

PEAS AND BEANS FOR EVERYBODY'S GARDEN

WM. LONGLAND, LAKE GENEVA

Fresh peas in June picked from your own garden are generally acknowledged by all to be one of the best of vegetables. We are all generally hungry for them. Although they are one of the easiest crops to grow, it is sometimes very hard to keep a good succession, where they want and expect fresh peas two and three times a day as long as the season lasts. I have never yet found when I could depend on three varieties to do this as a spell of real hot weather will stop growth on a later planting of a variety and practically bring them to maturity the same day with a half crop of peas.

The ground I use for peas I have fertilized and spaded in the fall, the soil thrown up as rough as possible. This allows one to get in his crop earlier in the spring, the soil drying out quicker. If the ground is dry enough the latter part of March, I put in my first crop, or as soon afterwards as possible. I cultivate the ground, break up the large lumps but do not rake it fine. I plant in a shallow trench, thrown out with a spade about 3 inches deep and loosened at the bottom with a cultivator hoe, thus the seeds are two inches deep when covered.

At this time I plant Gradus for 1st, Marvelous for 2d, and Sutton's Excelsior for 3d. I do not plant again until I see the peas bursting out of the ground. Then I plant Senator and Dwarf Telephone. In about 7 to 10 days I plant Stratagem, Senator, Advancer and Everbearing. It depends on the weather conditions whether or not I plant again as our garden is in the woods and does not get the winds like an open garden. I do not grow the June type of pea such as Alaska, Maud S., etc., because they are only about two days earlier and have not the flavor of the wrinkled varieties or Marrowfat. All the peas are grown on chicken wire built on a trellis made of stakes driven in the ground eight feet apart with a pole fastened at the top. I use binding twine to keep them to the wire as they grow very vigorous in our rich

soil. We cultivate between the rows as often as possible as they like plenty of cultivation. I change the location every year. Peas planted early will generally do well in anybody's garden.

BEANS FOR EVERYBODY'S GARDEN

French Beans or Stringless Beans as they are generally called are I think one of our earliest vegetables to grow and keep in succession. The three best varieties that I know to be prolific and very long bearing are 1st, "Cook's Prolific," long, stringless, round green pod; 2d, "Sutton's Masterpiece," stringless, long flat, green pod; 3d, "Farquahar's White Wax."

The ground is prepared as for peas. I generally plant the first crop of beans the latter part of April or as soon as the weather permits. I draw a wide drill with a hoe and sow all along the row, allowing 20 to 24 inches between rows. I plant these three varieties at the same time. These start to bear as numbered. For succession I plant every ten days till September. While they are bearing I never pick them when they are wet, always picking them in the afternoon as it prevents rust. Then I always pick what is ready to pick as they will bear very much longer that way.

Sometimes in midsummer the bean hopper will do damage just as they make their first leaves by sucking all of the juices out of the leaves. I take white mosquito netting in long strips and lay it over the beans until they get larger. Then take it off and put it over the next succeeding crop, this way they are not hurt as it is in the young stage when the damage is done. Cultivate well but never in the morning when the dew is on the beans, wait till they are dry.

LIMA BEANS

The ground is prepared as for peas and beans. As a rule there are many complaints about lima beans rotting in the ground. Generally the reason for this is a cold wet spell just after the beans are planted. For the past 17 years I have not had any trouble that way. This way takes a little longer but it is sure. Chop out a hole with a hoe every foot, drop in a handful of sand, push three or four beans in the sand edgeways and cover up lightly with soil. This way they will not rot or break their necks in coming up, which the large varieties are apt to do.

BUSH LIMA

I plant bush limas 15 inches in a row 3 feet between varieties. 1st, Henderson's Bush Lima, 2d, any variety you fancy. Follow with Tall Lima. 1st, Early Leviathan, 2d, King of the Garden.

POLE LIMAS

Plant pole limas one foot in a row five feet between varieties. Drive poles in the ground 10 feet apart and staple a wire on the top and about one foot off the ground. Tie binding twine between the two wires at intervals of one foot. They climb this very easily. Cultivate the same as peas and beans.

FRUIT FOR EVERYBODY'S GARDEN

BY MR. N. A. RASMUSSEN, OSHKOSH

(From Reporter's Transcript.)

I take it the Secretary meant small fruit for the back yard garden as this is a session entirely for the home garden, and I am going to confine my talk mostly to the strawberry and raspberry for the back yard garden, and to the varieties as much as to the culture.

I think the back yard and farm garden people have learned some things about strawberry growing and got them definitely fixed in their minds that it would be better to forget. One of these is that you must have two varieties in order to get a crop. That is the thing that we ought to forget. And then I want them to forget that there is anything but Senator Dunlap at all, that there are any other varieties worth planting, and I think that they would have a great deal better success with strawberries. Commercially that could almost be said, but still in some places, for long shipping, we want the Warfield because it is a better shipper. There may be certain places, certain kinds of soils, that other varieties might prove a little better, but I would say, plant the Senator Dunlap and plant that alone. It is not necessary to have two varieties to get a crop if the one variety planted is a perfect flowered variety like the Dunlap. Some varieties, the Warfield is one, that are imperfect flowered must be planted alongside some perfect flowered kind or there will be no fruit.