

also be left for a number of years in the same place, if they are in well drained soil, but will need lifting from time to time if they multiply too fast, the large bulbs being re-planted and given more room, and the small ones planted in a less prominent place and left until they reach blooming size. Hyacinths do not always give such good satisfaction outside as tulips and narcissus, but are very desirable as they are so beautiful and have such a delightful perfume. Bulbs should be planted in September or early in October to get the best results. The price of them is so reasonable, when one takes into consideration how much they brighten up the lawn and border in spring, that no place should be without them.

Of annual climbing plants with attractive flowers, two of the most satisfactory are sweet peas and nasturtiums, and a few cents worth will give an abundance of bloom from July until frost. To have the greatest success with sweet peas the seed should be sown in rich soil as soon as it is dry enough in the spring to work, the reason being that sweet peas require an abundance of moisture, and if sown early the roots have time to get well down where moisture is always plentiful before the hot weather comes. Sweet peas also do best in full sunshine. The climbing nasturtiums will be found more satisfactory than the dwarf varieties. Unlike sweet peas, nasturtiums bloom best in rather poor soil, and seed should not be planted until danger of frost is almost past, as the nasturtium is a tender plant.

It is easy to grow the flowers above mentioned, and they can be obtained with such a small outlay that it must be only lack of desire and supposed lack of time which are the reasons for so few flowers being grown around the farm home. For the sake of our families, and for the good influence which it is sure eventually to bear on our own lives, let us force the desire upon ourselves and begin this spring to make our country homes more attractive, and if we make ourselves desire to do the work it will be done and we shall never regret it.

EXPERIMENTS IN FRUIT CULTURE AT THE CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM, OTTAWA.

With regard to fruits and vegetables, we have quite a large area, over 40 acres, devoted to these crops, and it has been our policy in the past to try and conduct experiments in that area which will be of the greatest interest to horticulturists throughout Canada. We not only plan experiments ourselves, but we ask the co-operation of fruit growers throughout the country, to secure suggestions as to the lines of work they think it will be well for us to carry on at the farm and which will be of the greatest interest to them. As a result we have carried on there during the last twenty years a great number of experiments in fruit culture. The results of these experiments have been published in bulletins which have been issued by the department, and also in the annual reports. For instance, one line of work which we have carried on in fruit culture has been the testing of varieties. We have tested between six and seven hundred named varieties of apples alone, and the value of this work you can readily understand when I say that in sections of eastern, central and northern Ontario and the provinces of Quebec, most of New Brunswick and in some parts of Nova Scotia, it is not possible to grow some of the winter apples that they grow, for instance, in western Ontario. Thousands of dollars have been expended in these parts of Canada in previous years in trying to grow these varieties which it was really impossible to grow. The farmers were, however, ignorant of the fact, and the result has been that thousands of dollars have been expended on trees which were not suitable for the sections of country where they were planted.

By Mr. Blain:

Q. What are those varieties?

A. I might mention Northern Spy, Baldwin, King and Greening. Those are the kinds that I have in mind. There is a vast territory extending, say from the city of Kingston east to New Brunswick and north to as far as you wish to go in Ontario,