

## Some Vegetables For Home Garden Use Are Suggested

Further Information Found in Booklet No. 166.

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It is now time to think about the seed required for the vegetable garden. Many varieties are offered in seed catalogues, practically all of which are good for certain purposes. The object is to give a short list of the kinds likely under varying conditions to be as satisfactory as any.

Beans, Dwarf: Round Pod Kidney Wax, Refugee Wax, Stringless Green Pod, and Refugee Green Pod. Pole: Kentucky Wonder Wax and Green Pod. Beets: Detroit Dark Red, globe and Detroit Half-long. Carrots: Chantenay and Danvers Half-long. Cabbage: Golden Acre, early; Glory of Enkhuizen, medium, and Danish Roundhead for late keeping; Danish Stonehead, purple, for pickling. Cauliflower: Snowball and Early Erfort. Celery: Golden Self-blanching. Corn: Golden Sunshine, Golden Bantam and Country Gentleman, a late white sort. Cucumbers: White Spine and Snows Pickling. Lettuce: Grand Rapids, open head, and New York, cabbage head. Musk Melon: Lake Champlain and Hackensack. Water Melons: Phillney's Early. Preserving Melon: Colorado. Onions: Extra Early Flat Red, Globe Danvers, and for transplanting, Granston Excelsior; for pickling, Barletta. Peas: Alaska, very early; Gradus or Prosperity and Thomas Laxton, medium, and Stratagem and Telephone, late. Parsnips: Hollow Crown. Peppers: Harris' Earliest. Parsley: Champion. Pumpkin: Small Sugar and Yellow Field. Radish: French Breakfast and Icicle. Squash: Boston Marrow and Golden and Green Hubbards. Vegetable Marrow, both bush and trailing. Spinach: King of Denmark. Tomato: Bonny Best and Alacrity. Turnip: Golden Ball. Egg Plant: Black Beauty. Herbs: Summer Savory, Sage, Sweet Marjoram and Mint.

Crops such as peas, lettuce, onions, all root crops and herbs, start at a low temperature and may be planted to the open ground as soon as it is dry enough to work. Cabbage, cauliflower and celery may be started at the same time in the open for later transplanting. Tomatoes, peppers and egg plants should be started in a hotbed eight weeks before transplanting to the open when danger from frost is past. Beans, corn, pumpkin, squash and cucumbers are planted late in May when the ground is warm.

Further information is contained in bulletin No. 166 "The Vegetable Garden," to be obtained on request from the Publicity and Extension Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

### CONFUSED FEEDING

A young Bengali named Gupta, of Multan City, Punjab, India, lives largely on a diet of live poisonous snakes! He pays generously for these delicacies, and in addition has offered a reward of 500 rupees (about \$200) to anyone who can produce a live snake which will defy his appetite. There is no accounting for tastes. In certain parts of Central Africa a succulent dish of baked ants is highly prized, while natives on the Amazon eat large quantities of a special kind of mud! Mice, slit open and roasted in their skins—like potatoes—make a tasty supper dish for Parshi coolies, and in Asia and Africa the legs and breasts of locusts are in great demand. In China, an egg more than four years old is a tit-bit, and black cats figure as a dish of honor at public banquets in Turkestan. Their most coveted delicacy, however, is white mice, just born, dipped in treacle and swallowed whole—like oysters!

# AGRICULTURE

## AN INCREASED DEMAND FOR THE EARLY VARIETIES OF TOMATOES

### Vigorous Plants More Resistant To Attack By Insects

### The Liberal Use of Fertilizer Hence Combats Wireworms, etc.

By Press and Publicity Division,  
Department of Agriculture,  
Ottawa, Ontario.

Taking a prominent place in advice regarding cultural control is the oft-repeated assurance to growers that strong, vigorous plants are better able to withstand the attacks of insects than less thrifty ones, states Alan G. Dustan, Entomological Branch, Dominion Department of Agriculture, in the 65th annual report of the Entomological Society of Ontario. There is little doubt that this is true, for it has been frequently noticed that damage by insects is much more prevalent among sickly looking plants than in stands showing healthy vigorous plants.

One of the most common methods of forcing seedlings and transplantings is through the proper use of fertilizers. Most growers recognize that this is essential if big productive plants are to be grown, but comparatively few people realize that this step has a secondary and decidedly beneficial effect in the war against insects. The liberal use of fertilizers assists in preventing injury to plants by wireworms, asparagus beetles, striped cucumber beetles, onion thrips, and many other species.

Different entomologists watching the effect of fertilizers on insects have noticed that the use of commercial fertilizers is more to be recommended than the turning of green manures or barnyard manure. This is due to the fact, principally, that undue amounts of organic matter in the soil is attractive to some of the most dreaded of garden pests. The cabbage maggot, sweet corn maggot, millipedes and wireworms are outstanding in this connection.

### Experimental Farm Has Discovered Interesting Data.

By Press and Publicity Division,  
Department of Agriculture,  
Ottawa, Ontario.

There continues to be a demand for new early maturing varieties of tomatoes suitable to the special conditions in Canada. Better early ripening sorts are being sought after each year, and the plant improvement program undertaken by the Dominion Experimental Farms System has made some very interesting and noteworthy contributions.

The Earliana variety and strains have formed the basis of the early crop production until very recent years. Plant breeding and selection were responsible for the development of the varieties like Alacrity and Herald and these two varieties have been exceptionally satisfactory under conditions in Western Canada where earliness is important, and in south-western Ontario where early tomatoes are grown. These varieties have also been useful in the northern sections of Quebec and in the Maritime Provinces.

The more recent contributions that have been made available to the growers of Canada include Abel and Bestal.

In the very short and dry season sections of Canada, Abel has been found to do exceptionally well. The vines do not grow extensively, since the nodes or joints of the small vines are very close together. Fruit trusses are numerous and the tomatoes set very freely in quite large clusters. The fruits are medium in size, red both outside and inside, mild in flavor and possess excellent quality. On account of the small size of the vines, the plants can be placed much closer together. More plants will be required per acre, but since the fruiting habit tends towards maturing a large crop in the fore part of the season, it is evident that satisfactory early returns can be obtained. It requires only 93 to 105 days from seed-sowing to market, thus being the earliest tomato known.

The Abel tomato is known outside Canada, and one grower in the State of Michigan is planning to grow 40,000 plants during the coming season. Reports from North Dakota and Montana in-

dicating that the Abel tomato has proved quite valuable.

The Bestal tomato has also proved to be of value to the growers in Western Canada, as well as in the specialized tomato growing sections in Ontario. This variety is also reported as very valuable in the Maritime Provinces. The plants of the Bestal are medium to strong growing and consequently are very desirable for staking. The trusses of bloom develop quite early and the first flowers lack the roughness of many of the very early varieties. The Bestal is the smoothest round fruited, early maturing tomato developed to date. In shape the fruits resemble Bonny Best but are slightly smaller in size, and are red in skin color, with firm, thick, red, meaty walls. In tests conducted throughout Canada at various centres, this tomato was found to mature in advance of Bonny Best. Some co-operators reported that it was just as early as Earliana. Under Ottawa conditions it required 108 days from seed-sowing to ready-for-use. This was several days in advance of Bonny Best, and challenged the early maturity of Earliana.

Bestal is also recognized by the growers outside Canada. This is evidenced by the fact that the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station reported "in the trials of early tomato varieties it was the highest yielding variety, the first six pickings, and also produced the largest total yield of No. 1 fruits." It is also interesting that a number of growers in the Rhode Island district are obtaining seed for the 1936 crop.

All of the varieties discussed in this article were originated in the Division of Horticulture, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, and can be obtained from several of the seed firms in Canada. This work is only one phase of the plant improvement work being carried on in the interest of the growers and gardeners.

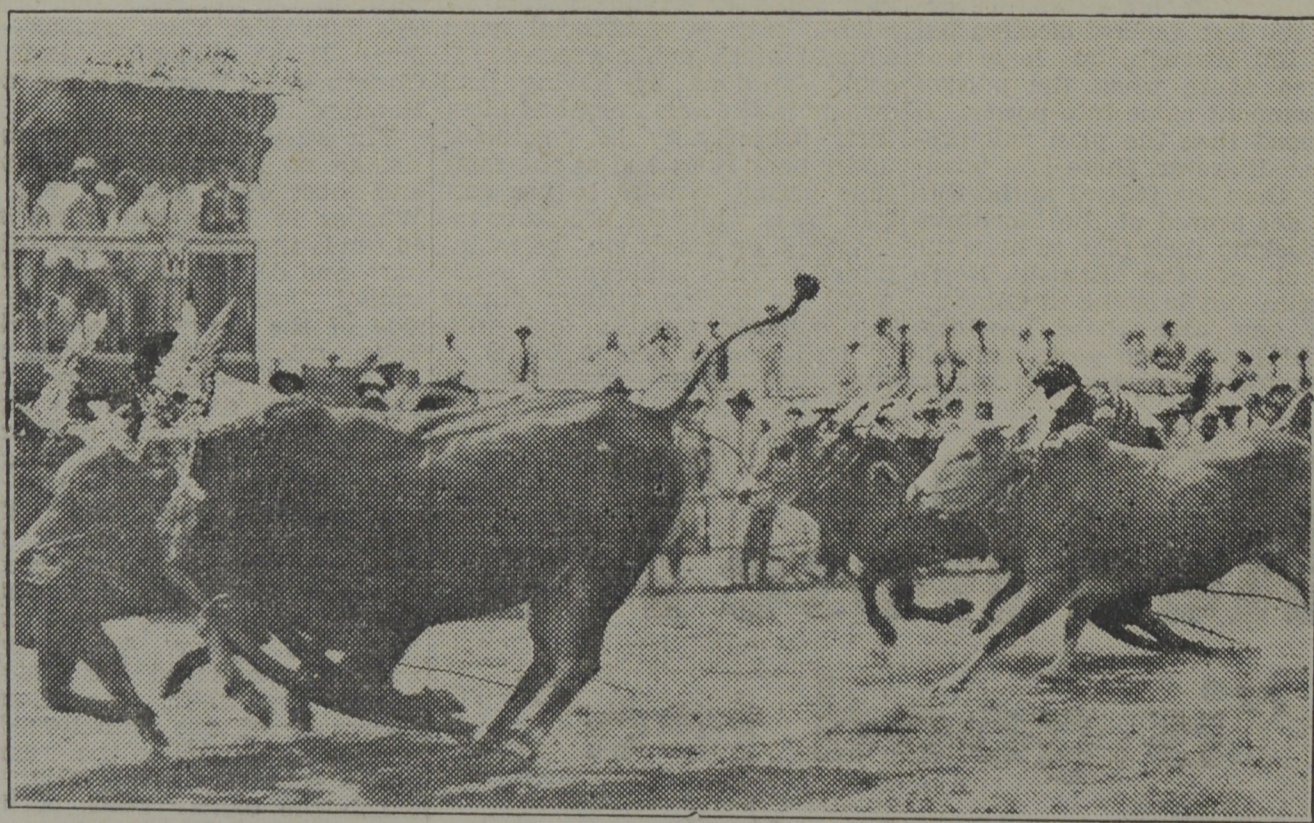
### ADVANCED REGISTRY TESTS

Pigs for test under the Advanced Registry for Swine were received at the Dominion Experimental Station at Charlottetown, P.E.I., from 20 breeders. Of the pigs tested, 73 per cent. graded selecte, and 54 per cent. of the dams qualified for Advanced Registry.

### WHEAT STORAGE

Canadian wheat in store for the week ending February 28, 1936, showed a decrease of 17,944,440 bushels compared with the corresponding week of 1935.

## CATTLE RACING IN THE DUTCH EAST INDIES



These races are held every year at Madoera, an island near Java, where the natives are great breeders of cattle. It is a great event in the life of a cattle breeder to raise a pair to win this race, because he is acclaimed as the best breeder on the island, which fame

he enjoys for a year. Above we see the race in progress, with the drivers almost invisible as they crouch on the wheel-less "chariot" between the cattle. The Sultan and many European notables witness these races, and there is a good deal of betting on the result.

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WASSONS DRUG STORES

## Some Plants For Rock Garden Use Named In This List

Tried Out at Morden Experimental Station.

By WILLIAM GODFREY,  
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A great many rock garden subjects require special conditions, such as those of soil and aspect to respond with satisfactory growth, and until their needs are ascertained and supplied unthrifty looking patches are often in evidence. The free use of plants which are less particular will render these less conspicuous and give a furnished appearance to the rock garden.

At the Morden Experimental Station the following list of plants has proved to be of rapid growth, hardy and tolerant to drought.

Among the stonecrops are Sedum spurium, and its variety cocineum, S. kamschaticum, and the variety variegatum, S. Ellacombianum, S. Middendorffianum, S. Sieboldii and S. spectabile.

The Moss Pinks (Plox subulata) provide drifts of color in early spring, and while the type plant is worthy of a place it is excelled by the varieties Vivid, Daisy Hill, and alba. Other Phloxes are P. divaricata and P. Douglasii, the former of loose spreading habit and the latter a stiff and tufted one.

The bellflower family is represented by Campanula carpatica, C. turbinata, C. Glomerata and C. garganica.

There are many Milfoils, but only two are mentioned as being distinctive and useful, namely, Achillea tomentosa, for its yellow flowers and velvety green foliage, and A. ageratoides, with white blossoms and grey-green leaves.

Interesting at all times, but of fleeting beauty, are the native Cactus, Opuntia polyacantha, O. fragilis, and the pincushion-like Mamillaria vivipara. The last named has brilliant, rose-colored blossoms and edible fruit.

The maiden pink (Dianthus deltoides), and the Cheddar pink (D. caesius) are indispensable members of a large family.

Some of the earliest flowers are produced by bulbous plants, such as Scilla Sibirica, Fritillaria pudica and F. Pallidiflora, while Ixiolirion montanum blooms in June.

Oenothera missouriensis is an evening primrose, which opens its large water-lily like blossoms all day and all season.

Thymus serpyllum, Alyssum saxatile, Iberis sempervirens, are of a sub-shrubby nature, and Daphne odora is a true shrub, dwarf, evergreen and fragrant of bloom.