

The Truck Garden.

THE ASPARAGUS BEETLE.

This insect has ruined many of the asparagus plantations on L I and elsewhere. The beetles lay the eggs in spring on the young shoots, which soon hatch and the larvae eat the plants. Three broods occur in a season, the earliest being most destructive. In fields which are being cut, a few poor plants should be left to grow and serve as traps. These plants, scattered throughout the field, attract the beetles and they will lay eggs on them in great numbers. In a few days after the plants have leafed out, they should be cut down and burned, and others allowed to take their place. In this way the field can be kept quite clear of the insects later in the season.

On young fields that are not being cut, it is method cannot be used. One way is to wait until the larvae hatch and dust the rows early in the morning with air-blaked lime. Another method is to brush the larvae off with a broom in the middle of a hot day. They are soft and tender, and having been brushed into the hot sand cannot make their way back before they die. This should be repeated two or three times during the season.

Testing Seed—It is important to test all seed before planting, to know that they are fresh and sure to grow. Sometimes a planting will fail to grow and the time and labor could have been saved if the seed had been tested. This is easily done by planting a given number of seeds in a flower pot, and keeping it in a suitable temperature, and making note of how many sprout.

For Forcing a Rapid Growth, nothing acts quicker than nitrate of soda. Use it lightly, as it is a very concentrated plant food.

Apply Potash Early—Muriate of potash should be applied very early in spring. It retards maturity of many vegetables if put on at the time of sowing the seed or setting the plants.

A Succession of Crops—Every market gardener, where it is practicable, should raise two or three crops on the same ground. Last year I sowed peas in double rows about 10 inches apart and 3½ ft. between them. After the last hoeing I planted squashes between the rows, then put in turnip seed with the planter, running close to the peas. Turnips will do well, even if squash vines cover them, and they can be easily harvested after frost has killed the vines. Whenever I plant corn or field beans I stir into the phosphate a quantity of pumpkin and turnip seed, and thus raise three crops. Sometimes the turnips are worth more than the corn. After early radishes have been pulled sow beets for second crop. I have raised good beets by putting the seed in the phosphate when I planted early sweet corn.—[Marvin L. Piper, Windsor Co, Vt.]

The Australian Brown Onion, which was introduced 3 yrs ago, is becoming popular with growers of it. Reports which we have received say it is the "strongest" onion grown. While not as heavy a yielder as some varieties it is much earlier in ripening and can be got off the ground in time to plant another crop the same season. It is distinctive in color, the skin being of a clear amber brown and is noted for its long keeping qualities.

Rocky Ford Muskmelons—Much disappointment has been caused southern truckers by planting seeds of the so-called Rocky Ford melons which have been shipped in such large quantities from Col during the past 3 yrs. One commission firm saved 400 lbs seed from the choicest melons which came to New York and planted it on one of their farms in the south with almost an entire failure as the result. The Rocky Ford proves to be an improved strain of Netted Gem, which has never been profitable with southern growers. Hackensack and Emerald Gem have always given better returns.

If market gardeners would give a bounty of 50c per 100 for all cabbage butterflies caught between Mar 1 and June 1, the money so invested would yield large returns by the end of the year.

FERRY'S SEEDS

Thousands of gardeners depend on Ferry's Seeds every year and never suffer disappointment. Cheap substitutes bring loss, not paying crops. It pays to pay a little more for Ferry's Seeds. Five cents per paper everywhere, and always worth it. Always the Best, 1900 Seed Annual free. D. M. FERRY & CO., DETROIT, MICH.

WRITE THE GROWERS.
NORTHUP, KING & CO.'S
Seed Promises are PROMISES FULFILLED!

SEED TRUTH

Every one who plants seeds has at times been disappointed. If you would learn the TRUTH about seeds and how to get them RIGHT—no matter where, or of whom you buy, send for "SEED TRUTH," an Authority upon the subject, SENT FREE. If you also desire a copy of our SPECIAL 64-page Catalogue of Vegetables, Field and Flower Seeds, send 10 cts. (in coin or stamps) and also receive one full size plant, each of Holland Cuttings (best winter sort), Red Globe (earliest) Beet, "Epid" (mixed) Sweet Peas (grow 8 in. high), Astrakhan (longest keeping) Beans, Turnips (now sprouting) Radishes, Evening Primrose (best), Striped Yell (most charming floral novelty), and Free Samples of Perfection Field Seeds grown by us in this—the World's Golden Grain Belt! NORTHUP, KING & CO., Minneapolis, Minn.

PALES ROSES
CALIFORNIA
GRAPE
TRIES

EXCLUSIVE GROWERS
and IMPORTERS of Imported
and Domestic Seedlings
ROSES
(All sorts of greenhouse plants)
also plants from foreign
countries. Write for prices.
A. L. KING ROSE CO.,
ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA

CYCLONE SEED SOWER SAVES GRASS CLOVER AND SEED

Increase of crops per acre for seeders. Sows 10 acres. Tried and true. 25 years the Standard. Sent on trial. Special offer and circulars free. Address Champion Seeder Co., Urbana, Indiana.

VICK'S way of selling seeds in definite quantities enables you to know exactly what ground you can cover. No useless expense. You get exactly what you need, for the least money.

VICK'S SEEDS

yield heaviest crops and finest varieties.

Write for our Garden and Floral Guide. Describes in full this new departure in seed selling. Mention who you grow most. JAMES VICK'S SONS, Rochester, N.Y.

THE KIN-KAN or KUMQUAT ORANGE

From Japan. Bears in marvelous profusion little golden oranges as large as a lemon. The whole fruit, seed and all, is eaten. Delicious preserved and crystallized. A most elegant little window plant producing real orange blossoms. In bloom or fruit all the time. Grafted on dwarf stock and need not be more than 18 inches high. Fine bushy plants 40c. each, postpaid. Printed directions for culture with each order FREE. Fine 64-page catalogue of KALE FLOWERS AND FRUITS.

THE SEEDS YOU SOW

Will determine the size and quality of the crop you reap. You take your chances of a poor crop when you sow Johnson & Stokes' seeds. You can see the results almost as you sow. You begin by examining the handsome photographic plates on the seed boxes, without exaggeration, in the new century.

GARDEN AND FARM MANUAL for 1900. The most valuable book ever given away to seed buyers. Whether you sow a few seeds or many. Write to-day for it.

Johnson & Stokes,
217-219 Market Street,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

NO crop can grow without Potash. Every blade of Grass, every grain of Corn, all Fruits and Vegetables must have it. If enough is supplied you can count on a full crop—if too little, the growth will be "scrubby."

Send for our books telling all about composition of fertilizers best adapted for all crops. They cost you nothing.

GERMAN KALI WORKS, 93 Nassau St., New York.

EARLIEST PEACH

The earliest peach grown today is the **VICTOR**. It matures in the local market about June 10. A vigorous and hardy grower. Semi-climatic, sub-acid, fine flavor. White with red blush. Fruit is of good size, solid fleshed, a good shipper. Sixty varieties 1,000,000 Trees. Strawberries, Plums and Apple Trees, Asparagus, etc. Write us at once for illustrated Catalogue—FREE.



Extra Early Admiral Dewey

Originated and introduced by **HARRY N. HAMMOND**, Seedsmen, Box 12, FIFIELD, MICH. Largest grower of Seed Potatoes in America. The Dewey is the most wonderful New Potato. Its merits are fully described in Hammond's 1900 Catalogue. Free for the asking. Address as above. Write to-day. It alters varieties of potatoes. Also Vegetable and Flower Seeds.

BARGAIN FOR SEEDS.

NORTHERN CROWN.

Send us your name on a postal, and we will make you a present of a Seed Due Bill, which when returned to us with only 16c in stamps entitles you to special 85c collection of choice seeds. Our object is to get you to look through our catalogue, and examine carefully our "Great Seed Bargain" offers. We allow you to use the "Due Bill" whether you send an order or not. Our plans are most liberal, and will interest all who are in need of seeds. Write at once for the due bill. **T. J. KING CO., SEEDSMEN,** Richmond, Va.

ACME PULVERIZING HARROW, CLOD CRUSHER AND LEVELER

crushes, cuts, lifts, pulverizes, turns, aerates and levels all soils, for all purposes under all conditions. Made entirely of cast steel and wrought iron, they are indestructible. They are the cheapest and best riding harrows and pulverizers on earth. Various sizes, for various uses, 3 to 13½ feet. We mail catalogue and booklet, "An Ideal Harrow," free.

SENT ON TRIAL TO BE RETURNED AT MY EXPENSE IF NOT ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY. I deliver free on board at New York, Chicago, Columbus, Louisville, Minneapolis, Kansas City, San Francisco, &c.

Address **DUANE H. NASH, Sole Mfr., Millington, N. J.** or Chicago, Ill.

Please Mention This Paper.

PLANT AND CULTIVATE with a "Planet Jr." No. 25 Combination Hill and Drill Seeder and Double Wheel Hoe.

This is the latest addition to the famous "PLANET JR." line, and like all its predecessors it is the best thing of the kind for the purpose. It is intended for those gardeners who have a large enough acreage in crops for a Double Wheel Hoe to be used to great advantage, and yet prefer not to buy a Wheel Hoe. It is large enough for field use as it holds 2½ quarts (or about 5 lbs. onion seed) and has 11½ in. wheels—just the right size. As a drill it is almost identical with the "PLANET JR." No. 4 Drill. Sows in drills or hills 4, 6, 8, 12 or 24 inches apart. Has automatic device for throwing out of gear, now combined cut-off, seed index with thumb-screw attachment, &c. Thoroughly substantial and marvelously accurate in sowing all kinds of garden seeds in either hills or drills. As a Wheel Hoe it is identical with the "PLANET JR." No. 12 Double Wheel Hoe which is the very best machine on the market. Can be changed from Drill to Wheel Hoe in a moment. We heartily recommend this combination and guarantee it to be satisfactory.

We have just issued 250,000 copies of our new 1900 "PLANET JR." catalogue which in addition to being a work of art is a most valuable guide and reference book for farmers, gardeners, planters, orchardists, &c. Tells all about our full line of Seed Drills, Wheel Hoes, Horse Hoes, Cultivators, Harrows, Two-Horse Cultivators, Sugar Beet Seeders, Four Row Beet Cultivators, &c. Illustrations show how they are used in this and in foreign countries. We mail a copy of the catalogue free on request. Better write for it at once. Has 16 full pages of beautiful pictures.

S. L. ALLEN & COMPANY,

Box 1167-K, PHILADELPHIA, PA.