any of the beets, we are satisfied. A very excellent wine is made of it, which we venture to assert cannot be made from any other of the whole root crop. Its estimation as an edible for the table also, tells in its favour. And a herd of hogs turned into a field containing bagas, beets, carrots, and parsnips, would not be long in settling the question which they like the best; and as they cannot read the *Genesee Farmer*, and are not influenced by any of our blundering theories, and trust alone to experience, and that unerring guide we are disposed to give them in the place of reason, we are disposed to give them the credit of being very capable judges—very.—*Genesee Farmer.*

PARSNIPS SOWN IN THE FALL.

Although it is out of season for growing this crop now, it may not be amiss to suggest a few hints in regard to its culture. We believe the time is coming when much more attention will be given to this root than at present. We be-

lieve it will be found advantageous to sow it late in the fall, so that its seeds may be among the first to start in the spring. The work will not only then be out of the way in the spring, but the crop itself will be much better in every respect. They require, when sown in the spring, to be put in early, as they are a long time vegetating; but if put into the earth in the fall, they will become prepared by the frosts to start early.—The winter, instead of injuring the seed, is an advantage to them. They should be sowed in rows wide apart so as to cultivate deeply and break up the soil that has been pressed down by snows and rains.

Stevens, in his Book of the Farm, says that according to Col. Le Couteur, the weight of a good crop varies from thirteen to twenty-seven tons per acre, (in the Island of Jersey, in the Channel,) the latter quantity being sufficient to support twelve Jersey cows for six months.

In this Island they have been found to yield a heavier crop than the Altringham carrot, in the ratio of eight hundred and forty to two hundred and sixty-one. As the parsnip contains six per cent more mucilage than the carrot, the Colonel conceives that the difference is sufficient to account for the superior fattening as well as butyraceous quality of the parsnip. The result of experiment there has shown that not only in neat cattle, but in the fattening of hogs and poultry the animals become fat much sooner, and are more healthy, than when fed on any other root or vegetable, and that, besides, the meat is more sweet and delicious.

In our country there is an advantage in the parsnip: a part of them may be left in the ground all winter, and be dug in the spring. If they are in a place where the water will not stand upon them, the root is improved rather than injured by remaining in the ground all winter.—*Maine Farmer.*

ON RAISING TURNIPS.

ED. OHIO CULT.—For five years past we have not failed of raising a good crop of turnips, averaging at least 200 bushels to the acre. Our mode of culture for this crop is as follows: As a general thing, we begin to prepare our ground for a turnip crop early in the spring, by turning under a good piece of sward and harrowing it down the same way as ploughed. Let it remain thus until about the middle of May, or until the weeds and grass get so high as to need destroying. We then go over it with a cultivator, or plough it again. The cultivator will generally kill the weeds, and the plough is not needed. Let it lay again until about the middle of July, and then give it a thorough ploughing. Let it rest then until we wish to prepare for planting, which is with us, the last of July or first of August.

One great object is, to get the seed in the right way. The mode we adopt [and we consider it about the best] is, after harrowing well, to throw the land into ridges from 18 inches to 2 feet apart, by taking one horse and plough and strike a furrow across one side of the piece, or "land," and back on the other