

**Culture.** Dig up grass land, and dibble in sets.

**Product.** 550 bushels.

*At Bendisworth.*

**Soil.** Clay, and some light, at 21s.

**Culture.** Manure well with long dung; dibble in rows, one foot square.

**Product.** 550 bushels.

*At Kensington.*

**Soil.** Sand and gravel, at 40s.

**Culture.** Dung well, and plough in rows, one foot, plants six inches; hoe twice and weed.

**Product.** 15l. as they grow.

As there is a great variety in these products, I shall throw them into divisions according to the quantity, without any other rule; as it will then in general appear what soil and management are most adapted to them. First, all that produce five hundred bushels and upwards; second, such as yield from two to five hundred; and third, those that yield under two hundred.

As these tables are of a greater length than our limits will admit, we shall only give the first of them.

Crops of 500 bushels, &c.

| Places.     | Soil.                         | Sets. | Rows.          | Culture.                                               | Product. |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Mr. Turner, | Sand, 8s.                     | —     | 3 feet by 1.   | { Horse and hand }<br>hoed,                            | 588      |
| Ditto,      | { Black loam, worth }<br>40s. | —     | 18 inches,     | Dug for,                                               | 1166     |
| Altringham, | Sandy loam, 20s.              | 22    | — —            | { Dig for them, }<br>manure, hand }<br>hoe, and weed } | 700      |
| Knotsford,  | Sand, 16s                     | 20    | 1 foot square. | { Dig grafts, dibble }<br>hand hoe, and }<br>weed. }   | 500      |
| Birmingham, | Sand, 17s. 6d.                | —     | — —            | { Dig grafts and }<br>dibble in sets, }                | 550      |
| Averages,   | — 20s.                        | 21    | — — — —        | — — — —                                                | 700      |

It is very evident from this table that rent is no more a guide to product than the wind; nor is any particular soil (except the sandy and light being generally the best) a mark whereby to point out the scale of produce. The distance of the rows, and the quantity of sets, as well as the material articles of manuring and cleaning, are none of them, separately taken, at all decisive in fixing the superiority. Thus much, however, may be observed, that the more considerable products are those that are in general very spiritedly cultivated: all in the first division, except one, are dug for, and likewise the best of those in the second; this seems as if digging for them was much superior to ploughing: The strong variations we otherwise observe must certainly be attributed to fertility of soil, richness of manuring, or a general excellent management: A circumstance greatly encouraging to all who are willing to cultivate this most useful vegetable; for there is great reason to suppose, that a vigorous conduct in raising potatoes will more than balance every other advantage.

It should be observed, that these roots are every where considered as an excellent

fallow crop, greatly ameliorating the soil, and preparing in every respect for wheat in particular, or for any other grain in a very superior manner. It is extremely evident from the preceding table that their culture is uncommonly profitable. In numerous places I was assured that they made infinitely more by potatoes than by any other crop. The prices of them are various, but at 1s. 6d. a bushel, the average product amounts to above 28l. but 1s. 6d. is a low price: It is a great error in many parts of this kingdom the not cultivating potatoes in large quantities.

No fallow crop is more advantageous to the soil, nor could there be a greater improvement in three fourths of the counties of England, than introducing potatoes into the courses of their fields, as regularly, upon soils proper for them, as turneps or any other vegetables.

The common objection to cultivating them in large quantities is the want of a market; but such a plea is an absolute piece of gothicism: The most advantageous use they can be applied to, where they bear an high price, most certainly is to sell them; but where the prices are low, or the markets overstocked, this root should be applied to feeding and fattening cattle.