

Early Cabbages from Seeds Sown in the Winter.

A New Jersey trucker in the *Penn and Geo* says: "It has been found by repeated experiments in the West that plants started in a hotbed in February may be made to equal, and oftentimes to surpass, those sown in open ground in the fall and wintered over in a cold frame. This plan has the advantage of requiring much less labor, and the plants when set out are much more certain to head in time to seed, as the cold frame plants are very apt to do, especially if started a little too soon, or if the season is warm and wet after sowing time. Last winter and spring were so cold and stormy that it was very difficult to get heads started. A neighbor at my former home in La Porte, Ind., sowed cabbage seed in a hotbed March 5, and set in the open ground May 1. The first cabbages were sold June 18, as early as any of the wintered-over plants were ready. The method of raising a hotbed for this purpose is very simple. Sow the seed in a hotbed from Feb. 1 to March 1, varying according to the season and latitude. As soon as large enough, probably in three or four weeks, transplant into a spent hotbed or cold frame, in rows two or three inches apart in the rows. As they grow gradually harden them off by exposure to the air until nearly ready to set out of doors. For several days before transplanting they should be fully exposed to the weather, day and night. If started early enough and properly hardened before setting in the open ground these plants, though often rather smaller than those grown in a cold frame, will grow so much more rapidly as to overtake, and even to pass them."

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RAIL ROAD TIME TABLE. WESTWARD. Erie Mail leaves Philadelphia 11:58 a.m.

Value of Corn Cobs. Few farmers stop to consider, says the *Asociation Cultivator*, how much of fertilizing material is annually wasted about the farm, nor of the expense incurred in purchasing the same material in other forms. Thus in the apparently insignificant matter of corn cobs is an item worth saving.

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Sowing Seed. The time will soon arrive for general seed sowing, and a hint or two in regard to it may not be out of place. Much that is sown never appears, and the seedman is charged with selling off or poor seeds.

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