

In growing from seed it is important to procure the best American grown seed. European seed often fails to form good, solid bulbs. Four pounds of fresh seed will be enough for an acre sown with the machine, and if sown in the garden by hand an ounce will be enough for four hundred feet of drill. Sow the seed just as early as it is possible to get the ground in good condition; the earliest sown yield the heaviest crop.

As soon as the plants can be seen, the ground should be carefully hoed between the rows, either with the wheel hoe or by hand, and the weeds thoroughly cleaned out. The hoeing should be shallow, taking care not to draw the earth up around the plants, but to keep the ground level and clean. As soon as the Onions are an inch or two high they should be thinned out to two inches apart in the row. They may be allowed to grow at this distance for a time, and the young Onions used for the table or sold, gradually thinning out to four inches apart. In field culture, or where there is no market for these very young Onions, they may be at once thinned out to four inches apart.

Timely and thorough cultivation are of great importance to the success of this crop. If the weeds once get the start they will materially injure the growth of the plants, if not entirely ruin the crop; hence, do not let the weeds once get a start, but hoe even if no weeds are visible.

In wet seasons Onions sometimes grow thick-necked. To remedy this,

gently bend down the tops, late in July, with the hoe handle, which checks the growth of top and induces the formation of better bulbs.

MEALY BUG.

Please tell me a cure for Mealy Bugs which have got into my little greenhouse and vinery, and seem hard to conquer.

A. D. FERRIER.

Fergus, Ont.

REPLY.—They are hard to conquer. If you are troubled with them on plants in pots, set the pots out of doors when the weather is suitable, and then with your force pump turn a strong stream of water on the plants and wash them off. Be thorough, and turn the stream on while one remains. Repeat the operation in about ten days and until you conquer. The writer has been successful by pursuing this plan vigorously. But in your vinery you must try another plan. Dissolve a pound of potash in three gallons of water; warm it until it is of the temperature of 130°F., and wash your vines thoroughly with the solution, and repeat the operation in a week or ten days. If you see them making their appearance again, and you should maintain a careful lookout for them, repeat the washing. If your grape vines are in a dormant condition, you may make the solution stronger by adding half a pound more of potash.

FRUIT IN BRACEBRIDGE, MUSKOKA.

The Canada Baldwin I got in 1884 did not take root. The Fay's Currant in 1885 did well, and the flower seeds gave us some most beautiful flowers.