

## Good Lawns Require Adequate Foundation

Good lawns are not made in a day. Grass seed will germinate when planted in most any kind of soil if temperature and moisture conditions are right but the real test comes when the roots start seeking for food.

Unless you build your lawn on a foundation of good soil with an adequate amount of humus and plant nutrients mixed into it the grass will never develop into a

thick turf capable of withstanding summer heat.

Grading is important. Ground that slopes too steeply or is perfectly flat is bad for a lawn. On the other hand, perfectly level soil is liable to hold water in puddles. Hollow places in any lawn will collect water, which drives out soil air and the grass in these spots will suffer.

### Need Good Drainage

Drainage must be good. Improper subsoil, whether it is clay, adobe or hardpan should be corrected.

Probably the most common cause for failure of lawns in the west is poor top-soil. Western soil is notorious for lack of humus. The only way to correct this is adding of organic material to the soil. Top dressing each year will aid in maintaining this humus but it will not take the place of a good foundation in the first place.

Use generous quantities of rotted cow manure, peat moss, leafmold, compost and other such sources of humus, spaded into the lawn area.

### Spade in Manure

If animal manures are used in making the new lawn they should be spaded in in advance of planting. It is safer to use one of the brands of sacked steer or sheep manure but cow manure which has been properly stacked and composted should be fairly free of weed seed. A three-inch layer of peat moss should be spread over the lawn area and spaded into the top eight inches along with the manure.

A good, thick turf is made up of from one to three dozen individual grass plants per square inch. These plants should be supplied with a rich, humus-filled layer of soil at least eight inches deep. That means fertile soil well-charged with organic material to hold air and water, well-mixed and well-drained to carry off excessive moisture.

### Use Best Seed

The grass seed which you allow to be planted in your lawn should be the best you can buy. All good grass seed comes in a bag or package on which is plainly written the essential information you need to judge its worth. This includes type of grasses in the mixture, freshness, weed seed content, germination test, etc. Study this analysis tag for your own protection.

Many of the weeds in lawns come from inferior grass seed. Others are the result of importing loam which has a large weed seed content. Still other weeds are already in the soil of your lot. By preparing the soil well in advance of planting the new lawn, you will have an opportunity to rid the soil of most of the weeds. Then by planting the best seed obtainable you will be assured of a minimum of weeds when your new lawn comes up.

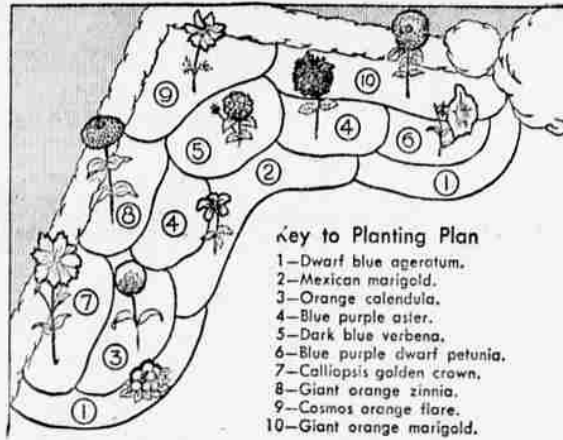
### "SAMARITAN" HELPS SELF

Salem, Mass. (U.P.) — Miss Olive Ayers was thankful to the "good Samaritan" who helped when her automobile broke down. Then she discovered he had taken her purse and \$14 for services.



**SOIL SHOULD NOT BE TOO WET**—The soil pictured above, which makes a "patty" or "pie" in the hands, is too wet to work easily when preparing gardens for planting. The gardener should wait until the soil crumbles easily.

## Generous Use of Annuals Advised To Make Satisfactory Color in Garden



- Key to Planting Plan**
- 1—Dwarf blue ageratum.
  - 2—Mexican marigold.
  - 3—Orange calendula.
  - 4—Blue purple aster.
  - 5—Dark blue verbenas.
  - 6—Blue purple dwarf petunia.
  - 7—Calliopsis golden crown.
  - 8—Giant orange zinnia.
  - 9—Cosmos orange flower.
  - 10—Giant orange marigold.

Most satisfactory source of color in the home garden lies in a generous use of annual flowers.

A secret of artistic effect is to plant the small garden to two or three harmonious colors, perhaps in varying tones.

Pink and blue, blue and gold, orange and purple, red and white are good combinations. There are any number of lovely pink annuals to choose from: petunias, snapdragons, pink scabiosa, clarkias, pink balsam, and many others. Pink gladiolus may be interplanted with the annuals.

Blue is satisfactory in combination with yellow, pink or white. You may choose from such favorites as alyssum, ageratum, cynoglossum, violas, pansies, forget-me-nots, heavenly blue morning glory, larkspur, annual lupin and lobelia. A charming effect may be had by combining the variety of arctotis known as "gray daisy" with blue or blue-purple flowers.

Phlox drummondii furnishes a brilliant sheet of color and is one of the easiest flowers to grow. It embraces nearly every color of the rainbow except orange and deep yellow. Phlox are not particular about soil but will respond to good care and some plant food. It is better to sow directly in the garden. There are semi-double phlox but the singles are the most popular. The large flowering type, with imposing trusses in bloom, is known as grandiflora.

April and May are the two best months in most sections of the Pacific coast to set out plants of petunias, heliotrope, lobelia, coleus, ageratum, phlox, dimorphotheca, marigolds, zinnias, and asters.

All annual flowers can be started from seed from April on.

For success in raising flowers from seed sown in the open ground, spade the soil to a depth of at least a foot mixing in a generous amount of well-rotted cow manure. Rake the surface into a level, smooth seed bed. Be sure that you do not plant the seeds too thickly or too deeply.

Very fine seeds such as petunia, portulaca and poppy should merely be scattered on the surface and pressed into the soil. Slightly larger seeds can be covered with one-eighth of an inch of fine soil. Large seeds such as those of zinnias, morning glory, sweet peas and the like can be planted a quarter of an inch deep. The soil should be firmed over the seeds by applying pressure with a flat board. Keep the soil moist but not soggy during the germination period. Don't

overwater when the little plants have grown to an inch or so because of the danger of "damping-off," a fungus disease which causes the tiny plants to wilt at the soil line and fall over.

## Many Hazards for Seeds in Garden To Be Considered

Many hazards lie in the path of a seed sown in the garden. Its life may be destroyed before its sprout emerges from the soil by drowning, when water stands too long in the spot where it was sown; or by disease, especially in cold damp weather, which encourages the growth of moulds and fungi, while delaying germination.

Disinfectants are obtainable with which seeds can be treated, to protect them from disease.

But one of the greatest hazards is due to the forming of a soil crust above the seeds, which they cannot penetrate.

### Save Sandy Loam

It is a good plan to save your best loose, sandy loam to use in covering seeds. Mix with equal amounts of sand and peat moss. Then after the seeds are sown, cover with this special soil, which will not form a crust, and will allow both water and air to penetrate for the benefit of your seedlings.

This treatment is especially important in hot weather, when most soil is liable to bake into a hard crust.

Soil must be firmed above the seeds, to form close contact, and prevent air spaces from separating the soil and seed. This is especially important with beet and swiss chard seeds, and others of large and irregular shape. But firming does not mean pounding. Press down with a hoe blade, or use the side of a rake; and afterwards draw the rake lightly over the row to break up the crust and prevent baking.

A heavy rain falling soon after seed is sown may pack the soil too hard, especially if it is followed by sunshine. Until the seed

## Sow Cool Weather Vegetables Soon, Is Garden Advice

Though hot weather vegetables should not be planted before the days are long and the nights warm enough to keep them growing, sow vegetables that like cool weather as soon as the soil is prepared.

A sowing of beets will supply your table well into the summer. As the young beets reach marble size, pull out every other plant and cook them tops and all. Beet tops are one of the tastiest of "greens" and the little beets are delicious in butter. A second thinning when the beets are about the size of golf balls will furnish another luscious dish. Continue the process of removing every other beet as they grow.

### Use Double Rows

Plant beets in double rows ten inches apart. Sow seed in furrows one-half inch deep placing about 10 seeds per foot. Cultivate lightly by drawing soil toward the row of beets.

If you have had trouble growing good carrots, try planting them in a loose soil containing a generous amount of well-rotted cow manure so the tap roots can grow straight down. The seed takes a bit longer to germinate than most so keep the soil moist until the plants appear.

In heavy soil, fill the furrow with sand and sow seed one-half inch deep in the sand.

Thin out when carrots are finger size and use the thinnings. They are delicious. Plant from 14 to 20 seeds per foot.

Cabbage is definitely a cool weather crop and good size transplants should be set out for spring cabbage. The small head varieties such as golden acre and copenhagen mature in 8 to 10 10 weeks.

Spinach, kale and kohlrabi like cool weather. For most home gardens, swiss chard or new zealand spinach are preferable to real spinach and will produce all summer.

Though head lettuce is difficult for many home gardeners, great lakes will head even in warm weather and does not develop a bitter taste. Plant a few feet at a time in a seed bed and transplant to the garden, giving each plant at least 10 inches of space.

Onion sets may be planted early for green onions and large sweet onions such as sweet spanish or california red which are so delicious in salads or on hamburgers. Plant a few radishes every week or so for a continuous supply of tender, mild radishes.

## News of 4-H CLUBS

### Upper Rogue Clubs

Members of the Upper Rogue 4-H clubs held a get-together dance recently at the Grange hall. Similar social meetings are planned once a month. There are three clubs, beef, pig and home economics clubs.

The beef club will hold its next session at the Hilderbrand home on Elk creek. Members discussed the progress of their steers at the last meeting.

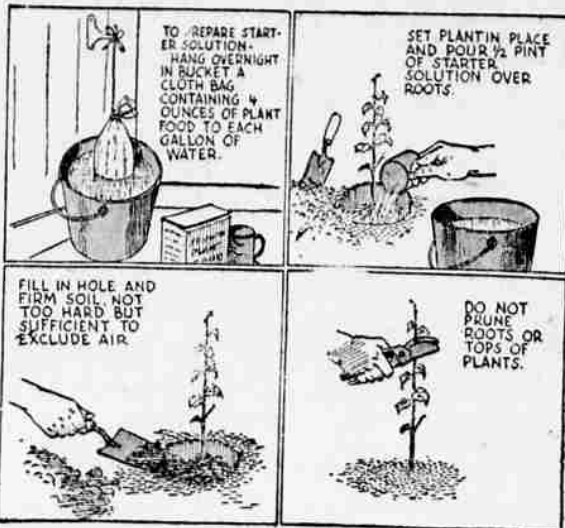
Roxy Ann 4-H club will hold its annual pig social and hog raffle Friday, March 21, at 8 p.m. at the Roxy Ann Grange hall on Spring street. There will be no admission charge. Ladies are asked to bring a pie.

C. A. Whitcher, Leader.

has sprouted the soil surface over it should be moist and loose.

When the ground dries out excessively in the spring it will pay to sprinkle the rows in which seed have been sown to prevent them lying dormant for lack of moisture. This is the only time when the garden should be sprinkled, rather than soaked.

## Care Necessary to Avoid Shock In Transplanting



When your seedling plants are moved to the open garden, follow a careful routine to reduce the shock. The soil should be fertilized in advance, then spaded and raked just before transplanting. It should be moist though not wet at transplanting time. Water the plants in the flat the day before they are to be moved.

Plants grown indoors should be gradually "hardened off" by placing the flat out of doors, at first in daylight only, then day and night. Short, stocky plants will stand the shock of transplanting much better than tall, leggy ones.

### Use Knife

To remove the plants from the flat use a knife or putty knife, cutting a square of soil around each plant. Lift out the square and place it in the hole you have made to receive it keeping as much of the soil around the roots as possible.

It is essential to firm the soil well around the roots to prevent air pockets from forming and to stimulate the rise of moisture by capillary action. A cupful of water is usually sufficient to pour around the plant at this time.

After the entire bed has been planted, the surface of the soil can be lightly scratched with the cultivator to loosen the crust and prevent too rapid evaporation. Then spread a layer of peat moss or grass clippings not more than half an inch thick.

Lightly sprinkling the surface of the soil after transplanting is never advisable. Whenever it is

necessary to water the plants, give them a good deep drink so the water will soak in down to the roots.

Potted plants and seedlings grown in plant bands can be moved with little or no shock and we recommend their use for all plants that resent transplanting.

Shade your plants for a few days after setting them out to avoid wilting in the heat of the sun.

## Man Mortgages Home To Aid DP Family

Milwaukie, (U.P.) — Anthony J. Stich, Milwaukie, mortgaged his home to bring a DP family to this country because "it's not fair for one guy to have two roofs over his head while another guy has none."

Stich arranged for Mr. and Mrs. Josef Fuchs and their six children to come here from an Austrian DP camp. He put a \$2300 mortgage on his home to do it and thought he probably would have to sell his "second roof" a lake cottage, to help the family buy a farm.

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