

collar-rot diseases reduced. Plants are retained in the pots until the root growth is sufficient to hold the soil together.

**Varieties**

Of the glasshouse types Telegraph is the main variety grown in heated houses. White Spine and Long Prickly are suitable for unheated houses.

Plants ready for setting out. →

Money Maker and White Spine do well in cold frames and like the Crystal Apple variety are suited for field culture.

**Manuring**

From 4 to 6 weeks before planting the soil should be manured. An average manure comprises 20 parts of dry poultry manure, 7 parts of bone-dust, 5 parts of superphosphate, and 1 part of sulphate of potash applied at 1 ton per acre for outdoor culture and 2lb. a sq. yd. for frames and houses.

**Glasshouse Culture**

The soil in the house should be sterilised about 4 to 6 weeks before planting takes place in late June. (In the tomato-type house planting should be delayed to mid-September.)

In cucumber houses the plants are set out 3ft. apart in single rows along

Plants being raised in pots in → propagating house.

the centre of the bed and in tomato-type houses they are planted 2ft. apart in rows directly beneath the overhead support wires.

In cucumber houses the plants are allowed to grow until they have six true leaves, when the top is pinched out to induce lateral growths. When the lateral growths have reached about half-way up the wires the tops should be pinched out. To reduce the amount of tying the laterals should be trained between the wires and glass as much as possible.

All lateral growth is stopped at a point two leaves beyond the first fruit.

Male flowers should be removed to prevent female flowers being pollin-

Inside of cucumber house, → showing method of growing plants.

ated, which is likely to spoil the shape of the fruits. Older leaves should be cut out to make way for young leaves to develop. Fruit on main stems will not develop good-quality cucumbers and should be removed.

When roots appear on the surface in cucumber houses they should be covered with  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. layer of sterilised soil to which bonedust has been added at 3oz. per sq. yd. The practice is continued as fresh roots appear.

Free ventilation is necessary during the day and temperatures should be kept about 70 degrees F. and not ex-

