

### Turnip Beetle.

My neighbour, Mr. Murphy, market gardener, having complained to me that, in spite of several sowings, he was utterly unable to raise a crop of turnips, I tried, on the poorest possible piece of land, our old Kentish plan, followed by all the farmers in the neighbourhood of London who grow "podding" peas for market. When the Frenchbeans, sown after spinach and radishes, were nearly meeting across the rows (24 inches apart), I sowed, about the 20th of June, white turnips between the rows. The Frenchbeans were gathered, green of course, in July, and the turnips were a full plant and are just pulled. Where I put in the same turnip seed in a vacant spot, every plant was devoured as fast as it came up. When the Frenchbean plants are taken away the turnips look weak enough, spindly, and pale in colour; but a few days of light soon bring them all right. Swedes will do just as well as turnips, but the flavour of a well grown

white turnip is so superior, that I always like to grow enough to last till Xmas, after which they become spongy and tasteless.

I fancy that the shadow of the French beans, peas, &c., keeps off the fly (beetle, rather); for if the turnips are sown before the ground is covered they will all be eaten. The fly never touches turnips or cabbages sown in a hotbed, or under glass, probably for the same reason.

A. R. J. F.

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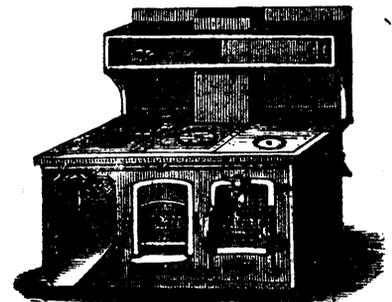
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