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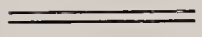
U. S. Department of Agriculture

# Sesbania

*The World's Greatest Summer Growing Fertilizer Crop*



*Loosens and Emulsifies  
the Soil*



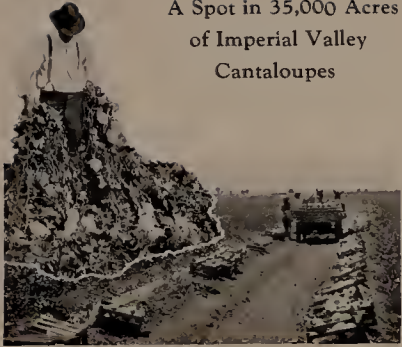
## Cuff-Archias Seed Co

526 Main St.

Brawley, Cal.



A Spot in 35,000 Acres  
of Imperial Valley  
Cantaloupes



**S**ESBANIA has changed the method of melon growing in Imperial Valley. Previously it was customary to plant melons only on soil, which had been in alfalfa, for three years. After three years of melons, alfalfa was again planted, and this necessitated higher rents, expense of moving, and uncertainty of soils. Many large growers have proven, after several years of tests, that by planting Sesbania, melons can be grown, on the same soil, indefinitely. After the melon harvest, plant 40lb Sesbania to the acre, in June or July, plow under after eight or nine weeks, obtaining ten to twelve tons of green fertilizer. Allow the soil to dry and summer fallow, in time to bed in November.

**CITRUS** growers have found Sesbania superior to all other fertilizer crops, making more tonnage, quicker growth and shading the young trees during the hot weather. By drilling 30lb seed to the acre, between the trees in May, discing under in July, and irrigating a second crop can be grown without resowing, as it will sprout from the joints. However, it is an annual in all climates, so it cannot become a pest and can be eradicated by not allowing it to go to seed.

**COTTON** growers of the Southwest have found Sesbania the solution of keeping up their soils. One of the largest growers of cotton, in the world, has secured Sesbania seed, enough to plant 6,000 to 10,000 acres this coming summer.



Photographed in August. Note the height, 9 feet in 9 weeks growth. This field is to be planted in Cantaloups in December.

Do  
Not  
Delay  
Plant  
Sesbania  
Next  
May



Citrus Grove after turning under Sesbania.

Date Growers of Coachilla Valley and other date growing districts are using Sesbania extensively in young groves.



A closeup in a Citrus Grove planted in Sesbania.

A Spot In 30,000 Acres of  
Imperial Valley Lettuce



**O**NE of the largest lettuce growers, in the world, has proven that two months growth of Sesbania is equal to three years in alfalfa, for lettuce fertilization. He will plant about 2,000 acres of Sesbania, next summer, in Imperial Valley alone. We believe every lettuce grower of the Valley will plant a large acreage.

A Best-30 Caterpillar, drawing nine disc plows makes a perfect turn-under. The disc carriage mashes down the growth of Sesbania, which will be turned under the next trip around the field. Sesbania should be turned under before it starts to form pods. The stalks decay very readily, and cause no obstruction to the planting and cultivating of the following crops.



Sesbania Root 8 Weeks Growth Measuring About 3 Feet Across, Note the Nodules.

**IT IS** a fast growing plant, frequently making a foot of growth per week after germination in excessive hot weather. It requires from eight to ten weeks from time of germination to time of plowing under. It should be plowed under when the seed is in the dough. Usually, it is broadcasted similar to wheat and we recommend inoculating with Humo-germ, as the Earp-Thomas Culture Company, advise this.

**J. C. ARCHIAS** pioneered the introduction of Sesbania to the trade and spent several years of experiments at the Riverside Citrus Station, State Agricultural College of New Mexico, Southwestern Texas and several of the Southern Atlantic States as well as Argentine, Italy, Palestine and many other foreign countries. We have booked orders for many car loads of Sesbania for next season's planting, on the strength of these experiments. Three years ago we induced a customer to plant one ton and he has been increasing until his present order being for 50 tons. Another firm sowed one ton last season and has placed an order with us for a car load next season. Grower's name and quotation given upon request.

The  
Greatest  
Fertilizer  
Crop  
The World  
Has Ever  
Known



Note the ease and thorough method of turning under Sesbania, averaging nine feet in height.

## Description

**S**ESBANIA Macrocarpa is an annual, being a native of Southwestern United States. It grows to complete maturity in three months, reaching a height of from eight to twelve feet. It is of very upright growth, when planted thickly. Individual plants will make a limb spread of from four to six feet. The seed pods are one-eighth inches in diameter, eight to ten inches long. The seed is a dark brown, slightly speckled. It is one-sixteenth of an inch thick and one-eighth of an inch long. The foliage is like an acacia, with finely cut small leaves.



*A field of Sesbania being turned under on July 9th, to be planted to lettuce in September.*



*A Large Orchard of Young Grapefruit in Sesbania.*



*Showing the Complete Covering of Sesbania with 9 Disc Plows.*

**T**HE stalks are pithy and contain about 85% moisture. They become very light and brittle when dry. They decay very readily. The root growth is very rapid, making as much growth as three feet from tip to tip, and eighteen inches deep in eight weeks. They are entirely covered with nodules. It grows only during hot weather. Sesbania has no known value other than as a fertilizer crop. However, it creates more nitrogen and humus, for the period of growth, than any other plant we know of.

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