

Be sure to have something growing up the fences, such as Scarlet Runners, Grape Vines, Ornamental Tomatoes, or even Squash, all of which will give good results if given a little attention and training; they also have a tendency to keep the garden cool, during the very hot season. Besides covering up the unsightly fence.

While the average back garden could not begin to accommodate all the vegetables enumerated in this article, tastes differ, some wanting one kind and some another. The vegetables of which cultural directions are given are in alphabetical order, leaving the prospective gardener to the choice of kinds, and to his own judgment of grading the foliage according to height, from the toothsome Radish to the indispensable tall and delicious Sweet Corn.

Just after rain is a bad time to sow seeds; it is better to wait until the ground can be raked easily. When transplanting is to be done, first wet the ground thoroughly, then it will be possible to take up a good ball of soil with the plant, and the roots will not suffer. Corn and Melons should not be cultivated deeply; the roots grow near the surface. Merely stir the soil sufficiently to make a dust mulch is all the plants require. It is most important to have sharp garden tools. Some people never think of sharpening the blade of a hoe, but it is worth while. Squashes keep best if allowed to remain on the vines as long as possible. Poultry manure is a good dressing for the vegetable garden, if scattered over the ground in spring and cultivated in, and it is particularly good for Onions. Seeds of Beets, Parsnips and Carrots germinate slowly; have patience. Generally speaking, the depth to plant should be four times the diameter of the seeds, and always make the soil firm after planting.

The only way to get vegetables of first-rate quality is to grow them oneself.

Raise your own Tomatoes, as it is largely a gamble to buy them from the grocery. Join the Toronto Horticultural Society and become a practical gardener, and assist in "Beautifying Toronto," or the town you call home.

Asparagus. If you have room and must have it, get cultural directions from a catalogue; it takes three years to get a bed in good shape. Conovers Colossal is the best.

Beans. Cultivate deeply, in a warm spot. You can continue planting for succession up to July 25. Wardwell's Kidney Wax is the best.

Beets. Sow on a hot-bed and transplant in the middle of May, or sow in rows in the garden at the beginning of May, fifteen inches apart, thinning them out to four inches apart in the rows. For succession sow at intervals until July 10. Flat Egyptian for early, Long Smooth Blood for late variety and storing.

Cabbage. Cultivate deeply and often, plant eighteen inches each way, scatter some slaked lime or sulphur around them and on the young plants. Early Jersey Wakefield and Henderson's Early Summer are the two best varieties. Drum-head for Savoy.

Carrots. Sow seed one-half inch deep in rows fifteen inches wide, thinning the plants to four inches; make the soil firm over the seeds by tramping on it. Early Nantes, Chanteney, Short Horn and Oxheart are all good.

Celery. Sow seeds on a hot-bed or buy the plants. Put the plants eight inches apart in rows eighteen inches between each. Manure the soil well and deeply, and water freely. White Plume for white, Paris Golden for yellow, Evans' Triumph for green,



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Preparing Vegetables for Exhibition.

and Rose-ribbed Paris for red, the latter being the best for winter storing.

Cucumbers. In hills three feet apart. Sow ten seeds to a hill, thinning out to the four strongest plants to a hill. Cultivate lightly but often, and do not water when the sun is shining. Long Green and White Spine are good.

Corn. Plant in rows or hills two feet apart, and let ground be dry when sowing the seed, as damp, cold ground rots the seed. Try and provide room for four rows, planting two rows of Golden Bantam, which is the earliest and best, and two rows of

Stowell's Evergreen for a late variety. Put the Bantam in front on account of its dwarf growth.

Leek. Put in one row and treat the same as Celery. Sutton's Prizetaker is the leader.

Lettuce. Sow seed in hot-bed or warm corner, and transplant into rows ten inches apart and eight inches between. Shade with cheese-cloth when transplanting. Big Boston, Boston Market and Grand Rapids are the best varieties.

Melons. Sow seeds in hot-bed, and after you have taken out all other seedlings, transplant into the same hot-bed, putting four strong plants to four feet square. Rocky Ford and Montreal Nutmeg are the best.

Onions. Start seeds on a hot-bed and transplant about May 10th into a well-manured bed in rows nine inches wide and four inches apart in the row. Weathersfield, Red, White and Yellow Southport Globes, and Yellow Globe Danvers are five of the finest varieties. Silverskin or Barletta for pickles.

Parsnips. Sow in open ground May 1st in rows fifteen inches apart. Hollow Crown is the choice, and scatter powdered sulphur around to destroy maggots.

Peas. Cultivate the ground deeply, sowing plenty of seed in rows two inches deep and fifteen inches apart. Protect young plants from the sparrows, with wire netting or cheese-cloth. Dwarf Champion is the best of low growth and Telephone of the tall section, training them up brush or wire netting.

Potatoes. If you have room put in a row each of Early Ohio, for early, and Irish Cumber, for late, planting the tubers the first week in May in rows two feet apart and eighteen inches apart in the row.

Radish. Manure well a piece of the sandiest soil in the garden and sow a row each of Scarlet White Tip, White Icicle, and Red and White Turnip. Put the rows wide enough apart to allow other rows to be sown in between for succession planting every three weeks.

Rhubarb. Find a warm corner for at least two roots each of Strawberry and Victoria. These can be obtained from seedsmen.

Squash. Train on the fences if you have no room in the garden; all varieties will do fairly well trained up. Crook-neck, Green Hubbard and Boston Marrow are the most successful.

Tomatoes. Sow seed on a hot-bed, and have good, strong plants, ready to set out May 15, two feet six inches apart each way. Remove all shoots and suckers but four, which should be trained up sticks set at an angle four feet above ground. Water copiously at the roots only, with continuous shallow cultivation. Earliana, Chalk's Early Jewel, Livingston's Coreless, and Beauty are the pick. The ornamental varieties are well worth growing on the fences, as the fruit is most palatable.

Turnips. Treat the same as Beets. Snowball and Golden Ball are the two best varieties. Get one or two roots from seedsmen of the following: Mint, Parsley, Summer Savory, Thyme, and Sage. Try and lay out the grounds with a small lawn, having a four or five-foot border all around for flowers, leaving the balance for vegetables. Encourage the habit of going to bed early and getting up at 4.30 or 5 a.m. during the growing season. It is not only healthy, but the proper time for cultivating and watering. Do the planting in the evenings or on dull days, or after a rain.

The foregoing is the result of seven years' practical experience with much success, both in securing prizes and in keeping the house constantly supplied with vegetables, such as one cannot buy from pedlars or stores.

A Garden From the Woods

By E. T. COOK

THE writer was looking through one of the excellent publications of the Toronto Horticultural Society, recently, and read with interest a short article on "A Garden from the Woods," written by Mr. A. G. H. White. In it he mentions that if it fall to you to have wide spaces in which to garden, then you can dream dreams, and make pictures to your heart's content. But if only a narrow city lot be your portion, imagination must work out something that will show your individuality. Copy as little as possible. Let your garden be a phase of you. Of course, soil is the great factor. If a heavy clay that will not drain, get the coal ashes well worked under the surface and a heavy coating of manure on top. If put on in the fall this will render the top soil easier to work with in the spring, but it takes a long time to make a clay soil friable. It has its advantages, though, because there is always moisture at the roots of things that helps them through the hot days of summer. But drainage is indispensable; otherwise

the clay packs about the roots, and no air reaching them, they rot away, and the plants die.

With soil and fences arranged to satisfy, next comes growth. If the lot is long and narrow, shorten it by putting shrubs in the corners. Group them so as to make a kind of semi-circle at the back. In these groups some of the native shrubs are very beautiful, and only need energetic hands and care to get them. The red-osier dogwood, with its rich crimson wood, dainty green, oval, deeply-veined leaves, is beautiful at all times—in the winter against the white snow, in spring just budding, in summer with its masses of white flowers, and through autumn with its heavy clusters of white berries. The Elders, both red-berried and black-berried, are also useful. The red-berried Elder blooms early, and its pyramids of creamy-white flowers are followed by groups of red berries. If planted with a black-berried Elder, which flowers

late, the large, flat flower masses of the latter, mingled with the red of the former, make an effective group, if the birds leave go the pretty fruit. The Viburnum, maple-leaved and high-brush cranberry, are beautiful shrubs. No shrubs require any care after planting, as they are used to looking out for themselves in their woodland home, and scorn wrappings and coddling. A useful note and the shrubs may be planted now.

One great point is the selection of the shrubs. An indication is given in the note of what this selection should be, but when the choice is made remember that six plants of one kind are infinitely more satisfactory than a solitary example which can never give the same rich and satisfying effect as a group, however small. A shrub of quiet beauty, it should be more liberally planted and its strong, hardy growth is a great comfort to those who live in cold climates. This is the spirea called S. Anthony Waterer, a small shrub with spreading shoots covered over late in summer with warm, crimson-coloured flowers.