

# GARDEN FOR VICTORY

By PAUL R. KRONE  
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 Michigan Office of Civilian Defense  
 Usually seed germination during June and July is more difficult than during the spring months due to the extreme heat and rapid drying out of the surface soil. For successful germination, the seed bed must be kept evenly moist until the seedlings are well established. If it is allowed to dry out, the seedlings may be killed off and the new plants will die.

**Make Drills Deeper**  
 Several things can be done to assure better results. The drills or trenches for the seeds should be made somewhat deeper during the hot weather than in the spring and the soil should be soaked thoroughly along them. Then when the seeds are sown they should not be covered sufficiently to fill the drill entirely. Instead, a slight depression should be left which will catch any moisture that may fall in dews or light rains.

It may also be desirable to cover the rows with narrow boards or with paper or burlap to shade the soil from the week and to check evaporation. The board is to be preferred for it can be lifted at the same time will permit the cross pieces of wood so that air can circulate beneath it, and at the same time will permit the seedlings to get a better start. As soon as the seedlings start to appear, the protective covering should be removed and they will draw up and be spindling.

**Especially for Clay**  
 The protective covering will prevent the formation of a crust on top of the soil before the seeds have germinated. Use of special importance on clay soil. After the protective covering has been removed, the seedlings should be watered lightly every day until they are well established, but after about ten days this practice should be discontinued. To continue light sprinklings would result in shallow rooted plants which will wither and die during extremely hot weather. If you water your garden at all, soak it so that the water is moist to a depth of six to eight inches, then don't water it again until it is really dried out.

## Rose Chafers Arrive To Harass Gardeners

A serious epidemic of rose chafers has made its appearance in Oakland County this week, according to Karl D. Bailey, agricultural agent. This pest, a beetle one-half inch long, dark colored, is literally covering many plants on which it feeds. These young beetles—pears, apples, grapes, sweet cherries, roses, as well as many other plants. It is a difficult pest to control and where possible, and where only a few plants are involved, placing a canvas between the plant and shaking the insects onto the canvas or hand-picking several times a day, may prove satisfactory. Where the presence of many material is not objectionable on a plant, such as fruit trees, the following recommendations are made:

Use 25 lbs. of spray lime, 5 lbs. of Bonticol sulphur in 100 gallons of water, on peaches, apples and young apple trees are injured by more than 25 lbs. of lime per 100 gallons of spray.

In previous years the Flythrum spray have been effective but on ornamentals such as roses or peonies, where the lime application would be unsatisfactory, the only remedy is hand-picking for the duration.

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## BIRMINGHAM VICTORY GARDEN CONTEST

Indicate the class or classes in which you want your garden entered.  
 Class I—Vegetable garden (new gardener).  
 Class II—Vegetable garden (gardener with one or more years' experience).  
 Class III—Home grounds including a vegetable garden (family maintenance).  
 Class IV—Junior vegetable garden (complete maintenance by a boy or girl under 18 years).  
 (It is possible to enter both I and III, II and III, or IV and III).  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Mail this before July 1 to Garden Desk, Defense Service Center, 131 Pierce Street, Birmingham).

## Early Peas Now Enjoyed; A Few Tomatoes, Also!

A few privileged citizens of the Birmingham area already know the joy of spring sugar peas, fresh from the vine, it was indicated this week after a number of phone calls from interested readers. A paragraph in that most popular of all Eccentric columns, "Bits of Birmingham," had suggested that the first to pick their garden crops let us know about them.

**Tomatoes Planted Indoors**  
 Peas are now in the pod and pot, providing one planted them good and early. But would you believe that tomatoes have been picked? Yes, it's true! Mrs. Julia Gravelin, 215 Greenwood, who can grow just about anything, picked late last week a red, ripe tomato—measuring 1 1/2 inches in diameter from the "tree" type of plant which she started indoors in January.  
 And Edward H. P. Elliott, 524 Oakland, is right in there, too, having picked a little red tomato, "I wish it weighed a couple of pounds," Mrs. Elliott declared. They make it a practice to buy from the hothouse a few big plants for early bearing.  
 Elmer W. Haack, City assessor, actually brought in a vine to which was attached a half dozen pods of succulent green peas. "I snowed twice after those peas were planted," he said.

**Picked Six Quarts**  
 The G. N. Siegiers, of Barden road, had peas for dinner Monday night, their first of the year. The garden yielded six quarts of the pods, Mrs. Siegier said, adding that her husband was quite pleased for it was their first attempt at serious gardening.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Frank Niedenfurh, 512 Hanna, and Frank Jehle, who until recently was coach at the junior high, share a vacant lot on Chester between Frank and Hanna streets, and it is really a beauty spot, we are told. The Niedenfurhs had peas last week, lots of spinach, turnip greens, beet greens, radishes, lettuce collards, Swiss chard—vegetables which are now "coming on" in a number of gardens which the owners were able to get plowed before the recent deluge. Not only that, they have early potatoes, most ready to dig, and tomato vines are loaded—green ones, of course.  
 "But I wish I knew what has destroyed my beans!" Mrs. Niedenfurh said.  
 Jehle, too, is quite a gardener, it has been reported.

**Roses in Bloom**  
 Dr. and Mrs. W. F. D. Grant, Bredon road, have eaten new roses, beets, chard and radishes, but are also thrilled with 165 plants of hybrid tea roses now in full bloom. Allen E. Arnold, Bloomfield Court, is a meticulous fellow, and his garden shows it. He and others are in a section on the west side, and Allen's particularly is a plot without a weed to be seen. It was under water long time, too. He

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 16 Points—Good Quality TOMATOES No. 1 13¢  
 19 Points—Blue Label Tiny LIMA BEANS No. 2 19¢

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