

kinds 4 in. apart, and large varieties 6 in. or more, according to the size of bulb required. In gardens where large bulbs are required they should be 12 in. apart, but a less distance for market work.

The amount of labour involved in planting is more apparent than real. It is largely set off by after-ease in cultivation—no thinning and far less weeding. Moreover, the crop matures earlier than those from spring seeding. The bulbs being early on the market find a more ready sale. I have no hesitation in saying, from my reading and experience, that at least in places where an early spring start is not to be had the planting system would prove the more profitable.

MANURES AND FERTILIZERS.

Wood-ashes are of great value, not as fertilizers only, but as a help in keeping the soil open. They should be applied liberally during final preparation of the surface.

Stable and farmyard manure, when it can be obtained, should be applied at first ploughing at the rate of 15 to 20 tons per acre. Soot acts as a fertilizer and insecticide. Apply just before sowing, sufficient to show over the whole surface. Superphosphate and bonedust can be used at the rate of 1 oz. each per square yard, equal to $2\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. per acre. Sulphate of potash may be applied at half the latter quantity. These fertilizers should be applied some time before planting. With nitrate of soda, two applications each of $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. per square yard should be given—the first when growth begins, the second some time later, when growth is well established. The nitrate should be sprinkled along the rows of plants, preferably when light rain is falling.

PICKLING-ONIONS.

These are obtained by sowing thickly on poor soil about the middle of November. The plants are not to be thinned, and the soil should be of a free character, made very firm.^d

VARIETIES RECOMMENDED.

Large kinds: Ailsa Craig, Prizetaker, Cranston's Excelsior.

Keeping kinds: Brown Spanish, James Keeping, Golden Globe, Spanish Silver Globe.

For quick bulbing: Silver King, White Italian Tripoli, Extra Early Barletta—suitable for hot climates. These do not keep, but bulb very early, and are excellent for early market work, particularly if sown in autumn and transplanted.

For pickling: The Queen, Silver-skinned.