

Scientific and Useful.

BEANS.

Beans must not be planted until all danger of frost is passed. Sow Early Valentine and Dwarf Wax for early bush, in rows, two feet apart. Giant Wax and Large Lima (when the season is long enough) are the best pole sorts for general use.

BEETS.

Beets may be sown as soon as the frost is out of the ground, as they will bear considerable cold after they have been planted. Sow thickly in hills one foot apart; the thinning can be used for greens. New Egyptian Blood is the best dark early sort; Bascano, light colored, but early; Long Blood late.

ASPARAGUS.

Old beds that were top-dressed last Fall should have the litter raked off, and the fine manure forked in between the plants. Set out new beds with one year-old plants. The old way is to make the rows eighteen inches apart, with the plants nine inches apart in the rows. Our market growers give more room, setting the plants two feet or more apart each way. Set the plants four inches below the surface. Conover's Colossal is a reliable variety.

CURE FOR A COLD.

A hot lemonade is one of the best remedies in the world for a cold. It acts promptly, and has no unpleasant after-effects. One lemon properly squeezed, cut in slices, put with sugar and covered with half a pint of boiling water. Drink just before going to bed, and do not expose yourself on the following day. This remedy will ward off an attack of chills and fever, if used promptly. We give it on the recommendation of one of the best judges in our courts, who is a just man, and never takes bribes.

SOOT FOR CABBAGE PLEAS.

As soon as our readers begin to work in the garden we shall begin to hear complaints of the injury being done by cabbage and turnip fleas. In time let us say that a dusting of the plants with soot is not only an excellent preventive of the ravages of these insects, but is also a first-rate method of stimulating growth. Now when you have occasion to clean out your chimneys, stove-pipes, or stoves, where soot accumulates more or less, save all you can and put it aside in some dry place for a time of need. Put all your fine, dust-like ashes in with the soot, and in the spring sift out all the lumps, adding an equal quantity of dry earth or sand to the pure article. To every barrel of this compound add one pound of powdered sulphur, thoroughly mixing it through the heap. Keep dry and under cover until wanted for use. This mixture will also be found excellent for dusting cucumber and melon vines, as well as upon the cabbage and tomato plant.

SAVORY.

Known commonly as summer savory, annual, grows twelve to fifteen inches high; leaves opposite; branches in pairs; flowers flesh-colored, growing from the base of the leaves near the upper portion of the plant; seeds small, retaining germinative properties two years. Sow seeds in May, in light mellow soil, in shallow drills, sixteen inches apart, and thin the plants to six inches in the drills; gather by cutting the plants by the ground when they begin to show flowers, and dry in an airy shady place. Its uses for flavoring, etc., are too well known to need mentioning here. If the dried leaves are pulverized and put up in junk bottles corked tight, or in sealed tin cans they will preserve their aroma for a long time. All garden or other herbs should be dried in the shade—best in the airy loft of some building where the sun will not shine on them, and they will not be molested by insects, mice, dust, etc.—W. H. White, in Country Gentleman.

EARLY TOMATOES WITHOUT A HOT BED.

Procure empty tin oyster cans that can be found in abundance in any village. With a pair of shears cut off the top, and you will have a vessel about six inches deep, four and one-half wide, and one and one-half thick. Fill with the best soil you can find, and sow your seed, and place your cans near the kitchen stove. If you can procure some moss, such as grows on old logs, cut a piece to fit the top of each can. Saturate the moss with water, and this will keep the seeds moist and they will germinate very quick. As soon as the plants prick through the ground, take off the moss, and place the cans near a window in the sunshine. After a few days pull up all of the plants but one or two. If you save but one let it be near the centre of the vessel; if two, of course they should stand near the ends of the vessel. As soon as the weather is warm enough, put them out doors in the middle of the day. Leave them in the cans until a danger of frost is over, and the ground warm enough that they may grow right along. Then select a favourable day, wet the earth in each can thoroughly, turn them upside down, tapping gently on the bottom, and the ball of earth will slip out, and you can transplant them without their growth being checked twenty-four hours. H., in Country Gentleman.

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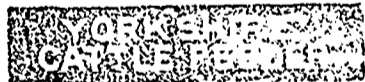
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