

What to Do in the Garden Next Month

Summary of Operations During August

VEGETABLE SECTION.

SOWINGS UNDER GLASS.

Celery, celeriac, capsicums, cucumbers, egg plant, melons, tomatoes (for outdoor crop). Set kumara roots for shoot production.

SUCCESSIONAL SOWINGS.

Turnips, lettuce, spring onions, radish, spinach (round seeded).

OTHER SOWINGS.

Peas: A sowing of the four varieties W. F. Massey, Greenfeast, Onward, and Alderman (tall) will mature in the order given, and should provide peas to the end of Dec.

Broad beans, globe beetroot, summer cabbage, carrots (shorthorn varieties), cauliflower, onions (to develop without transplanting), pickling onions (Early Barletta and Silver Skin; sow thickly in wide drills at about 50 seeds per foot), parsnip (Oxheart should provide roots in Dec.). The main crop sowing of parsnips should be delayed until Oct.

SEEDLINGS TO TRANSPLANT AND PLANTS TO SET.

Summer cabbage, lettuce, onion, early potatoes (Arran Banner), shallots (complete planting this month).

PERENNIAL CROPS.

Asparagus transplant seedlings (1-yr. plants are the most suitable). Rhubarb, set crowns.

CROPS IN SEASON.

The month in brackets represents the month of sowing the seed.

Salads.—Endive (Mar.), celery (Sept.).

Greens.—Brussels sprouts (Sept.), borecole, broccoli, cauliflower, early savoy cabbage, silver beet (all in Oct.), spring cabbage (Feb.), spinach (Mar.).

Roots in the Ground.—Artichokes (Oct. tubers), beetroot (Mar. in warm districts), celeriac (Sept.), carrots (Feb.-Mar. shorthorns), leeks (Oct.), parsnips (Oct. and Dec.), salsify (Oct.), swedes (Mar.).

CROPS IN STORE.

Beetroot, carrots, kumaras, onions, potatoes, pumpkin and shallots.

GENERAL WORK.

Lift the balance of roots as they show signs of re-growth and store them in a cool situation.

Cultivate land to destroy weeds and to produce seed bed conditions. If the ground was well prepared in the autumn a shallow cultivation only is necessary.

Dig under any cover crop three to four weeks before sowing further crops.

SMALL FRUITS SECTION.

Strawberries.—In cold district, such as Otago, plant during the last week of August.

Raspberries, Loganberries, etc.—At bud movement apply Bordeaux mixture 5-4-50 for control of cane wilt and leaf spot.

Cape Gooseberries.—Sow seed under glass if not sown in July.

FLOWER SECTION.

Plant tender shrubs and those that do not transplant readily.

Break up and replant herbaceous perennials if this was not done in the autumn. Gerberas, however, should not be taken up until October.

Make early planting of gladioli bulbs, but save some for October to January planting to produce a succession of bloom.

Continue the sowing of seeds of annuals to produce plants for planting out later in the spring. Prick the plants out into boxes as they become large enough to handle.

Set dahlia tubers for shoot production prior to taking cuttings.

Take cuttings of chrysanthemums.

GLASSHOUSE SECTION.

Plant tomato seedlings in the unheated house. If the ground was thoroughly flooded several weeks before planting, additional water should not be required for about two months.

son and a week longer in the third year will be sufficient. During the remainder of the life of the crowns cutting may extend from seven to eight weeks each season. Whatever length the spears are allowed to grow above the soil before cutting—it may be 2

inches or 6 inches—it is important that they should be cut before the bud begins to open. The cut should be made from 2 to 3 inches below the surface. When cutting, great care must be taken not to injure the young shoots which remain covered with the soil.

does not appear to be any considerable difference in the "safe" time for outside planting, but this reference does not apply to a few particularly favoured localities. Except where the plants will obtain the maximum sunshine and full protection from cold winds and rain, near the end of October will be early enough; Labour Day is a good guide for outside planting. Even then, a sharp lookout should be kept until the end of the month for a late frost, two or three degrees of which will destroy the plants.

Raising Tomato Plants

PREPARATIONS for growing tomato plants for outside production should start in August, but the best time for setting the plants in their permanent location is important. To produce the best fruit and to bring the full crop to maturity, in outside tomato production, a frost-free period

of six months is essential. Home gardeners who intend growing tomatoes in the open should therefore proceed with caution through the various stages involved in propagating their own plants.

Throughout the recognised tomato-growing areas in the Dominion there

If it is intended to grow plants instead of buying them, sterilised soil is specially recommended. Sterilisation may be done by steam, but should this not be convenient, the best chemical substitute is formalin, which contains 40 per cent. formaldehyde. This

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