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GOOD PREPARATION AND CULTIVATION PAY

N our haste to get the seeds in the ground and the little plants to growing, we sometimes forget that a deep, mellow, finely pulverized seed bed is one of the biggest essentials in making a profitable crop. It is, of course, important that crops be planted on time; but it is even more important that the most thorough preparation be made for them. In fact, if we had to choose between early planting in a mass of clods, and moderately late planting, on land finely harrowed and pulverized, we would prefer the latter every time. We believe this to be wisest simply because cotton, corn or almost any other crop planted among clods is sure to come up a poor stand, become stunted, and in every way finally prove less satisfactory and less profitable than where adequate preparation is made.

The point is, use the harrow—once, twice, three times, if necessary. Use it before planting and after planting, even until the little plants are well above ground. It has been just a very few years since cultivation with the section harrow came into vogue, but really good farmers are using it almost everywhere now. It is astonishing how few plants are injured by liberal cross-harrowing, and it is equally remarkable how valuable the practice is in killing young grass and weeds and in starting off the crop properly.

On other pages of this week's Progressive Farmer will be found timely articles dealing with preparation, planting and cultivation. This page is only an announcement page, and the best we can do here is to call your attention to these articles and ask that you study them carefully. They are written by men who know—men who have spent a large part of their lives in studying these very problems.

Read what they say, and then, if you happen to be about to plant among the clods, don't do it. Make a seed bed first.

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A GOOD COMBINATION Corn and Peas on Well Prepared Land.