THE FARMER'S ALMANAC

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FOREWORD

Since the issue of Press Bulletin No.1 entitled Farmer's Almanac For the Year 1899, there has been such an increasing demand for this simple information, that we are reproducing it here with a few additional suggestions

—BY GEORGE W. CARVER, DIRECTOR

January

Every year, it is a safe plan to consult your farm demonstration agent, with reference to new seeds, plants, etc., which have proven themselves worthy the previous year. If you have not already done so you should begin in this month to prepare for spring gardening by breaking the ground very deeply and thoroughly, clearing off and destroying all trash which would seem to prove a hiding place or wintering quarters of noxious insects. Before breaking, it would pay to put upon the garden a heavy coating of farmyard manure.

Carrots, lettuce and turnips should be sown in open ground. Early Jersey Wakefield Winingstadt and Early York cabbage in hot beds, cold frames or well protected places, such as the southside of buildings, embankments, etc. Grapevines, fruit trees, hedges and ornamental trees should receive attention as to pruning, fertilizing, etc. Both root and top grafting of trees should be done. Onion sets and shallots may be planted.

February

Irish (white) potatoes, should be planted. Put in more cabbage, cauliflower and turnips in variety.

Plant a few parsnip, radish, lettuce, beet, spinach, mustard, parsley and cross seed. English peas, onion sets and shallots may be put in. About the 15th of the month early corn may be planted.

Egg plants, tomatoes and pepper should be sown in this locality. Plant vegetable oyster seed and artichokes. The asparagus bed should have a good dressing of well rotted stable manure. This should be spreaded over the bed and spaded or forked in.
March

English peas, onion sets, shallots, cabbage, collards, cauliflower, corn, cowpeas, peanuts, okra, squash, cushaws, pumpkins, canteloupes, cucumbers, watermelons, parsnips, carrots, radishes, lettuce and parsley may be planted. Snap and lima beans may be planted the latter part of the month. Another sowing of tomatoes and egg plants may be bedded in this locality. Begin at once to fight the noxious insects. Sweet potatoes should be planted.

April

If the seed planted last month have made a poor stand replant at once.

Cabbages, pepper, egg plants, and tomatoes may be set in open ground. If frost should make its appearance the tomato plants must be covered with tin cans, boxes or paper folded into a hood. In this way very early tomatoes can be had. Another planting of cucumber, squashes, cushaws, pumpkins, watermelons, corn, snap and lima beans, cowpeas and okra may be made, cotton seed may be planted.

May

Set sweet potato slips, more tomatoes, egg plants, and continue to plant pumpkins, squashes, cushaws, melons, snap and lima beans, corn, okra, etc.

June

Continue the work of May and in addition prepare a spot of ground for turnips. Begin to set winter collards and cabbages, save all good seed as fast as they ripen.

July

Consult your farm demonstration agent concerning late planting of corn. Set winter cabbage and collards, sow turnips, rutabagas, and kohl rabi. Plant beets, cushaws and snap beans for fall crop. Sweet potato vines may be planted.

August

Plant cucumbers for pickling. Set a patch of tomatoes for late crop. Continue to set collard and cabbage plants. Sow lettuce, radishes, beets, turnips, rutabagas, and a late patch of cowpeas. Snap beans may be planted for a fall crop. Be sure to harvest the grasses suitable for hay.

September

Strawberry beds should be prepared and the plants set out. Continue to sow turnips, rutabagas, lettuce, and radishes.

Onion seeds should be sown and onion sets and shallots planted. Sow crimson clover, hairy and smooth vetch.

October

Continue to set strawberries, and the sowing of turnips, mustard, lettuce, radishes, rutabagas, etc. See that all the garden and farm tools are repaired and made ready for spring work.

Give attention to the manure heaps and see that they are not heating too much or the elements of fertility washed out by the heavy rains. Begin digging sweet potatoes. Save seed. Sow oats and rye.
November

Continue to look after the manure. Rake up leaves, grass, straw muck, etc., and put into the compost heap; lime, ashes, plaster, oyster shells, and bones beaten are all valuable to this heap and under no circumstances should they be allowed to go to waste. Gather, sort and bank or house sweet potatoes. Begin to prune fruit trees, shrubs, and vines.

Prepare good warm places for the poultry and stock of all kind. Many dollars worth of feed will be saved by having these shelters, besides, exposure endangers the animal's life and renders it unfit for the work expected of it in the spring. Begin turning the unoccupied land with a two-horse plow.

December

Look over your stock of garden seeds. Test them by planting a few in the house in a box of damp sand. Make out a list of those to be purchased.

Continue to break land. Set hens. Build and repair fences, terraces, etc.