

What to Do in the Garden Next Month

Summary of Operations During November

VEGETABLE SECTION.

SUCCESSIONAL SOWINGS.

Beans, corn, lettuce, peas (Onward, W. F. Massey and Alderman), radish, turnip.

OTHER SOWINGS.

Cucumbers, marrows, pumpkins, swedes (in cold situations).

SEEDLINGS TO TRANSPLANT AND PLANTS TO SET.

Brussels sprouts, cauliflower, celery (sown July-Aug.), celeriac, cucumbers, melons (before the end of the month), capsicum, egg plant, tomato, lettuce, kumaras (complete planting before the end of the month). Potato, a late planting may be made, but it is better completed last month.

PERENNIAL CROPS.

Asparagus, discontinue cutting at the end of this month and manure the plantation.

CROPS IN SEASON.

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

Greens.—Asparagus, broad beans (May), dwarf beans (Sept., warm districts), cauliflower (Mar.-Apr.), peas (Aug), silver beet (last of crop).

Roots.—Carrots (Aug.-Sept. shorthorns), beetroot (Aug.-Sept.), new potatoes (July-Aug. earlies), turnips (Sept.).

GENERAL WORK.

Tie up and remove side shoots from early planted tomatoes.

Keep the surface of the ground loosened to destroy weeds and to conserve moisture; especially should this be done after a shower of rain.

Apply liquid manure to salad crops.

Thin out seedling crops.

SMALL FRUITS SECTION.

Cape Gooseberries.—Transplant seedlings.

Strawberries.—Apply straw mulch, and if the ground is not very fertile, apply guano at the rate of 1½ oz. to the square yard (4 cwt. per acre) or sulphate of ammonia at 1 oz. to the square yard. The mulching should be completed before the berries set.

Raspberries and Loganberries, etc.—Tie up before the crop matures. With raspberries, two wires on either side of the row with supporting wires between should be sufficient.

Gooseberries.—With harvesting in progress, it is permissible to prune very lightly to thin out the bushes. By this means picking is made easier.

FLOWER SECTION.

Plant gladioli.

Plant out seedlings as spring flowering annuals are removed and the ground cleaned up.

Plant out dahlias and chrysanthemums.

GLASSHOUSE SECTION.

The tomato glasshouse should be well ventilated to control tomato leaf mould, which, if it appears, is best controlled by the modern salicylanilide spray applied at the maker's recommendation.

given a thorough soaking. Young plants removed for transplanting should be dug or eased out. This method will conserve the whole developed root system which is so necessary for the quick establishment of the plants after setting. If the soil is inclined to be dry, the plants may be "puddled" before setting. "Puddling" consists of dipping the roots in a thick mixture of soil and water, and when this is done the plants are less likely to suffer a severe check after transplanting. It is also an advantage to cut about an inch off the tap-root in addition to cutting away the greater part of the large leaves of the plants.

Immediately the young plants are set out they are likely to be attacked by aphid and the cabbage worm, the latter being the larva of the white butterfly. As an immediate protection against these pests, the whole of the green growth of the young plants may be dipped before planting in a mixture made in the following proportions:—

- 1 tablespoonful of arsenate of lead (powder).
- 3 tablespoons of hydrated lime.
- 1 gallon water.

The quantities can be reduced proportionately to meet individual requirements.

The plants may be set so that the centre growth is above ground-level and the soil made firm on the root. The surface around the plant should be left the shape of a saucer, which will, for a time, serve as a retainer for water when applied, and will be an advantage if the plants are watered immediately after setting.

Planting distances will vary according to variety.

Savoy Cabbage

In a home garden where cultivation is carried out entirely by hand, 14 inches apart in the row will suffice. If more than one row is planted, 18 inches should be allowed between the rows, and the plants in each row set opposite the space between the plants in the adjoining row. For horse or mechanical cultivation, 27 inches between the rows will be necessary.

Varieties recommended for planting are:—Early: Drumhead Savoy; Best of All. Late: Omega.

Cauliflower and Brussels Sprouts, etc.

These will require more space—18 to 20 inches between the plants, and 24 to 30 inches between the rows (ac-

cording to methods of cultivation) will be adequate for full development.

To obtain highest quality heads of cauliflower and broccoli it may be necessary to tie loosely together near the top the tall outside leaves of the plant as soon as the curds begin to form. By this means the bright light will be excluded and the heads will develop that desirable and attractive whiteness. Only seeds of a quick-maturing variety of cauliflower should be sown at this period, and Phenomenal Early is recommended for November sowing. It should be ready to harvest before it is affected by hard frosts. Seed of broccoli is available which, sown in October and November, will mature in succession from May to September.

Scotch kale (borecole) is a vegetable which will stand very severe frosts, and is an excellent winter green. It is particularly valuable for its calcium, iron, and iodine. There are two varieties—Tall Green and Dwarf Green.

Brussels sprouts should be more extensively grown, especially in the farm garden, where there may be sufficient space for larger plantings. The young sprouts are a delicious change in the vegetable dietary. Regularly picked,

(Continued on page 343)