

good warm syrup fed for a day or two after hiving will work magic with the new colony, and enable it to build up in time to yield a surplus when the main flow sets in.

The beginner should always start in the spring, and on no account should he attempt to commence with established colonies unless they are purchased from a breeder who guarantees his bees to be clean. Old hives are too apt to be homes of disease, and are only fit to be handled by the experienced apiarist.

THE GARDEN.

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VEGETABLE-CULTURE.

WORK for October includes sowing peas, broad beans, turnip, red beet, French and butter beans, and runner beans. Parsnips may be sown, but if an earlier lot was put in it would be best to hold the main sowing a little longer. If the winter crop of parsnips is sown too early the roots become large and coarse. Medium-sized and tender roots are best, and these can be secured by sowing early in November. Spinach may be sown between rows of newly sown peas; it will be out of the way before the peas require the space. Radish may be similarly sown; in this way these crops are secured with a minimum of labour. Leek, cauliflower, broccoli, brussels sprouts, celery, &c., advised in the last issue of the *Journal* for sowing about the middle of September, should be put in at once if the work has not already been done. Tomatoes may be planted in early places, but it will be too soon for most parts.

Celery.

The main crop of celery should be provided for by sowing seed at once. I am aware that some growers sow later, but it is done more as a matter of expediency than because it is good practice. In the warmer districts celery-growing is attended with some difficulties; hot weather is not to the liking of this plant, and it refuses to grow in dry soil. These facts being known is the reason why sowing in some cases is left till too late. Celery requires a long period of growth; it makes its best growth after what is termed "the turn of the days"—that is, when the hours of daylight begin to shorten, and when conditions become cooler and more moist. A considerable amount of development must, however, be secured before that time, for the plants will not make substantial growth after the days become short unless a certain stage is reached before that time. Given this condition they will make good winter growth. In hot places it will be useless to attempt to grow celery unless there is an ample water-supply. The seed should be sown at the time stated, the young plants being pricked out in shallow boxes, one-third filled with half-decayed stable manure. Frames with shaded glass will suit the plants till they are ready to stand outside, and they should be sprinkled with water morning and evening. If kept regularly moist at root, and spraying is properly