

Size of Potato to Plant

PROMINENT investigators are authority for the statement that large seed pieces (either large cuttings or entire potatoes) afford an earlier crop than very small cuttings, a matter of much interest to growers of early potatoes. However, some growers report that uncut potatoes germinate more slowly than large cuttings. Most of those who raise potatoes for the early market use large cuttings rather than whole potatoes. In this connection it may be said that the seed end half gives an earlier crop than the other half. This suggests the expediency of cutting a potato lengthwise, thus securing on each piece one or more of the eyes which germinate first.

No definite rule can be given as to the best size of seed piece, for this depends somewhat on the distance between the hills and on the character of the soil and season. Another important factor is variety, some varieties being able to produce a crop almost as large from small cuttings as from large pieces.

A study of more than 100 experiments testing the relative values of large, medium and small uncut tubers confirms the general rule that an increase in the weight of seed planted affords an increase in the total crop. The size of seed potatoes selected becomes a matter of importance when they are to be cut, for the heavier the cutting the larger the total yield, and seed tubers for cutting should be of such size that their halves, quarters or other divisions shall not be extremely small.

Whether or not to use uncut small potatoes for seed is an important question on which farmers are divided. Some present the plausible argument that the use of undersized potatoes results in degeneration. If this claim is based on the results of experience it should determine practice, but if the conclusion is simply a generalization based on the fact that large cuts usually give best results the reasoning is defective and the question remains

open. Many hold that potatoes below marketable size, if shapely and sufficiently matured, may be used without serious deterioration, and that for economic reasons their use is desirable.

The result of a great many tests have uniformly indicated that small tubers uncut can be used for seed purposes without detriment to the succeeding crop. It may still be urged, however, that the choice of small seed year after year will result in degeneration. Although the evidence seems fairly conclusive that small uncut seed potatoes may sometimes be used with profit, we do not advise that small tubers be selected from a crop which has been grown from small potatoes.

Girard's investigations in France justified the usual practice of the most prominent agriculturists and horticulturists in carefully selecting seed potatoes. By selecting for several generations average sized tubers from the best hills he effected a great improvement in productiveness. To ascertain the best hills by digging each is exceedingly laborious, but Girard found that the best hills in an evenly manured field containing only one variety were those in which the vines were most vigorous. Selection was thus rendered easy by means of stakes placed beside the luxuriant plants. American experiments indicate considerable advantage in selecting seed tubers from the most productive hills. Potatoes of irregular shape and injured tubers should always be rejected as unfit for planting.

Many potato growers cut tubers into pieces containing one, two or more eyes, laying greater stress upon the number of eyes than the size of the cutting. Extensive experiments show that of the two factors, the weight is the more important. Every piece should contain at least one eye, and it has been generally profitable for it to be of such size as to contain several eyes, but whether it has one or many eyes it is important that the seed piece be heavy enough to furnish abundant nutriment to the shoots that spring from it.

Selecting Seed Potatoes

OREGON potato growers who wish to save seed potatoes for next season's potato crop should begin planning to select and store the required amount of seed of the desired variety. When the selection is made by the hill method the hills should be marked so that the potatoes may be dug as soon as the leaves begin to dry. The potatoes should be allowed to dry out thoroughly but not to remain too long in the hot sun. They should then be stored in a dry, cool and preferably dark storage room, where they must be well protected from freezing. The following points on selecting the seed are taken from Professor Scudder's O. A. C. bulletin on "Growing the Oregon Potato Crop."

It is distinctly advantageous for the farmers in any one locality to avoid growing a large number of varieties, but rather confine themselves to the one or two which have proved most successful for their region, and specializing on these as foundation stocks, improve them from year to year through careful selection.

Decidedly the best way to secure good seed potatoes is to select them in the field at harvest time. In this way the seed potatoes can be chosen only from those hills which are most productive of the best quality of tuber and thus the individual qualities of only the best plants will be multiplied through the seed planted in the new field. A very large increase in the yield per acre as well as in quality is possible through this method of hill selection of seed.

In all cases the farmer is advised to secure Oregon-grown seed since there is no state which has more favorable conditions for raising a high quality of seed, and further, seed of the varieties which have been produced most successfully in this state, is acclimated and more likely to give good results. At the present time it is especially important to avoid seed imported from

other states, as there are several dangerous potato diseases which may be brought in with the seed unless great care is taken to avoid this.

Clean Seed.

NO FARMER can get any one to take the same pains in grading his seed that he would himself. Some farmers claim that it does not pay to clean grain.

The corn crop of this country has been increased millions of bushels by intelligent seed selection. All other grain crops can be improved by grading the seed, so that only good, plump healthy grains, free from all foul weed seeds may be sown.

The fanning mill judiciously used will do much to increase the yield of every small grain crop and assist in keeping our fields free from noxious weeds.

It will take cockle out of wheat, buckthorn, plantain out of clover, in fact, it can be adjusted so as to handle all kinds of grain and weed seeds.

If you decide that it pays to sow good seed and to keep your fields free from noxious weeds, then do not hesitate to invest a few dollars in a fanning mill.

THE PERSIAN ROSE.

THE good old-fashioned Persian, Austrian Briar, or Harrison's Yellow should be in every garden. Its color is of the finest, it flowers freely, and we waste much time and effort on supposedly better roses which seldom, if ever, produce so good a crop of flowers, for this old rose gives a good crop every year under almost any treatment.

Mrs. Oneyman—f you never go to church with me, how are people to know that I am married?

Mr. Oneyman—Oh, take the kids with you. I guess that will make people suspect the truth at least.

Ireland's annual production of honey approximates half a million pounds.

Newspaper Editor Resigns

O. C. Leiter, of Oregonian Staff, to Manage Hanley's Campaign for Senator.

O. C. LEITER, for 10 years city editor of the Oregonian, has resigned that position to become political manager for William Hanley, Progressive candidate for United States Senator.

In announcing his resignation, Mr. Leiter also announces his retirement from the newspaper business for the present regardless of the result of the approaching political campaign. Horace E. Thomas, for several years assistant city editor of the paper, succeeds his former chief, and Walter R. May, it is stated, has been named to succeed Thomas.

"I am leaving newspaper work and casting my fortune with Mr. Hanley," said Mr. Leiter, "because of my personal regard for him. I have formed a strong personal attachment for Mr. Hanley, and honestly believe that he is senatorial timber, and if elected will be a credit to the state. Mr. Hanley intends to make a vigorous campaign of the state through the newspapers and by speech-making in every county, and I shall have charge of this campaign."

Mr. Leiter has been in the employ of the Oregonian for almost 14 years. He started first as college man when a student at Stanford University and reporter, then becoming a full-fledged reporter. He was appointed

ed assistant city editor to succeed Henry E. Reed, now County Assessor, and became city editor in November, 1904.

In making known Mr. Leiter's resignation, E. B. Piper, the managing editor, says: "Mr. Leiter resigns after years of faithful and efficient service. The change will probably occur this week. Mr. Leiter's resignation is accepted with regret. He goes with the good will of the Oregonian and the regret of the staff."

Mr. Leiter has opened headquarters for the Hanley campaign at the Oregon Hotel, where he will be glad to see the friends and supporters of Mr. Hanley, and also to have them address him.

Scenting a Crime.

A gentleman visiting a jail noticed a colored man of his acquaintance whom he had never known to be guilty of wrongdoing.

"Why, Jim, what are you in here for?"

"I don't know, suh," replied the negro.

"Well, what have you been doing?"

"Nothin' 't all, suh—nothin' 't all."

"What made 'em put you in here, then?"

"Well, dey sez, boss, I wuz sent up fur fragrancy."

PACIFIC NORTHWEST FAIRS.

Sept. 7, Vancouver, B. C., Vancouver Fair.
Sept. 7-10, Moro, Or., Sherman County Fair.
Sept. 8-9, Estacada, Or., Estacada Fair.
Sept. 7-12, Vancouver, Wash., Columbia River Interstate Fair.
Sept. 10-12, Dayton, Wash., Touchet Valley Fair.
Sept. 10-13, Fort Townsend, Wash., Olympic Peninsula Fair.
Sept. 12-19, Spokane, Wash., Spokane Interstate Fair.
Sept. 14-19, Baker, Or., Baker County Fair.
Sept. 13-19, Walla Walla, Wash., Walla Walla County Fair.
Sept. 16-19, Roseburg, Or., Douglas County Fair.
Sept. 15-18, Tillamook, Or., Tillamook County Fair.
Sept. 15-19, Graham, Or., Multnomah County Fair.
Sept. 17-19, Woodland, Wash., Woodland Fair.
Sept. 15-19, Ontario, Or., Malheur County Fair.
Sept. 16-19, Canby, Or., Clackamas County Fair.
Sept. 17-19, Heppner, Or., Morrow County Fair.
Sept. 17-19, Corvallis, Or., Benton County Fair.
Sept. 17-19, Cottage Grove, Or., Grange Fair.
Sept. 17-19, Dallas, Or., Polk County Fair.
Sept. 17-19, Walla Walla, Wash., Frontier Days celebration.
Sept. 17-19, Roy, Wash., Roy Agricultural Fair.
Sept. 21, Helena, Mont., Fair.
Sept. 21-26, Pendleton, Or., Umatilla County Fair.
Sept. 21-26, Burlington, Wash., Skagit County Fair.
Sept. 21-26, North Yakima, Wash., Washington State Fair.
Sept. 22-25, Eugene, Or., Lane County Fair.
Sept. 22-29, Toledo, Or., Lincoln County Fair.
Sept. 22-23, Fossil, Or., Wheeler County Fair.
Sept. 22-24, La Grande, Or., Union County Fair.
Sept. 22-26, Snohomish, Wash., Snohomish County Fair.
Sept. 22-26, Moscow, Idaho, Latah County Fair.
Sept. 23-26, Myrtle Point, Or., Coos and Curry County Fair.
Sept. 23-25, Seio, Or., Linn County Fair.
Sept. 23-25, Hillsboro, Or., Washington County Fair.
Sept. 23-26, McMinnville, Or., Yamhill County Fair.

Sept. 23-26, Prineville, Or., Crook County Fair.
Sept. 23-25, The Dalles, Or., Wasco County Fair.
Sept. 24-26, Astoria, Or., Clatsop County Agricultural Fair.
Sept. 24-26, Pendleton, Or., the Round-Up.
Sept. 24-26, Klamath Falls, Or., Klamath County Fair.
Sept. 25-26, Milwaukie, Or., Milwaukie Grange No. 268.
Sept. 28-Oct. 3, Salem, Or., Oregon State Fair.
Sept. 29-Oct. 2, Lewiston, Idaho, Lewiston-Clarkston Fair Association.
Sept. 29-Oct. 4, Puyallup, Wash., Western Washington Fair.
Oct. 1-3, Condon, Or., Gilliam County Fair.
Oct. 2-3, Sandy, Or., Sandy Grange Fair.
Oct. 5, Salt Lake City, Utah, Salt Lake (Utah) Fair.
Oct. 5-10, Colfax, Wash., Whitman County Fair.
Oct. 16-17, St. Johns, Wash., Harvest Carnival.
Oct. 26-Nov. 14, Portland, Or., Manufacturers' and Land Products Show.
Oct. 28-31, Tacoma, Wash., Washington Boys' and Girls' Agricultural and Industrial Contest.
Nov. 16-21, Spokane, Wash., Spokane National Apple Show.
Nov. 25-28, Walla Walla, Wash., O.W. R. & N. Corn Show.
Nov. 30-Dec. 5, Lewiston, Idaho, Northwest Livestock Annual Show.
Dec. 7-12, Portland, Or., Pacific International Livestock Exposition, Union Stockyards.
Dec. 7-12, Portland, Or., Oregon Poultry and Pet Stock Show.

Floored.

A crabbed old misogynist said to Ethel Barrymore at a dinner in Bar Harbor:

"Woman! Feminism! Suffrage! Bah! Why, there isn't a woman alive who wouldn't rather be beautiful than intelligent."

"That's because," said Miss Barrymore, calmly, "so many men are stupid while so few are blind."

Getting Help.

"Did you stop in the employment agency to get a cook?" asked Mrs. Crosslots.

"Yes," replied her husband, gloomily. "Eight of 'em looked me over and decided that I wouldn't do."

WHATEVER YOU BAKE

Will be better for a perfect leavener.

CRESCENT BAKING POWDER

realizes as nearly as possible what constitutes the ideal leavening agent.

Food made with it is light, moist and delicious.

CRESCENT MANUFACTURING COMPANY

Seattle, Wa.

ALL GROCERS 25c LB.



Ask us to send you U. S. Bulletin 103, Dept. of Agriculture, about Baking Powder Ingredients.