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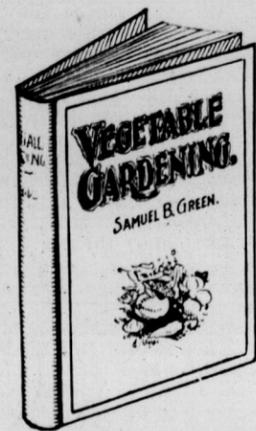


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VEGETABLE GARDENING

A MANUAL ON THE GROWING OF VEGETABLES FOR HOME USE AND THE MARKET



By SAMUEL B. GREEN, Late Professor of Horticulture, University of Minnesota
This volume contains complete directions for the proper care and management of a farm or market garden. It is a thoroughly practical work, and is the result of the author's many years of careful study and experience in vegetable growing. It is a work of incalculable value to farmers, truck gardeners and amateur vegetable growers, as well as a most complete text for students.

A PARTIAL LIST OF CONTENTS:—Location, soil, cultivation, irrigation, rotation, manures and fertilizers (with complete explanation of the effects of the various manures on different crops), garden tillage, weed eradication, garden implements and machinery, seed sowing, including a discussion of the different soils and the manner of seeding in each kind; transplanting, seeds and seed growing, germination, development of varieties, crossing, self-pollination, mixing varieties, glass structures of all kinds, greenhouses, kinds, heating, ventilation, construction, watering, etc.; insects injurious to vegetables, insecticides and methods of destroying insects, use of poisons, insect traps, classification of vegetables, warm and cold climate varieties, frost tender and frost hardy varieties, characteristics of the different vegetables, with directions for the cultivation of each kind; garden herbs.

The list of vegetables and herbs which are discussed in detail include: Anise, artichoke, asparagus, beans, beets, brussels sprouts, cabbage, caraway, carrot, catnip, cauliflower, celeriac, celery, citron melon, corn, cress, cucumber, dill, egg plant, endive, garlic, ground cherry, horseradish, kale, kohlrabi, leek, lettuce, muskmelon, mushroom, mint, okra, onions, oyster plant, parsnip, parsley, peas, peppers, peppermint, potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, rhubarb, rutabagas, sage, salsify, spinach, squash, strawberry, tomato, sweet basil, sweet potato, thyme, tomatoes, turnip, watermelon, winter savory.

The Appendix includes a monthly calendar of garden operations which is a valuable and safe guide for planting in the proper season. Also the following tables which have been found intensely interesting: 1—Weight of one quart of seeds and number of seeds to the ounce; 2—longevity of garden seeds when properly cured and stored; 3—amount of seeds required per acre; 4—average time required for seed to germinate; 5—standard of purity and germination of agricultural seeds; 6—quantity of seeds required for a given number of hills; 7—quantity of seed required for a given length of drill.

Profusely illustrated, 256 pages, size 5x7, large clear type and bound in fine silk cloth. Attractive and durable, cloth \$1.00

BOOK DEPT., GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE, WINNIPEG, MAN.

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age should be fed very heavily in the early part of the feeding period to insure most efficient results. The grain at this time may be somewhat limited. We put our steers upon a full feed of good quality silage the very first day and have never had any difficulty. Silage is a roughage and may be so handled without danger. To insure quick and economical finishing, the silage is best decreased somewhat at the close of the feeding period and the grain increased accordingly. Cattle, when nearly finished, tend to eat too much of the bulky, watery, palatable silage, thus leaving too little room for concentrated grains, a consumption of which is highly imperative at this time.

The shrinkage of silage fed cattle is not heavy as is ordinarily supposed. Silage fed cattle do not shrink any more than dry hay fed ones. Our results clearly indicate that cattle receiving both silage and dry roughage during the feeding period, shrink less than those fed on either dry feed or silage alone.

AVOID FROZEN ROOTS

"Never feed frost-bitten potatoes, roots or other vegetables to live stock; the risk is too great."

This is the advice of an experienced stockman who knows of the trouble and even losses which are almost certain to follow feeding frozen food of any kind.

"At this time of the year farmers are often tempted to utilize waste vegetables and roots by feeding them to cows, hoping that no harm will result. If the roots have been frozen trouble naturally follows.

"The introduction of heavy, chilled vegetable matter into the stomach of an animal naturally causes a sudden reaction, and it is not unlikely that the food value of the material is much reduced. Stockmen cannot afford to take any chances in feeding frozen vegetables to their herds and flocks."

Poultry

THE 200-EGG HEN

With the introduction of an improved system of trapping the hens and getting their individual records, and subsequently breeding only from the best layers, mated to males from heavy laying hens, we will eventually make rapid steps towards securing the 200-egg bird. There is no question about that. But will we ever reach 200 eggs as an average? I do not believe it can be done. And if we could, would it be desirable?

It will take a great many years before we can get the general average up to the 150 mark. To average 200 eggs a year, in a flock, would mean that some of the layers had a record of 250 or more, for each hen would not lay the exact 200 eggs and then stop. Some of the flock would be at least 50 eggs short of the average.

There is no disputing the fact that there are individual hens on many farms in the country that are doing remarkable laying. I cannot at this writing recall what was the highest record given, but I know it was something in the neighborhood of three hundred eggs for the year. But such cases are rare. It is surprising how many 200-egg layers have developed, but the average of heavy layers have been nearer 150 eggs than anything higher.

The Winter Layer

While I believe in breeding up the laying qualities of our stock, I think there should be a limit. In my own yards I do not aim to secure large or phenomenal year-round egg records. Instead I breed only from the best winter layers. Those pullets or hens that give the largest number of good sized eggs from October 1 to June 1 are more desirable than hens that do the bulk of their laying during the season when the prices are lowest.

I would much rather have my hens average 120 eggs a year and remain in robust condition, than to have their constitutions broken down in the race for higher records. There is a reason in all things. If we are going to force our hens ahead to become champion layers, something is going to be sacrificed.

As an illustration, note the hardy-looking prize fighter, with all the strength and force imaginable, a perfect picture of health. Watch him when on a decline,

Chiclets

REALLY DELIGHTFUL

THE DAINTY
MINT-COVERED
CANDY-COATED
CHEWING GUM

and see how rapidly he collapses and how prematurely old he grows. Will it not be so with our hens trained and bred up to the highest point? To accomplish these great results will it not be necessary to do some pretty close inbreeding?

And what will become of our meat supply if all our energies are to be centered on a large egg crop? Is it not a fact that when we spend our food and attention on the hen with a view to creating an ideal carcass, that we cripple the egg yield? Then is it not reasonable to suppose that this unnatural flow of eggs will have a tendency to cripple fertility and produce weak and puny chicks?

The Dual Purpose Hen

Why not have a combination of both eggs and meat? Let there be a limit. Gradually increase the egg powers of the hen, but do not sacrifice one bit of her meat tendencies. Above all keep her in good health so that the offspring may inherit her hardiness. But do not try to build up one object at the sacrifice of the other. With such work it would not be long before we would have a more delicate race of fowls than many fanciers have been guilty of.

No one can have a higher opinion of the value of the trap nest than I have. I believe it is next to the incubator and brooder in contrivances that have placed poultry culture many notches higher in both success and profit. But the trap nest can be abused. Like all good things it does harm when improperly handled, and this craze for phenomenal records is one way of abusing its use.

Mate up your breeding pens with fowls that show an excellent type of carcass for a meat supply, and then having secured that, each year mate up and breed those hens of the flock that have given the most generous supply of eggs during the winter months. A worthy object is in that way attained. A family will be reared that fully fills the American idea of what a fowl should be—a general purpose bird. This method will give it to them.

Above all things, do not force a hen with stimulating drugs and powders to get high egg records. Be content to allow pure food and good breeding to do that work. Nature knows her duty. She is willing to be assisted but not forced. The beginner is apt to become too ambitious. He wants to have his flock do wonderful work, and will resort to all kinds of methods to secure such results. It is a mistake. Go slow in your efforts, and always keep in mind that perfect health must be had from start to finish, and without it nothing but loss will result.—M. K. Boyer in the Poultry Advocate.

EGG EATING

Egg eating is caused by lack of nests, overcrowding, want of opportunity to exercise, or lack of litter to exercise in, and nests that are located low down in the light where the chickens are tempted to scratch in the nest boxes, thus rolling out the eggs. Once the trick is learned no eggs are safe, and the birds that first learn this bad habit communicate it to others. To prevent, give plenty of room in the hen house, and have a suitable place for the chickens to scratch in. Put the nests in a secluded corner, as dark as is practicable, and furnish enough of them. Give the chickens plenty of green food.

Different cures are advocated. Some say that a quantity of china eggs scattered over the chicken house floor will discourage the practice; others that a bushel or less of egg shells fed liberally will satisfy the hens' craving for lime, and break up the habit; others that old plaster and plenty of grit is a help; occasionally someone will claim that eggs doctored with red pepper puts a stop to it. The best cure is prevention.