

Cultivation of Squash in the Western Part of Oregon

Written by R. W. GILL, of Portland.

The increased demand for vegetables has opened a splendid opportunity to all western Oregon farmers to improve their soils by crop rotation using a plan that will include vegetables for the cultivated crop.

How many of the farms in the Willamette valley are in tip-top condition for vegetable growing and, if they are not, are they in the proper condition for other crops?

Many of these soils, and especially during the war, have been sowed to grain year after year. In the haste to make grain sowings early, many of these fields have been plowed too wet and some have been pastured too wet in winter. There is only one sure and quick way of restoring these soils to a good friable condition and that is by growing some vegetable crop.

Many will say, however, that this entails too much labor, which at present is hard to secure. To those, where this situation applies, I would recommend the growing of a squash crop, this or pumpkin being the easiest of all vegetable crops to grow and harvest. This crop is more profitable than grain and the consequent cultivation is of great value to the soil and will afford a chance to clean the ground of weeds.

Scope of Markets.—Dehydration plants and canneries are now in the market for large quantities of squash and nearly all of the Willamette valley is afforded an opportunity to reach this class of markets. The direct consuming markets handle a great many squashes, but this demand would not use a very large acreage. Contracts can be secured and the crop sold before planting, thus eliminating all difficulty and uncertainty regarding disposal of the yield.

Location.—Squash are quite heavy feeders and require considerable moisture. They do best in warm soil, especially those soils containing a portion of sand. Beaver-dam soils will produce good squash if they have good drainage and can be planted by May 20, however the general tendency on this class of land is for the squash to run to vine instead of fruit. Rich sandy river bottom soil is the ideal location for squash and will not only give good yields but will ripen early. Many upland soils will produce good squash crops, the main consideration being their adaptability to retain moisture. Soils that have previously grown some kind of legume, such as clover, peas, beans,

etc., will offer the best condition for growing the crop.

Soil Preparation.—If your soil is run together or cloddy, I would recommend two plowings, the first about April 1 to 15 and the second about May 10 or a few days previous to planting. With soils that are in good garden condition, one plowing about April 15 will be sufficient, if the soil is well disced. The ground should be disced over twice, the second operation running crossways of the first. The ground should be harrowed after the first plowing and occasionally thereafter to keep down weeds and retain moisture. All clods or lumps should be broken up and the soil be in a firm mellow condition.

Fertilizer.—One of the first requisites is plenty of humus, therefore barnyard manure is of great value. Old straw of any kind is also useful if well rotted. Soil which naturally contains plenty of potash will respond readily to the use of land plaster and about 200 pounds per acre should be sown broadcast and plowed in. Nearly all vegetable crops are improved by the use of land plaster as it will create better vitality and assist in warding off disease. Nitrogen is of great value in giving the young plants a quick start, but too liberal use will tend towards excessive vine growth.

Phosphoric acid is the chemical most needed and this can be secured by purchasing tankage containing a high percentage of this ingredient.

Planting.—Squash are very easy to plant since the hills are planted quite far apart. I prefer to have the rows 10 feet apart and the distance in the row will depend somewhat on the soil, but should be from eight to 10 feet. Ten-foot rows allow plenty of room for operating a disc or harrow between. This is also wide enough to drive between when harvesting the crop. About 10 seeds should be planted to each hill, this will permit plenty of plants out of which to select two good strong plants to be left in each hill. Some of these plants may be destroyed by birds, squirrels, or worms and it is best to have plenty. Thinning should not be done until about two weeks after the plants are up. Another good way to grow squash, and which is still easier, is to use a force feed type of drill like the Columbia or Acme. Use the largest cylinder and if this is not large enough have your blacksmith or auto repair man bore out a special size for the purpose.

Set the drill to drop the seed about 3 1/2 to four feet apart. These can be thinned to one plant. With this plan, each plant has an individual opportunity to develop. The seed should be covered from 1 1/2 inches to two inches, according to soil and weather conditions and the soil should be somewhat firmed over the seed. Planting should be done from May 10 to 20 according to weather conditions. Inasmuch as this plant requires a fairly long season to grow and mature, it is important to give the young plants a good, quick start and it is advisable to use some kind of fertilizer, mixed into the soil below the hills. A little nitrate of soda can be applied near the hill, but not on the plants. Poultry and sheep fertilizers are excellent for this purpose.

Varieties.—For canning and dehydrating Boston Marrow is the variety most used and this sort is one of the heaviest croppers. The Hubbard is one of the best kinds for retail markets and is a good keeper. For quality and flavor, nothing is superior to the Delicious. This variety does not yield so heavily as the other varieties mentioned, but has a very high quality. These are the three main varieties used for table purposes, but there are many other good kinds.

Cultivation.—Is very simple, but very important, as we are growing a plant which requires much moisture. Cultivation should be started early before the weeds make progress. A riding cultivator should be run close to the row on each side and the centers between the rows can be worked with a disc or harrow. During warm weather the soil should be worked level. Be sure to break the crust after every rain and when summer weather has started a dust mulch should be established and maintained by frequent dragging. To assist in cultivation, the vines should be trained to follow the row. A boy or girl can easily turn the vines with a hoe handle. Shallow cultivation or dragging should be continued until the main crop of squash has set.

Harvesting.—This is very easy since the wagon can be driven between the rows and the squash gathered as you go. A boy should go ahead of the wagon and cut the squash loose with a pruning shears; one with a handle about two feet long being best for rapid work. In growing for dehydrators or canners, the squash can be loaded loose in freight cars and shipped, or if grown

near the factory they can be handled direct from the field. Squash can be grown on a large scale for these factories and the fact that they are sold at planting time and no storage or crating are necessary should be taken into consideration by the grower when he considers the price offered him.

By-Products.—There will be some undersized and immature squash which will make excellent feed.

Yields.—On good soil will run from 10 to 25 tons per acre with Boston Marrow variety and nearly that amount with Hubbard. Much will depend upon their culture and the amount of fertilizer used.

Pests and Disease.—Black aphid is sometimes troublesome, but can be overcome by spraying with some kind of tobacco spray to which soap has been added. Squash bugs are generally not very serious in Oregon. Blight is prevalent in some localities and all affected plants should be carried out of the field and destroyed.

Storage.—Squash, if properly handled, can be kept nearly all winter. The stems should be cut off carefully and the squash left to dry for a few days in the field. They should then be hauled in a spring wagon or truck and stored in a dry place. Put them on a shelf only one deep. A stove should be provided to keep out excess moisture or freezing. They can also be kept for a long time by placing them one row deep on a barn floor and covered with fine straw. In either case they should be gone over occasionally and inspected, removing all which are decaying. Some commercial growers place them in hop dryers and dry them just long enough to remove some of the moisture content, after which they keep much better.

Cost and Profits.—This table is given to assist the grower in estimating his profits, but each individual must be the judge of his own conditions; however, this guide will assist in figuring out his returns per acre.

Expenses:	
Soil preparation, plowing, etc.	\$ 5.00
Planting the seed	2.00
Seed	1.75
Hoeing and thinning	2.00
Harvesting 12 1/2 tons @ 50c.	6.25
Hauling 12 1/2 tons 1 m @ 50c	6.25
Cultivate and training vines.	5.00
Total	\$28.25
Receipts—	
12 1/2 tons @ \$8 per ton (can be contracted)	\$100.00
Expenses	28.25
Net profit	\$ 71.75

This does not include an average value of from \$5 to \$10 per acre on culls for feeding purposes or does it include the value accrued to the land through cultivation. The crop can be materially increased by using fertilizer, but this should not be figured as an expense, but rather as an investment.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children
In Use For Over 30 Years
Always bears the
Signature of *Chas. H. Richter*

SILVERTON PERSONALS

SILVERTON, Or., April 16.—(Special to The Statesman)—Mrs. G. Moberg and daughter, Merna, arrived at the L. H. Meyer home Sunday. Mr. Moberg has been doing the spring work on the Meyer farm. Mr. and Mrs. Moberg will remain in Silverton for a few days and then will go to Minnesota where they will make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Tinglestad motored to Barlow Sunday.

Half a loaf is sometimes better than an unpaid board bill.

LIFT OFF CORNS WITH FINGERS

Doesn't hurt a bit and costs only a few cents



Magie! Just drop a little Freezone on that touchy corn, instantly it stops aching, then you lift the corn off with the fingers. No humbug! Try Freezone! Your druggist sells a tiny bottle for a few cents, sufficient to rid your feet of every hard corn, soft corn, or corn between the toes, and calluses, without one particle of pain, soreness or irritation. Freezone is the discovery of a noted Cincinnati genius.

KNIGHTS LOOK TOWARD HAWAII

Council of Order Expects to Extend Activity to Military Bases

SAN FRANCISCO, April 13.—Plans for the extension of the Knights of Columbus war activities to the military bases of the United States in the Hawaiian Islands will be drawn up by Albert G. Bagley, director of the western department war work of the Knights, who sailed Saturday for Honolulu.

Urgent requests from prominent knights and army officers in Honolulu to the supreme council of the order in this country brought instructions from the east to Bagley requesting him to make a survey of the needs of soldiers and sailors in the islands as soon as possible. He sailed on the Pacific mail line steamship Columbia.

"I am requested by the supreme council to make a survey of the islands and report my recommendations by cable," Bagley said just before he left. "In the near future it is expected that there will be 40,000 service men in the islands, and the K. C. desires to make them as comfortable as the soldiers and sailors on the mainland."

Stationery and other supplies are being shipped over in large quantities but members of the order in Hawaii have urged the need of still more extensive work among the service men. Hawaii will have the largest force of any of American insular possessions. We are already working in Cuba and Porto Rico, and while I cannot say what we will do until I look over the field, it is probable the K. C. will expand its work considerably in the mid-Pacific."

LET THE CHILDREN GROW

Coughs, colds, "snuffles," that hang on tend to weaken the system and a suffering, neglected child spends so much strength combating a cold that the little one cannot grow as fast and sound in body as when free from affliction. Foley's Honey and Tar is splendid for coughs, colds, croup, whooping cough.—J. C. Perry.

Clean-up Week at Dallas Turns Out Big Success

DALLAS, Or., April 18.—(Special to The Statesman)—Judging from the amount of material placed on the streets of Dallas for hauling to the city dumping grounds the clean-up ordered by Mayor Risse last week has been more of a success than anticipated. Trucks have been busy the past few days hauling off the rubbish and it is estimated that it will take at least another week for the job to be completed. City Marshal Chase has been instructed to make a personal investigation of the condition of alleys, especially in the business district, and order those that have not cleaned up their premises to get busy and do so before summer weather sets in.

Hayter's Illness Causes Another Court Postponement

DALLAS, Or., April 18.—(Special to The Statesman)—On account of the inability of Oscar Hayter to attend court, Circuit Judge Harry H. Belt, Thursday afternoon decided again to postpone the April session until the week of the 25th. Mr. Hayter, who has every case on the April docket, but one was operated on at the local hospital several weeks ago and for a time his life was despaired of but attending physicians think he will be able to attend to duties at his law office within the next week or two.

Subject of Germany Is Made Citizen at Dallas

DALLAS, Or., April 18.—(Special to The Statesman)—Circuit Judge Harry H. Belt this week admitted to citizenship Joseph Glath, a Frenchman by birth, being born in Alsace-Lorraine, and while a subject of Germany he was at no time during the war in sympathy with the German government. Mr. Glath has been a Dallas resident for a number of years and is at present one of the city's promising young business men, being one of the owners of the Dallas Iron works.

COUNTRY CLUB GROWING FAST

Many Members Are Added and Golf Becomes Popular Sport in Salem

The membership of the Illihee Country club is increasing rapidly, due to the membership drive now on. Yesterday the following names were added to the roster of the club: Oliver Myers, Charles G. Miller, M. Abot, Walter Kirk, Herbert Stiff, C. N. Langhridge, Frank Spears, E. J. Mangis, W. D. Evans, R. R. Goodin, Fred Williams, E. M. Hoffnail, Judge A. S. Bennett and Fred Mangis.

Golf is not a game of the idle rich, say the fans, but a wholesome out-door sport which has taken such a firm hold on all classes of people that its popularity is permanently founded. It is a full-blooded, strong bodied and absorbing sport that demands the best brain and muscle that can be put into it, they assert, and a club providing such a clean healthful pastime, amid beautiful surroundings, is a blessing to every

RUTH ROLAND in "HANDS-UP"

The wonderful Western Pathé Serial.
Don't miss the first episode.

Rex Theatre Mt. Angel
Sunday, Apr. 20

Also Baby Marie Osborne in
"SUNSHINE AND GOLD."
Harold Lloyd—Comedies.

BIG DANCE MONDAY NIGHT

April 21—Rex Hall

Suckrow's Syncopated Orchestra.

Mt. Angel

Oregon

office worker and business man, and an asset to any city.

Cole Awarded Land in Suit Against T. B. Dean

The suit in circuit court involving possession of 24.26 acres of land in Marion county in which allegations of misrepresentation during the sale were made by T. B. Dean against

Claude Cole who brought suit, has been decided in favor of Cole. Findings and decree were filed yesterday. By the decree the title to the property is to be with Cole unless Dean pays the remainder of the purchase price before May 15. If the payment is made the property is to be deemed to Dean according to the orders given.

Read the Classified Ads.

FARMERS AUCTION SALE WOODRY'S Auction Market

CORNER FERRY AND LIBERTY STREETS
Saturday, April 19, 1919

10:30 A. M.

1 Duroc Jersey sow and 4 pigs, 5 weeks old; 14 fine shoats; 1 iron grey pony, weight 900 lbs; 1 wicker bed cart, good shape; 1 man's saddle and bridle, new; 1 single cart, harness and halter; 6 new sets heavy breeching, government harness; 1 Champion mower, good shape; 1 14-inch Chilled plow; 1 31-inch wagon; 1 3-inch wagon; 1 good bicycle; 1 cream separator; 2 rolls woven wire fence; 1 roll barbed wire; 1 bicycle emery grindstone; other horses, wagons, small tools, etc. Bring in what you have for sale.

1:30 P. M.

1 Massive Library table; 1 quarter oak Library table; 1 round oak extension table; 1 Mission Oak Library lamp; 1 Mission Oak Buffet; 1 large dresser; 1 fir chiffonier; 1 drop head sewing machine, good as new; 1 small oak library table; 2 good rockers; Beds, springs and mattresses, kitchen safes, cupboards, china closets, 2 good rugs, 9x12 Ingrain carpets, sanitary couches; stand tables; dining chairs; kitchen chairs; extension table lamps, trunks, window shades, crocks, kitchen utensils, home canned fruit, Daisy churn, good ranges, heaters, bicycles, ironing boards, wash tubs, boilers, books, pictures, and many other things. Everybody welcome. Buy where your money buys the most. Be on time. Private sales daily. 1 buy and sell everything.

F. N. WOODRY, The Auctioneer
Phone 510 or 511

FOR SALE Grocery Stock and Fixtures

AT PRESENT WHOLESALE PRICES

This stock is all fresh and the fixtures are the best. Located in the best business district in Salem. Established business for 15 years, which has an average daily business of \$100.00. This is a good opportunity for the right man to get in business. Terms: Cash. No trades. See me at once if you are interested.

F. N. WOODRY, The Auctioneer

Ferry and Liberty Streets, Salem.
Phone 510 or 511

REPAIR DIRECTORY

This Repair Directory gives the principal places where an article can be repaired, and should be preserved in every home as a ready guide.



STOVE REPAIRING
Satisfaction guaranteed. 45 years experience.
Salem Fence and
Stove Works.
250 Court St.
Phone 124



GEORGE C. WILL
Repairs all Makes
of Sewing Machines
Supplies, Needles
and Oils.
Phone 155
432 State Street, Salem, Oregon

2500 Tons Squash Wanted

BOSTON MARROW VARIETY—This heavy yielding variety matures early. Squash are the easiest of cultivated crops to grow and will net you better than grain, besides furnishing rotation for your fields.

HAUL THEM LOOSE to the factory, no crating, no sacks and easy to harvest. **LABOR COSTS** need not worry you in growing squash, for most of the work can be done with team or tractor.

ARE YOU BEHIND WITH SEEDING? If so, planting a vegetable crop like beans or squash, which can be delayed until May, will help you catch up.

2000 TONS BEANS WANTED

BURPEE'S STRINGLESS GREEN POD Variety is the kind wanted. Many growers are signing acreage with us, but we must get more.

WE ASK YOU, MR. FARMER, to grow beans. If you cannot manage any more, at least grow an acre.

1919 AND OPPORTUNITIES are here. We ask you to grow fruits and vegetables and help establish the biggest agricultural developing process yet known. We need your produce and you need our market.

OUR MUTUAL COOPERATION will build and maintain a market far beyond our present comprehensions. That's why, just now, we ask you to

GROW BEANS AND SQUASH

Write or phone us and we will be glad to send you contracts. Ask for our free bulletins on culture of beans, squash, cabbage, peas, carrots, tomatoes, spinach and cane berries. We supply seed at cost. All containers are furnished free.

SALEM KING'S PRODUCTS COMPANY

Luther J. Chapin, Field Agent,
Salem, Oregon