## The Truck Garden. THE ASPARAGUS BEETLE.

This insect has ruined many of the asparagus plantations on L I and elsewhere. The beetles lay the eggsinspring 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.

the season.

On young ficids that are not being cut, t is method cannot be used. One way is to wait until the larvae hatch and dust the rows early in the morning with air-slaked 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 fall 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 Yorcing a Rapid Growth, nothing acts quicker than nitrate of soda. Use it lightly, as it is a very concentrated plant food.

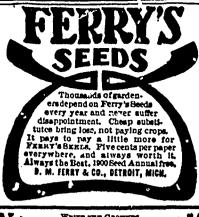
Apply Potash Early—Muriate of potash should be applied very early in spring. It retards maturity of many regetables if put on at the time of sowing the seed or setting the plants.

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 rown about 10 inches apart and 3½ ft, between them. After the last hocing 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 tarnip seed and thus raise three crops. Sometimes the turnips are worth more than the corn. After early radishes have been rulled sow beets for second crop. I have raised good beets by putting the seed in the phosphate when I planted early sweet corn.—[Marvir 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 cear 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 Emersid 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









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