Gardens and Gardening In Northern British Columbia

ALL WINTER VEGETABLES

Two vegetables are worth growing because they furnish fresh vegetables for the table all winter, providing the owner of the garden wishes to dig them. These are the parsnip and the oyster plant or salsify. Neither possesses its best flavor, according to popular tradition, until it has been frozen. This is particularly true of the parsnip, although modern authority scoffs at the theory that the parsnip gains no sugar during its stay in the frozen ground and is as good in the fall as in the spring. However, it is an early spring vegetable in popular esteem.

Both the oyster plant and the parsnip require early sowing for the maximum development of their roots, rich soil, and plenty of moisture. They should not come in contact with fresh manure, however, and if this is used it should be dug deeply enough not to come in contact with the roots in the early stages of their growth as it results in deformation.

The main requirement and the reason that parsnips often do not yield the crop they should is neglect to thin the seedling plants before the roots begin to interfere with each other in the soil and come into competition for plant food. They should be pulled to six inches apart. Given this room to develop they will furnish fine roots of uniform size and fine quality.

The oyster plant can be grown three inches apart if the garden is of small dimensions. Four inches is plenty for it as seldom

at the top of the root like the thickness for its lack of diameter parsnip. Salsify is in season only in spring and the freezing does seem to give a delicacy of flavor that it does not otherwise possess.

The fine flavor of this vegetable is not properly appreciated largely because its preparation for the table is not well understood and it too often appears as a dirty, discolored looking mess. This is due to the fact that when the root is scraped it turns black quickly. It should be cleaned in water that has been acidified with a little vinegar. By this means white and tempting appearing dishes can be made.

CULTIVATE THE GARDEN OFTEN

Weeds have been well defined as "Garden thieves." They steal the food from other plants, in addition

A Few Moments With a Wheel Hoe Once or Twice a Week Keeps the Garden Clean

to being unsightly. There isn't much excuse for a weedy garden because all manner of tools have been developed to speed up and make the work of destroying weeds easy. For the vegetable garden even of modest proportions a wheel hoe is the easiest means of keeping it in order.

With a variety of tools to be attached, the wheel hoe may be pushed up and down the rows with the least possible labor. A few moments of trundling a wheel hoe once or twice a week keeps the garden clean. With the weeds hoed it is a simple matter by attaching the cultivator teeth that go with a

Get Your Garden Tools in Shape

wheel to keep the soil stirred so that weeds will have no chance to get a start.

In addition to keeping down weeds with a minimum of labor, the process of stirring the soil is the finest form of cultivation for the plants, establishing a dust mulch and conserving moisture in the soil.

For work in the rows among the plants that are closely placed there is a large variety of hand weeders to simplify this task. One of the handiest cultivating tools was not originally intended for purposes of cultivation, but has been generally adopted as such. This is the asparagus cutter. It is an ideal tool for weeds, such as dandelions, with tap roots, nipping the root under ground and making their removal easy. It is also an excellent tool to sever the roots of the troublesome crab grass that very often overwhelms gardens in midsummer. It is also a most convenient instrument to uproot plantains in the lawn with a minimum disturbance of the soil.

The Asparagus Cutter Is an Ideal Tool for Weeds, Such an Dandelions and Plantains

"PEOPLE WHO KILL A TOWN"

"People Who Kill a Town" are listed by the Halifax Herald as follows:

"Those who oppose improvements.

"Those who distrust public-spirited men.

"Those who show no hospitality to anyone.

"Those who hate to see others make money.

"Those who oppose every improvement that doesn't originate with themselves.

"Those who use a hammer, but have no use for nails."

The picture illustrates two different methods of landscape gardening.

If you have started seeds indoors, and are nursing baby plants in the house until they are large enough and the weather is warm enough to put them outdoors, then you must get a place ready for them.

If you are not strong enough to spade your own garden, mother will get help for you; but you must oversee it, and be sure that the soil is made loose to a depth of at least one foot; very fine, and raked smooth on top.

When the garden is ready, you can sow outdoors seeds which you have not started in the house. But do not set out the baby plants until there is no longer any danger of a hard frost. Because plants started indoors are tender and will suffer more from cold, than they would if they had been grown outdoors. Seeds sown outdoors will take some time to germinate, and the young seedlings of plants which are hardy will stand considerable frost. But do not sow seeds such as nasturtiums and hyacinth beans until there is no danger of frost. And do not sow large seeds such marigolds and zinnias until the ground is fairly warm.

In sowing seeds outdoors, if you want your plants to grow in straight rows, make a drill or shallow ditch. Make it run from the north to south from one end of your garden to the other. Drop the seeds carefully into the drill from the seed packet; and cover the seeds, and make the earth firm above them. The rows in your garden should be not less than one foot apart; and 18 inches apart is better.

When the seedlings appear, they must be thinned out; and the seedlings which are not needed may be given away or planted elsewhere, or destroyed. Do not hesitate to do this thinning out, for if you do not all your plants will suffer.

To remove trees in the spring keep as much of the soil as possible adhering to the roots. Do not let the roots become exposed to the wind or sun.

GETTING ANNUALS INTO BLOOM

The main purpose of annuals is to furnish bloom when other plants do not, particularly the great wealth of June blooming perennials such as the irises, peonies, delphiniums and the earlier pyrethrums and poppies which may be counted upon to adorn the garden until toward July. July is the month when the big show of annuals is due and needed when there is a lull in the procession of perennials

In order to have the annuals in bloom and of sufficeint development to make a showing it is necessary to give many of them an early start.. Otherwise they will not give their full beauty until into August, leaving a gap in the garden.

They should be started in seed boxes. These boxes may be placed either in a cold frame or a window of the home. The sun parlors of modern houses, which are usually not overheated, offer an ideal place to start annuals, having plenty of light and a temperature that usually is not as hot and dry as the living room. A few degrees above freezing will be an excellent atmosphere for some of the annuals that like a cool start. Others demand warmer temperature. Zinnias and marigolds are in the latter class while snapdragons and asters may be given a cool start.

In addition to starting annuals indoors, poppies, centaureas and annual larkspurs should be sown outside on any day that is fair enough to tempt a gardener into the garden. Scattered on the surface of the soil where they are wanted, the melting snows and rain will do the rest and they will come on in a hurry as soon as the spring sun calls them.

Verbenas need an early start as they are slow to germinate and slow growing in the early stages of their career, showing their speed when they begin to send out runners, after running up to the first cluster of buds. Petunias need a start ahead of the outdoor season to give them a chance to show a good flash of bloom in July. They will just be getting under way if seed sowing is delayed until May 1. Early seed planting will solve the problem of a continuous display of color in the garden.

Garden Field Seeds
FERTILIZER
BULKLEY VALLEY HAY AND GRAIN
Prince Rupert Feed Co.
PHONE 58

HOW ARE SLUGS PREVENTED FROM KILLING PLANTS?

A good [illegible] Prince Rupert gardeners are worried with slugs and snails. Some people use lime to protect the young plants but on a wet season this is not very effective as the lime loses its strength after a big rain. Salt has also been suggested and some people have been known to put rings of tar paper around plants they very highly valued.

Any suggestions for preventing the attacks of slugs would be welcomed by readers of this page. They may be either written and sent in or telephoned to the editorial office.

Although the annual Chinese and Japanese pinks bloom from seed as annuals, they are perennial if given a slight protection over winter and the pink bed may be started for three or four seasons.

Many people believe that yellow tomatoes have a more delicate flavor for slicing in salads or to be eaten out of hand than the red varieties. Try the yellow Ponderosa or some of the new yellow strains.

Don't forget the element of fragrance in the garden. The night scented stock is the most fragrant plant that can be used but it has no beauty. At night it scents the surrounding territory with its spicy fragrance.

Sow parsley and radish seed together. The former is slow to come up and the radishes will be out of the way before the parsley has got far in the world

Schizanthus make nice plants for hanging baskets where they get sun part of the day and may also be used for a brilliant flowering drapery on window boxes.

Plant some of the everlastings or straw flowers for winter bouquets. The helichrysum is one of the best.

For a brilliant display in quick time, Phlox Drummondii is one of the finest of annuals

Fashion Fancies

A Suit-Dress in a Plaid Woolen Fabric

Here is another Patou suit in plaid woolen—black and white features the longer jacket, double breasted, with a notched collar and a tiny white pique edge inside the collar. The jacket is slightly fitted while the skirt is flared.

We call this type of costume a "suit-dress" because it requires no blouse. At the same time is serves the purpose of a suit.

A PLNT for BEAUTY and UTILITY

Gardens for flowers as well as for vegetables! Seeds and plants must be bought with care to assure the perfect development of your "crops." Make sure that your months of labor on your gardens will not be in vain. Buy only the finest! They cost no more than inferior ones.

Prince Rupert Floral Shop
(MRS. R. McCARTHY)
Third Avenue Phone Red 183

A FEW FACTS ABOUT PRINCE RUPERT

Prince Rupert is:

The terminus of the Canadian National Railway.
The Central administrative point for the whole of central and northern British Columbia.
The nearest point in British Columbia to the Orient.
The centre of the halibut and salmon fishing business.
The centre of an extensive mining and lumbering district.

Prince Rupert has:

One of the finest harbors in the world.
The largest fresh halibut business in the world.
The largest fish cold storage plant in the world.
A large, strictly modern drydock and shipbuilding plant.
A grain elevator leased to the Alberta Wheat Pool with capacity of 1,250,000 bushels.
A large, modern ocean dock.
A new modern lumber mill, planing and shingle mills and box factory with capacity output of 60,000 board feet daily.
Fish reduction plant.
A new mill at Porpoise Harbor and another building alongside it seven miles from the city.
Railway shops employing about 75 men.
Several ship sheds for building and repairing small craft.
Provincial government district offices and court house.
Dominion government fisheries, customs, and other offices.
Marine department central station.
Dominion government wireless station.
Canadian National district offices.
Dominion fisheries experimental station.
B. C. Packers district offices.
Consolidated Mining & Smelting district assay office.
P. Burns Co., Ltd., modern abattoir.
Several docks and wharves used by coasting vessels.
Number of fish houses doing an export business.
About twenty salmon canneries in the neighborhood.
Several fishery supply and shipchandlery establishments.
Several wholesale houses doing a large business in the district.
Fine modern retail stores.
Good steamship services to Alaska and south to Vancouver and Victoria and west to the Queen Charlotte Islands.
Three large oil and gasoline distribution stations.
Good hotels and restaurants.

Prince Rupert has:

Modern high school with first year university classes.
Four public schools with over thirty teachers.
Seven churches representing the most important demonina-tions.
Paved streets and concrete sidewalks in the business section.
Well kept gardens and pretty residences.
Number of clubs and fraternal organizations.

Prince Rupert has:

No severe cold in winter.
No extreme heat in summer.
No mosquitos or other insect pests.
Great opportunities for boating, fishing and hunting.
Fewer climatic or other disadvantages than most places in Canada.
A harbor that never freezes.