

Radish.—Make successive sowings every two weeks from March until June and again in August. This is a good crop to plant on soil to be used later for tomatoes, etc. Plenty of moisture and plant food is necessary.

Rhubarb.—Seeds or crowns may be planted. For the small garden where immediate crops are desired, crowns should be planted in the spring. Place them slightly below the level of the ground and do not water them the first year. The soil should contain an abundance of manure. It is necessary to give them each year and dig it in around the plants. Do not place any manure in the soil before planting.

Old rhubarb roots may be forced in several ways. They may be taken up in the fall and placed in earth in a frost-proof cellar, where they will produce a crop of stalks about six weeks later, or a common barrel may be inverted over the root in the garden about March 1st, and banked up well with manure. Roots forced in either manner should be given one year's rest before being forced or pulled from again.

Spinach.—This is a vegetable of great value for early spring use. The first sowing should be made as early as the ground can be worked, and every two weeks after as long as the vegetable is desired. Sowings may be made in August for fall use. Rich soil is necessary to produce a rapid tender growth.

Squash.—The same cultural requirements are recommended as for cucumbers, pumpkins, etc. Late or early maturing varieties may be planted, but where the large varieties are allowed to mature for winter use, they should be collected and stored in a dry frost-proof cellar shortly after the last fall frosts.

Tomatoes.—Where only a few dozen plants are needed, it pays to buy them from some one who makes a practice of growing them. They may be started in the house as recommended for cabbage. When all danger of frost is over, the plants should be set in the open ground.

There are several ways of training the vines. Where a single stem is trained to a stake, all laterals are removed. An excess of nitrogen in the soil will cause too much leaf-growth at the expense of the fruit.

In the fall, when the frosts threaten the plants containing a number of large fruits, the vines may be pulled and placed in piles and covered with straw, and the tomatoes will continue to ripen for some time. In rainy sections it is better to hang the vines in a shed instead of piling.

Turnips.—Turnips, like radishes, should be sown early and at intervals of two weeks to provide a continual supply. Where turnips are wanted for winter use, the seed should not be sown until about July 1st. Store as recommended for other root-crops.

A loamy soil is best, and a constant supply of moisture must be provided, otherwise the turnips will be pithy and unfit for use.

GARDEN PESTS.

Cutworms are one of the most common and frequent pests found in the vegetable garden. They often appear in great numbers in the spring, and unless great care is taken they may ruin many dollars' worth of vegetables. The most common remedy is the poisoned bran. This is prepared by mixing one part of Paris green with fifty parts of bran, and moistening it with sweetened water. This mixture is spread broadcast over the garden in the evening. Two or more applications may be necessary if the cutworms are numerous.

Aphides or "green-fly" are often troublesome on turnips, cabbage, brussels sprouts, etc., but can be controlled by spraying the plants with some contact insecticide when they first appear. Black Leaf 40 is one of the best and should be diluted one part to 800 parts water. Apply in a fine spray with force a day or two in a few days if any insects remain.

In most gardens there are many undescribed leaf-eating pests. When these become troublesome, as they often do, a poison spray should be applied. A good spray for this purpose is made by mixing 1 oz. of arsenate of lead with 1½ gallons of water.

For further information on garden pests, see Spray Calendar issued by the Department, or write the Department for assistance.