

yellow rose, and La Candeur, double white.

The best varieties of Dutch Hyacinths for bedding are following: White, Madam Van der Hoop, La Grandesse, Baroness von Thuyll and Queen Victoria pink, Gertrude, Gigantea and Lady Macaulay; blue, Grand Maître and King of the Blues.

The miniature hyacinths can also be used for spring flowering, but they must be planted a little closer than the other type, about six inches each way, to have a good effect. Many of the varieties of narcissus are excellent for spring flowering, and if planted in groups they are so much the better. Plant ten inches deep, if they are to remain several years.

An added charm is given by planting

in the same trench with them, about four inches deep, some of the Scilla Sibirica snowdrops and crocuses. These flower in between the foliage of the narcissus, at least two or three weeks earlier. The Polyanthus type include the following suitable for the garden: White, Perfection; Imperator, yellow; Goldfinch, yellow, and Lord Charming, primrose.

The trumpet type includes the following: Ard-riagh, golden yellow, very early; J. B. McCann, white petals and soft yellow trumpet; Madame de Graff, a perfect gem; Madame Langtry, pale cream; Horsfieldi, very fine, and Emperor and Empress. Much might be said about other varieties, but space will not permit.

## Handling the Potato Crop

A. G. Parker, Boston, N.B.

### HARVESTING THE CROP.

There is money in raising potatoes if they are properly handled. Last season our crop averaged one hundred and twenty barrels to the acre. No one should be satisfied with anything short of one hundred and ten barrels an acre. Such a yield will be easily reached if proper methods are adopted.

In selecting a fertilizer for potatoes, one should be careful to choose a fertilizer strong in potash, as it has been shown by repeated analysis that a crop of three hundred bushels of potatoes removes from the soil approximately sixty pounds of nitrogen, thirty pounds of phosphoric acid and one hundred and five pounds of potash. Thus a fertilizer to be used by potatoes should have these elements in approximately these proportions. If a good clover sod has been ploughed under the previous fall, the nitrogen will not be required, as the clover, being strong in nitrogen, will provide an ample supply.

If barnyard manure is to be used it should be supplied in the fall. Spread it broadcast and in not too large quantities, not more than from ten to fifteen tons per acre. Supplement it by an application of one hundred and forty to one hundred and eighty pounds of sulphate of potash, and two hundred and fifty to three hundred and fifty pounds of acid phosphate.

### SEED SELECTION.

Seed should be selected at the time of harvesting. In this manner the size, form, time of maturity and prolificacy of the plant, can be determined quite easily. Carefully select from those hills which make the most vigorous growth of vines, and which have produced potatoes large in size, the well shaped potatoes that are free from protuberances of any nature. If this method of selection is carried out the quality of the crop will improve rather than deteriorate, and fewer unmarketable potatoes will be noticed.

On soils containing clay or humus apply basic slag in the autumn and at the rate of from 500 to 600 lbs. per acre.

The fruit growing industry in Lambton County is going forward rapidly. The cold winter of 1911-12 has not in any way discouraged the growers, although about five per cent of the peach trees were killed, as well as most of the blossoms. I expect that the plantings during 1913 will far surpass those of any other year. — D. Johnson, Forest, Ont.

## Red Spider on Cucumbers

Prof. Wm. Lockhead, Macdonald College, Que.

"The last three years I have tried to grow cucumbers. I got them to grow nicely until the cucumbers are about two inches long, then the leaves turn yellow. The small cucumbers wither up and the plants die. I have tried different kinds with the same result. What is the matter?" — H. W., Toronto, Ont.

Although the information given is too meagre to allow us to decide definitely as to the nature of the trouble, yet we are of the opinion that the injuries are caused by the presence of red spiders on the leaves. These mites are often abundant in dry seasons on cucumbers, as well as on many other plants. They suck the juices, and affected leaves gradually turn pale, then yellowish, and finally brownish, before succumbing. The loss of so much sap from the leaves reduces the vitality of the cucumber plants, and the leaves are unable to manufacture the substances necessary for the growth of the fruit.

If a leaf attacked by red spider be examined carefully with a magnifying glass a thin web-like tissue will be found on the lower surface within which they feed and reproduce. As these pests are very minute they are apt to be overlooked until much damage is done on account of their large numbers.

Red spiders are usually kept under control by frequent sprayings with water as they appear to thrive only in a dry warm atmosphere. This simple treatment will suffice if begun sufficiently early; but if the webs on the undersurface of the leaves are allowed to be formed, it will not be effective, and some other remedy must be applied. One of the best remedies is a weak summer strength of lime-sulphur, such as fruit-growers use. Tobacco wash, sulphur powder, and soap solutions will also be found useful. Care must be taken to have the under surfaces of the affected leaves sprayed.

## Success with Celery

Where the soil and other conditions are favorable celery growing is one of the most profitable lines of vegetable production. The illustration on the next page shows part of a celery field on one of the leading market gardens on the outskirts of Peterboro. The proprietors, Messrs. Card & Williams, have had marked success in the production of celery on this land for a number of years. Celery from this field having won the first prize at the Peterboro Exhibition for the past several years.

A feature which has contributed more than any other to their success is the application each year of a heavy coat of fertilizer. Although the soil is a deep rich, black muck, which has been manured heavily for the past several years, it is given an additional heavy application of mixed stable manure before each