

# TABLOID TALKS ABOUT VEGETABLES



## LONG SEASON OF GREEN PEAS:

You really don't know quality peas unless you have eaten them within three hours of the time they were picked. The moral, of course, is, grow them yourself.

Peas are cool weather vegetables. Don't expect them after the middle of July—except, perhaps, again in late summer. The wrinkled kind are by far the best, but the seed rots if planted in cold ground, so that you must use the smooth sorts for an extra-early crop, as they are more robust.

Give peas rich ground and a new location each season. Work the ground thoroughly, and just as soon as it is dry enough, plant Alaska. Plowing the ground in the fall is an advantage.

Dig trenches four inches deep and put in the seed thinly—one quart to a hundred feet—and cover with an inch of soil. As the plants grow, fill in until the trench is full. Later in the season, when the weather has become warm, the seed should be covered deeper at the start. Make a second sowing, using the wrinkled varieties this time, one or two weeks after the first, and plant weekly until the middle of June. American Wonder and Nott Excelsior are excellent early sorts, either of which may be planted three times. Then plant Telephone, two or three times.

This is a succession for the easy-going gardener, for the Telephone is the only variety in the lot that will need support. It is always best to grow the taller kinds in very hot weather, as they thrive when the dwarfs burn up, and Telephone is not only very productive, but has the extra merit of continuing in bearing a long time. Gradus or Prosperity is an early and exceptional good sort and, if the bush type is preferred, may be used instead of Wonder or Excelsior.

Do you know the sugar or edible-podded peas. You eat pods and all, you know, and French people love them. Cut into short pieces and cook like string beans, as soon as the peas begin to form in the pods. Dwarf White Sugar is a good variety. You can't buy these peas in the market, so why not try them in your own garden!

**BEANS FOR THE HOME TABLE:** This much is to be said for the bean—anybody can grow it. Nevertheless, beans bear bountifully and give a crop of extra flavor only when grown in fairly rich, although rather light, soil and kept well cultivated throughout the growing season. And bear this in mind—if the beans are not picked as fast as they develop, those left on the vines will ripen and the vines will cease bearing.

Beans differ from peas. They crave warm earth. In the north, don't try to plant them before the middle of May. And plant only two inches deep. The amateur should grow both string and shell beans; the members of most families have a chronic disagreement as to which is the better. To have them at their best, enrich the ground with well-rotted manure and plant in drills a foot apart. Keep the plants four inches apart and sow seed every two weeks to keep up the supply.

There are green-podded string beans, yellow podded wax or butter beans, shell beans and limas. The name string beans is a misnomer, nowadays. Nobody really wants beans that have strings or need have them, for the seed experts have made the stringless string bean a palatable fact.

Pole beans need an especially rich and loamy soil. It must be warm soil, too. Poles should stand three feet apart and be set before the beans are planted. If not to be obtained near home, buy them of the seedsman. The latter is doing all he can to make gardening easy for the amateur. Dig away the earth and throw a shovelful of manure around the base of each pole. Then throw three or four inches of soil over the manure and plant eight or ten seeds two inches deep. If they all come up,



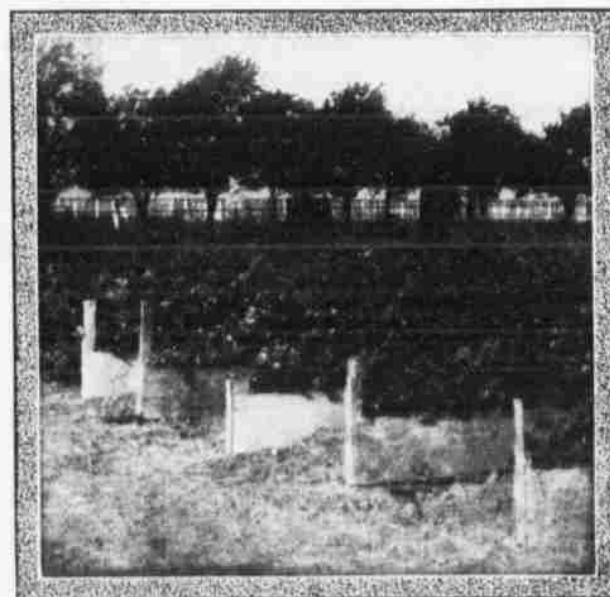
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thin the plants to four.

When rotted manure is not to be had, poultry dressing or pulverized sheep manure—stand-by of the town garden-maker—may be forked in the ground around the growing plants. If you really seek quality beans, feed them well and grow them fast. Half a dozen hills of pole beans will supply a small family and one planting will be sufficient.

Don't depend on dwarf beans, thinking that you will get a larger yield because the plants occupy less room. The reasoning is faulty in one respect, namely: pole beans bear much more abundantly and for a longer time. If poles are objected to, poultry netting may be used; but give it stout supports, as vines hung with beans are heavy.

There are many good stringless beans. Suppose you try this plan. Plant Burpee's Stringless Green Pod, Extra Early Refugee and 1,000 to 1 at the same time, say when the trees are well in leaf. Then, make two more plantings at intervals of two weeks, using Burpee's Stringless Green Pod for the succession thus arranged for. Probably, this is the finest green-podded bean for the kitchen garden, although 1,000 to 1 is especially good for early August sowing.

Use Burpee's Stringless White Wax for a butter bean and take special precautions not to disturb the vines when wet. To work among wet beans is to invite rust.

For a dwarf shell bean, by all means grow the Dwarf Horticultural and the Red Kidney. Plant short rows a week or so apart, so that the crop will not mature all at once.

White Creaseback is the variety of pole stringless to grow for an early crop; it matures in ten weeks or less. Kentucky Wonder or Old Homestead is most satisfactory, perhaps, for a general crop. This is a wonderful bean, of tremendous size, exceedingly prolific and having a long season. Plant it whether you plant any other kind or not. The Scarlet Runner is an excellent shell bean, notwithstanding that it is commonly grown in the flower garden. It is highly popular with English vegetable growers, and it bears well.

In the north you must push lima beans to get a crop. Fortunately, they stand transplanting well, so may be started in paper pots, dirt bands or on inverted sods in the hot bed or cold frame, and put into the garden in June. If they grow too rank, cut off the tops of the vines, which will force the beans. As a rule, it is best to rely on pole limas, choosing Sieva, Early Levitan or Evergreen. The bush limas are a little earlier, to be sure, but they are less prolific. Dreer's Wonder is an excellent sort.

**GOOD LETTUCE ALL SUMMER:** One must choose varieties carefully and plant seed every two weeks to have good lettuce all summer. In the small garden, space economy suggests that the lettuce be grown around the edges or between cabbages, beans and other slower-growing plants.

Sow the seeds in shallow drills in a seed bed, or a foot apart in the rows where the plants are to stand. Transplanting is often a distinct advantage in getting good heads. Grand Rapids is a fine lettuce to grow in cold frames early in the season. It is a head variety and may also be planted outside early in the year. Perhaps, Early Curled Simpson is the best for April planting.

It is a loose-leaf variety and best planted rather thickly. In May plant Big Boston, in June Salamander, in July Improved Hanson, in August California Cream Butter or Wonderful. Both the latter stand up well under extreme heat, which is a strong recommendation.

Many people like the Romaine or Cos Lettuce, which is quite distinct from the ordinary sort, having a crisp quality and delicate flavor. Most varieties are good and endure summer heat better than ordinary lettuce. It is well to tie the

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