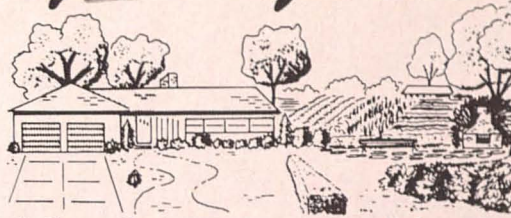


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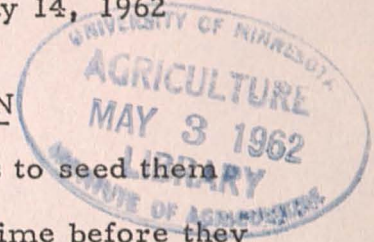


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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA • ST. PAUL 1, MINNESOTA

Prepared and dis-
tributed by the
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tural Extension
Service

For use week of
May 14, 1962

1
DIRECT SEEDING IN THE FLOWER GARDEN



The most common method of planting annual flowers is to seed them directly into the garden. Because it will take considerable time before they bloom, it's a good idea to get the seed planted as early as is practicable.

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Sweet peas are usually the first seeds to be planted out of doors in spring. The seeds may be planted as soon as the soil is workable. It isn't necessary to wait for the soil to warm up.

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Often there is a place in the garden where the soil warms up early so it can be worked. Seeds can be sown in a small area about 5 by 5 feet. Cover the area with a black plastic until the seeds have germinated. Later they can be transplanted to their permanent location in the garden.

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Another suggestion for direct seeding is to outline the planting areas for the various annuals with string. Then sow the seed thinly within the planting areas. If you wonder how you can tell flowers from weeds, planting two or three flower seeds together will help identify them as they come out of the soil. Growing samples of seeds in small pots is also helpful.

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Flowers which are most commonly seeded directly into the garden are zinnia, bachelor button, marigold, cleome, snapdragon, stock and sweet alyssum.

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