

Book of Knowledge ;
CONTAINING
GARDENERS' CALENDAR
OF WORK TO BE DONE IN EACH MONTH.
CONOMICAL RECEIPTS
AND
USEFUL INFORMATION
ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS.

Knowledge is Power.



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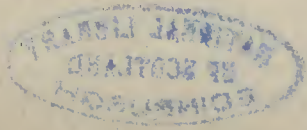
Book of Knowledge

GARDENERS' CALENDAR

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JANUARY.

In mild weather, sow early pease and be
 likewise radishes, cresses, and lettuces
 warm sheltered situations. Sow the
 seeds pretty thick; and if frost set in str
 spread some dry long litter over the b
 In mild weather, if formerly omitted, pr
 apple, pear, cherry and plume trees; ;
 gooseberries and currants. Plant fruit
 forest trees, thorns, and other hardy shr
 in open weather. Turn up strong soil
 meliorate with the frost; also such flo
 borders as are empty, to be in readines
 the time of planting. In hard frosty wea
 carry dung, and be careful of tender s
 ling trees, shrubs, evergreens, &c. by s
 tering them from the frost.



FEBRUARY.

Sow more pease and beans for a succession; also radishes, lettuces, cresses, parsley, &c. Spinage may be sown every three or four weeks, to have a constant supply; also a few cabbage and savoy seeds about the end of the month. A few onion seeds may be sown about the middle of the month, which often do better than those sown latter. Prepare ground for potatoes, onions, and other roots. Gather fresh horse dung to prepare for making up hot beds for cucumbers and melons. As green house plants will require fresh air at all times, when the season will permit, a little may be given about mid-day, if the weather is mild and clear, and the wind still; and water may be given in small quantities to such plants as want it, picking off all decayed leaves. Plant ranunculuses and anemonies. Sow tender annual flowers, on a moderate hot-bed.

MARCH.

Make small hot-beds for raising cucumbers and melon plants. Plant some early potatoes on a warm sheltered situation, covering them, in frosty evenings, with litter or pease straw. About the middle sow brocoli, cabbages, savoys, asparagus,

and onions; also cauliflowers, leeks, carrots, turnips &c. and pease and beans every fortnight, for a succession. Plant out cabbages and savoys, artichokes, and asparagus. Sow all kinds of hardy annual flower seeds in the open ground, and the tender kind in a moderate hot-bed, in pots. Finish planting fruit and forest trees, and graft fruit trees. Plant gooseberries, currants, strawberries, and raspberries. Transplant all kinds of sweet herbs; also perennial fibrous-rooted and herbaceous plants, and evergreens. Make box edgings.

APRIL.

This month requires the greatest exertions of any in the year with the garden, the ground being ready to receive whatever is planted or sown. Sow pease and beans and sallads, every ten or fourteen days. Plant potatoes, and transplant cauliflowers, lettuces, &c. Sow parsley, celery, endive, purslane, and pot and sweet herbs. Hoe pease and beans, and sow more to keep up a succession; stick tall growing pease when four or five inches high, and top beans when come to their full height. Thin out onion, carrots, turnips, spinage, &c. Plant evergreens in moist weather, and all kinds of flowering shrubs. Sow French beans in dry weather. Water new planted trees in

dry weather. Clear gravel walks, and form
thrift and box edgings. Sow all kinds of
hardy flower seeds. Transplant tender
annual flowers from the hot-bed.

MAY.

Sow cabbages, cauliflowers, and savoys,
for a late crop, and transplant those former-
ly sown, when ready. Sow full crops of
French and Turkey beans; marrowfat and
every other kind of pease. Every week,
during the summer months, sow lettuces,
&c. for a constant supply of salad. Earth
up celery, and thin onions, carrots, turnips,
and spinage, where necessary, taking care
to leave the strongest plants. Plant cu-
cumbers under hand glasses. Water in
dry weather, young fruit trees, and protect
the roots from the heat, with short grass
laid round the stems. Cut box edgings.
Nail up young shoots of wall-trees, and tie
espaliers with twigs of the golden willow.
Remove plants out of the green-house, and
place them in a shady sheltered border,
observing to water them duly.

JUNE.

Continue to plant cabbages, cauliflower,
and savoys, for a late crop. Plant out
leeks and brocoli. Transplant celery, en-

endive, and lettuces; and sow sallad seeds every eight or ten days. Sow full crops of turnips, both yellow and white; also field turnip, white, green, red, and Swedish. Sow beet, red, white, and green, in drills about an inch deep, and ten or twelve inches distant. Hoe beans and pease; top the former, and stick the latter. A few of the early kind of each may be sown the first or second week for the latest crop. Gather and dry sweet and pot herbs as they come to bloom. Train wall trees and espalier trees. Secure young trees against wind, and water them in dry weather. Mow grass walks in the morning, before the dew is off. Clean and roll gravel walks.

JULY.

Plant more cauliflowers for autumn; and cabbages, savoys, brocoli, and leeks for winter. If any vacant ground, sow turnips, carrots, onion, winter spinage, kidney beans, endive, &c. Towards the end, plant sweet herbs. Transplant celery, more cabbages and cauliflowers, on the ground where the early pease are done. Water, in dry weather, always in the evening. Dung and dig ground for full crops of winter greens and cabbage to be planted next month.

AUGUST.

If any seeds were omitted to be sown in this month, finish now. Sow cabbage and all kinds of greens to stand through the winter for plants in spring: also cabbage and Dutch lettuces on warm borders, for winter use. Earth up celery, and plant more. Clean asparagus beds. If room, plant more brocoli, cabbage, &c. About the middle sow cauliflower and prickly pear. Gather onions, garlic, and all sweet herbs. Clip thorn hedges, and pare off edgings.

SEPTEMBER.

Plant strawberries and box edgings. Transplant celery, lettuce, endive and all green shrubs. Look over wall-trees and espaliers, and fasten straggling branches. Prepare ground for planting fruit trees. Dig up all vacant borders, and clean and level gravel walks. Destroy snails, caterpillars, and other vermin. Slip and transplant fibrous-rooted plants and flowers.

OCTOBER.

In this and the three following months, dig, and trench all vacant ground, to be ready for spring crops, covering in the dung well. Plant out early cabbages to

cut in May. Towards the middle of
 early pease and beans, and earth there
 when two inches high. About the
 plant all kinds of fruit trees; and, by
 the frost sets in, gooseberries, currants,
 and flowering shrubs. All kinds
 trees, whether fruit or forest, transplanted
 this month, will thrive better than
 Dress wall-trees and standards. Prepare
 ground for planting trees.

NOVEMBER.

Finish planting gooseberries, currants,
 raspberries, and flowering shrubs; also fruit
 forest trees, putting loose dung round
 stems to preserve them from frost.
 more early pease, beans, and a few radishes
 on a warm border. Plant all kinds
 bulbous rooted flowers, and some anemones
 and ranunculuses. Secure artichoke
 and asparagus beds from the frost,
 covering them with loose dung. A small
 hot-bed frame may be kept profitably
 work all winter in raising small salads, such
 as radishes, cresses, parsley, &c. Plant carnations
 flowers upon warm sheltered borders,
 under hot-bed frames or hand glasses.

DECEMBER.

In mild weather continue to sow pease
 and beans for a succession. Cover your

tichokes with loose dung, to keep the
 ots from frost, if omitted last month.
 rune gooseberries, currants, and thin out
 sps. Dig and dung all spare ground;
 and dung and prepare borders on walls for
 dung fruit trees in March, if omitted to
 be planted last month. Fasten young fruit
 trees with stakes. Gather all rubbish and
 burn it; and in frost carry out dung.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF A
COTTAR'S GARDEN,
 OF TWENTY FALLS OF GROUND.

Falls of early Potatoes.	2	Falls of Leeks & Onions.	2
do. late do.	2	do. Pease.	1
do. early Cabbage.	1	do. Beans.	1
do. late do.	1	do. Carrots.	1
do. Savoys.	0½	do. early Turnips.	1
do. Greens.	0½	do. late do.	1
Total 20 Falls.			

FEBRUARY, third or fourth week, sow Pease and
 Beans, plant early Cabbage, likewise Greens and
 late Cabbage.

MARCH, second or third week, plant early Potatoes,
 likewise some late ones, and the remainder in
 April. In the third and fourth week, sow Leeks
 and Onions, Carrots and Turnips, and sow some
 early Sugar-Loaf Cabbage seed for summer and
 autumn use.

APRIL, from the beginning to the end, sow Peas and Beans.

MAY, first or second week, plant early Cabbages.

JULY, first or second week, plant Greens for winter use, in any ground from which the early crops have been gathered.

AUGUST, third or fourth week, sow early Cabbages, Greens, and late Cabbages to plant out in spring.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

In dry and warm weather take care to water seed-beds and plants lately moved; secure the seed-beds and pease from birds; destroy insects; and thin out the crops in the seed-beds, if too thick.

At all times keep your garden clean from weeds, especially your crops of carrots and onions. Cut only a small part of the potatoes with eyes for planting; the remaining part may be saved for use. Two eyes in each set are enough.

Dig the ground as soon as the autumn crops are taken off; lay it up in ridges, that it may have the benefit of the frost.

It is of great benefit to keep bees. Three hives are often worth as much as your rent: they require but little attention; they should be watched when they swarm; and the hive must be covered from the snow in winter, and the heat of summer.

The produce of the garden will be in proportion to the care taken of it; don't waste any thing that can be converted into manure.

Keep the hog styes clean; the hogs improve more and the garden is enriched. To the mine of dung from the styes, add the decayed leaves of the vegetables, and what the hogs will not eat, such as the soot and ashes from the chimney and fire, the sum-

in the washing tub, the sweeping from the floors
the house, cuttings of weeds from the side of roads,
in all other articles which will make manure. Thus,
in the same time that every thing about you is kept
clean and tidy, you will be well paid for your care.

**ECONOMICAL RECEIPTS AND
USEFUL INFORMATION.**

Economy in planting Potatoes.

The common mode of planting potatoes is,
by setting the small roots entire; or, cut-
ting the larger ones to pieces, and reserving
the eye or bud to each: it appears, how-
ever, that the *mind* may be employed with
equal advantage; as crops have thus been
produced, which fully equalled those ob-
tained from seeds, sets, shoots, or any
other method.

POTATOES.

A Gentleman near Renfrew, has prosecuted
an experiment on the effect of pulling the
flowers or blossoms from the Potatoes; with

great care and attention, in fields of 4 or 5 acres, each year, by taking alternate portions of equal area in the same field; picking the blossoms from some of the divisions, and leaving others to ripen for seed; attending in the Autumn, when the Potatoes were taking up, and measuring the produce with great care, he uniformly found the quantity increase 10 or 15 per cent. where the blossoms were taken care of, besides there being very few small Potatoes in the field. He also found the quantity much improved in consequence of the crop ripening sooner than usual, and therefore not affected by the frosts, which often set in so early that the growth of the Potatoe is completely checked before it arrives at maturity: he has continued the practice for the last five or six years, on fields from four to nine acres, and considers the experiment worth prosecuting to any extent: the expence about 3s. per acre, and done by children from ten to twelve years of age.

Frost-bitten Potatoes.

After paring or scraping let them lie in water an hour, and then boil them with a bit of saltpetre, which is said to take the sweetness quite away.

To prevent Curl in Potatoes.

A Farmer states, that it is well ascertained, and proved by documents the most unquestionable, that the cause of curled potatoes is from allowing the crab of the potatoe to remain on the plant; for when the crab has been cut off, the future sets have always proved free from the curl.

It is also necessary that the potatoes for sets should be reaped before the stem is withered. And the matter worthy of remark is, that a green potatoe top cut off in June, at the length of six to eight inches, and pricked into the ground in moist weather, will produce good potatoes in October.

A method of keeping Potatoes

Was lately and successfully tried, by the patriotic Bath and West of England Society. It consists simply in slicing potatoes without taking off the rind or skin, and afterwards drying them in an oven or kiln. The roots thus prepared will remain sweet for almost any length of time: the Society sent some to Jamaica in a barrel; which had been *four years* from Britain, and on their return, were found not to be in the least degree affected.

To make Potatoe Bread.

Put a pound of potatoes in a net, into a small kettle with cold water, and (lest the skin break, and let in the water) hang it at a distance (so as not to boil) over the fire till they become soft; then skin, mash, and rub them so as to be well mixed with a pound of flour, a very large spoonful of salt, and two large spoonfuls of yeast; but less of the yeast is better. Then add a little warm water, and knead it up as other dough; lay it a little while before the fire to ferment or rise, then bake it in a very hot oven.

Remedy for Frost-bitten Potatoes.

FROST-BITTEN POTATOES, and all other vegetables, as fruit, &c. are restored to their natural taste and flavour by being steeped in cold water twelve hours before boiled. Potatoes are also preserved from decay in the latter season by being dried on a kiln or any other convenient way.

Method of destroying Insects on Fruit Trees.

Flour of brimstone, sprinkled by a puffing dredging box, or otherwise, on the leaves

f vegetables, will effectually destroy worms and insects, and likewise promote the growth of the plant.—Peach trees are particularly improved by the application.

To remove the taste of Turnips from Milk or Butter.

The taste of the turnip is easily taken off milk and butter, by dissolving a little nitre in spring water, which being kept in a bottle, and a small tea cup full put into eight gallons of milk, when warm from the cow, entirely removes any taste or flavour of the turnip.

A cheap Blacking for Shoes.

In three pints of small beer, put two ounces of ivory black, and one pennyworth of brown sugar. As soon as they boil, put a desert spoonful of sweet oil, and then boil slowly till reduced to a quart. Stir it up with a stick every time it is used; and put it on the shoe with a brush when wanted.

ANOTHER.

Ivory black, two ounces; brown sugar one ounce and a half; sweet oil, half table spoonful. Mix them well, and then gradually add half a pint of small beer.

Chinese method of mending China.

Take a piece of flint-glass, beat it to a fine powder, and grind it well with the white of an egg, and it joins china without rivetting, so that no art can break it in the same place. You are to observe that the composition is to be ground extremely fine on a painter's stone.

To take Iron Moulds out of Linen.

Hold the Iron-mould on the cover of a tankard of boiling water, and rub on the spot a little juice of sorrel and a little salt, and when the cloth has thoroughly imbibed the juice wash it in lie.

Economy in Fuel

Let the coal ashes, which are usually thrown into the dust binn, be preserved in a corner of the coal hole, and add to them from your coal heap, an equal part of the small coal or slack, which is too small to be retained in the grate, and pour a small quantity of water upon the mixture. When you make up your fire, place a few round coals in front, and throw some of this mixture behind; it saves the trouble of shifting your ashes, gives a warm and pleasant fire, and a very small part only will remain unburnt.

To prevent the effects of Excessive Cold.

Persons are in danger of being destroyed by it, when they become very drowsy, or are affected with general numbness or insensibility of the body. As the cold which proves fatal generally affects the feet first, great care should be taken to keep them as warm as possible.

1. By protecting them, when you are exposed to cold, with wool, or woollen sockets, within the shoes or boots, or with large woollen stockings drawn over them; or, when you ride, with liay or straw wrapped round them.

2. By keeping up a brisk circulation in the blood-vessels of the feet, which will be the best preserved by avoiding tight boots or shoes, by *moving the feet constantly*. Or when this is impracticable, from a confined situation, and two or more persons are exposed together.

3. By placing their feet, *without shoes*, against each other's breasts.

If, notwithstanding these precautions, a person should be rendered sleepy or insensible by cold, he must exert himself; and move about quickly; for if he should sleep in the cold he will inevitably perish.

The person thus affected should be kept from the fire; for acrid applications of every kind are very injurious.

To prevent danger from Wet Clothes.

Keep if possible in motion, and take care if possible not to go near a fire or into any warm place, so as to occasion a sudden heat, till some time after you have been able to procure dry clothes.

Accidents incident to Children from fire.

A child should never be left alone in any situation where he may be exposed to the

destructive element of fire. We daily hear of children that have been burned to death, in consequence of their clothes having caught fire; yet, it is surprising, that the frequency of these afflicting events does not possess persons with an idea of the most effectual methods of extinguishing the fire. In general, an attempt is made to tear off the burning clothes from the sufferer, which should never be done. The clothing, instead of being torn off, ought to be pressed close to the body, and whatever is at hand wrapped over it, so as to exclude the air, when the blaze will go out; for it is the action of the air that keeps it alive, and increases the vehemence. A carpet, a table cloth, a blanket, a cloth oak, any close wrapper, will instantly extinguish it.

To prevent Infection.

Mix in a plate, a few ounces of pulverized black oxyde of manganese and common salt, which being placed in the house supposed to be infected, sprinkle oil of vitriol upon the mixture, and gas will arise which will render the place perfectly salubrious. The oil of vitriol should be carefully added by a few drops at a time, the face being turned from the mixture.

To relieve Fainting and other Fits

The person ought to be immediately carried into the open air, and the temples should be rubbed with strong vinegar and brandy, and volatile salts or spirits held to the nose. The patient should then be laid on his back with the head low, and have a little wine or other cordial poured into his mouth. If subject to hysteric fits, camphire or assafoetida should be applied to the nose, or burnt feathers, horn, or leather.

To relieve sudden Bleeding.

Dry lint put up the nostrils, pledgets of lint dipped in spirits, or weak solution of blue vitriol, or from ten to twenty drops of oil of turpentine taken in water generally stop discharges of blood.

To restore suspended Animation.

In cases of substances being stopt between the mouth and the stomach, where they cannot be extracted by the fingers or otherwise, the person should swallow a piece

heat or tow tied to a thread, which should
 be immediately drawn up again, Emetics
 are sometimes serviceable, and injections of
 warm milk and water frequently remove
 the obstructions. When animation is sus-
 pended by noxious vapours, the usual
 methods in fainting should be employed,
 and lemonade or vinegar and water given
 to the patient as soon as he could swallow.
 When it proceeds from extreme cold,
 the party affected should be immersed in
 cold water, or rubbed with snow till they
 recover their natural warmth.

For a Cold and Cough.

large tea-cupful of linseed, two penny-
 worth of stick-liquorice. and a quarter of
 a pound of sun raisins, put to two quarts
 of soft water, and simmered over a slow
 fire, till reduced one-third or more; add
 thereto a quarter of a pound of sugar-can-
 dy pounded, a table-spoonful of old rum,
 and a table-spoonful of white wine vinegar,
 and lemon-juice. Note—the rum and vine-
 gar should be added only to the quantity
 which is about to be taken immediately.
 Drink half a pint at going to bed, or a
 small quantity at any time when the cough
 troublesome.

For a cold, bathe the legs and feet in warm water at night, and take, going into bed, a drink of hot whey, with 4 grains of nitre.

If a sore throat, tie round it three or four folds of flannel sprinkled with spirits.

*Method of restoring Life to the apparen
Drowned.*

Avoid all rough usage. Do not hold up the body by the feet, or roll it on casks, or rub with salt or spirits, or apply tobacco. Do not a moment, carry the body, the head and shoulders raised, to the nearest house. Place it in a warm room. Let it be instantly stripped, dried, and wrapped in hot blankets which are to be renewed when necessary. Keep the mouth, nostrils, and the throats free and clean. Apply warm substances to the back, spine, pit of the stomach, arm-pits, and soles of the feet. Rub the body with heated flannel, or warm hands. Attempt to restore breathing, by gently blowing with bellows into one nostril. Keep up the application of heat. Press down the breast carefully with both hands.

and then let it rise again, and thus imitate natural breathing. Continue the rubbing, and increase it when life appears, and then give a tee-spoonful of warm water, or of very weak wine or spirits and warm water. Persevere for six hours: Send quickly for medical assistance.

Warts.

Cut an apple, and rub it for a few minutes over the wart; the juice of the apple will loosen the wart, and in a few days it will drop off. Any strong acid, either vegetable or mineral, has the same tendency.

Corns.

Mr Cooper, in his Dictionary of Surgery, gives the following recipe as infallible for the cure of corns:—Take two ounces of gum ammoniac, two ounces of yellow wax, six drams of verdigris, melt them together, and spread the composition on a piece of soft leather or linen; cut away as much of the corn as you can with a knife before you apply the plaster, which must be renewed in a fort'night, if the corn is not by that time gone:

Method of making Yeast.

The following method of making yeast for bread is easy and expeditious. Boil one pound of good flour, a quarter of a pound of brown sugar, and a little salt, in two gallons of water, for an hour; when milk warm, bottle and cork it close; it will be fit for use in 24 hours.—One pint of it will make 18lbs of bread.

W

For Burns or Scalds.

When the blisters are open, dress them with a simple white ointment spread thinly on the smooth side of lint, the first day, and every day after sprinkle a little powder of prepared chalk, and dress it as before. To alleviate the immediate pain, apply any quick evaporating fluid, as aether, spirits of wine, or brandy; or better than all, if at hand, spirits of turpentine; or rags dipped in vinegar and water, and often renewed.

FINIS.