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POTATO DIGGING.

Relation of Its Date to Potate

"How soon after the tops begin to die from the late blight should the po-tatoes be dug?" This question is of much practical importance, and we undertook in 1902 to secure an answer. Although the results obtained in those trials appeared definite and justified a tentative deduction, it was felt that conditions might so vary from year to year that further trials were needed. Accordingly on Aug. 31, 1903, twenty rows of potatoes, forty-five feet long were staked off on a field. These were on rather low ground in slightly mo and somewhat sandy soil. The la blight was abundant over the enti blight was abilitiant over the entire field, although it had mostly developed within the preceding week. On the plot selected one-third to one-half of the follage had been killed during this week by late blight.

different dates at intervals of one week in such a manner as to give each time as near as possible an average of the plot. The following record shows the date of digging of each row and the condition of the tops at the

Aug. 31.—Rows 1, 6, 11, 16, foliage from one-third to one-half killed with

Sept. 7.—Rows 2, 7, 12, 17, leaves all dead, but stalks green.
Sept. 14.—Rows, 3, 8, 13, 18, stalks Sept. 21.-Rows 4, 9, 14, 19, tops

Each lot was stored within a few ours after digging in a cool house ellar where the temperature was unlformly 55 to 60 degree F. The tubers were placed in bushel boxes and stacked up so as to allow free ventilaion. The conditions of storage we better, and probably much better, that se in the average farm cellar.

Late Digging Proves Best. Regardless of the per cent of deca-luring any one period the most important question to be considered is which procedure will give the largest amount of sound tubers in the end. It will be seen that there is very little difference in the results from those dug Sept. 14, 21 and 28, while the digging of Sept. 7 gave about eight-ninths as much and that of Aug. 31 less than one-half that obtained from the three later dates. The death of a large per cent of the foliage occurred between Aug. 31 and Sept. 7, and the entire tops were dead on Sept. 14. Hence the data obtained appear to confirm the rule laid down in the former report "that where there is danger of rot it is best to delay the digging some ten days or more after the tops die and that a longer delay does no harm."

No Value In Sprinkling With Lime Many farmers recommend sprinkling potatoes with air slaked lime when aced in the cellar. This treatment, it claimed, reduces the amount of decay in stored tubers. So far as can be judged from the results of a single iment, there is nothing to be gain ed by liming, there being but 2 pe cent of difference and that in favor o the untreated tubers.

Harvesting the Sugar Beet. The time of sugar beet harvest isually indicated by the argiculturi of the sugar factory for which the beets are destined, and notice is given to the grower to deliver his beets the factory. An expert in sugar be growing can readily discern when bee are ripe. The leaves droop and take on a yellow cast. The sooner they are on a yellow cast. The sooner they are harvested after this the better, as they have reached their maximum of sugar content and purity. Warm fall rains are liable to start a new growth of the beets, causing them to send out a fresh supply of rootlets. This has a tendency to lower the purity and sugar content of the beets. If it is apparent that the crop cannot be received at the factory crop cannot be received at the factor at some time in the near future, the beets should be harvested and silo The contract usually provides for fol-lowing the orders of the factory in this

In considering the relation of forest to stream flow James W. Tourney e presses the opinion that, although t forest may have, on the whole, but little appreciable effect in increasing the rainfall and the annual run-off, its economic importance in regulating the flow of streams is beyond computation. The great indirect value of the fores is the effect which it has in preventing wind and water erosion, thus allowing the soil on hills and mountain to remain where it is formed and it other ways providing an adequate al sorbing medium at the sources of the water courses of the country. It is the amount of water that passes into the soil, not the amount of rainfall, that makes a region garden or desert.

The Essential In Grass Growing. Harrowing is one great essential in preparing a seed bed for the tiny grass and clover seed. The writer does not remember ever seeing timothy or clover sitting up on clods half the size of his fist making much progress toward a hay crop. Harrow and reharrow un-til the soil is like dust. Then and then only the seed bed is fit to yield a profit able crop.—J. D. Detrich.

Dutch Cattle In Belgium, A great many Dutch cattle are ported into Belgium, as a number farmers find it advantageous to certain classes of these Dutch mals rather than to breed the home. Belgian farmers have given

THE COOKBOOK.

Trimmings of puff paste left from tarts should be used to ornament the

tarts with. To tell when cake is done hold you ear down to it and listen. If it has ceased sounding it is done. In order to have potatoes alway white the kettle in which they are

cooked should never be used for an With all frozen daintles a generou allowance of sugar is necessary, as the article to be frozen loses sweet ness in the freezing.

Don't save old coffee in the pot which it was made. Draw it off and put it in a jar. Cover and reheat it quickly when required.

Swans For Food. In this country swans are but littleseen, except in public parks, but the are coming into increasing favor of private estates, as they give the fining touch to an ornamental sheet water. In England swans have bee raised ever since the time of Richar the Lion Hearted for eating purpose The largest swannery was maintain by Lord Ilchester in Dorset, who from seven to twelve hundred bire were kept. In the early days all swar were raised at one place and brands issued to members of the nobility.— Country Life In America.

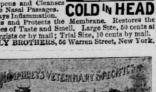
It has been the joke of ages, and it the joke today, that lawyers and the newspaper men of the day are doing as much, at least, as people in othe professions or trades in searching fo acts and in making them public, an in so doing they are doing their part toward uprooting error and toward puifying the moral atmosphere.-Rich nond Times-Dispatch,



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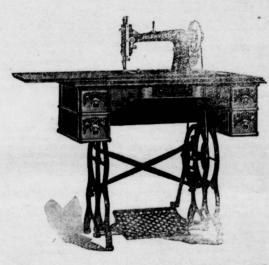


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