

Ol' Hoosier Farmer — March 9, 1977

By Jim Jones

A couple of fine days this week really get th' blood flowin' an' th' early spring flowers peekin' out of th' ground. Now it is time to git stuff growin' so we can transplant when the weather gets good to stay.

Got a bunch of them seaweed plant starter pellets from Sudbury Laboratory. Spent most of a day fillin' ol' egg cartons with soil an' settin' these pellets in th' dirt. With a seed in each, it took a while, but we now have planted nearly a hundred pepper seeds, th' same number of cabbage plants, an' a tray or so of summer roses. We puts more soil on top to fill th' hole in th' cube, watered well and put th' whole thing inside an ol' bread wrapper to germinate. This will keep th' soil warm and moisture in. Hopefully they will sprout in a few days when we take the bread wrapper off an put th' trays under th' lights until the weather gits sunny enough to move them to the greenhouse.

Next step is to put th' soil cable in th' bottom of th' big cold frame an' start th' onion sets. We raised some fine big onions from seed in th' garden last year an' this time we want to start th' seed early so we can transplant sets. This will eliminate th' thinnin' and weedin' problem we had last year with seed planted right in th' ground.

We also have started a system of record keepin' fer th' garden this year which we hope will tell us what crops are not worth raisin' and whether yields are adequate to offset th' time an' work put in.

We always keep an eye out fer good reading material which will be helpful an' we found a book from Garden Way research that seems to be worth readin'. DOWN TO EARTH VEGETABLE GARDENING KNOW-HOW by Dick Raymond. He has gardened fer 40 years and seems to know what he is talkin' about.

We're looking forward to a good year, the Good Lord willin' and with His help we should eat next winter. Better make yer plans now.