

12.

IN THE GREENHOUSE

This month calls for concentration on such crops as tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers and melons. All will flourish in 'grow bags', but should the bags be too expensive, I suggest a soil mix of equal parts loam and peat, a little organic material, sand or purlite; add a handful of fertilizer to a bushel of the mix - growmore will do. This mix should produce good strong plants which will in turn produce good crops. Grow bags will accommodate three tomato, cucumber or melon plants, or four peppers.

If using your own mix, ten inch pots give enough root room for the first three mentioned, and peppers are quite happy in six inch pots. Take care with the water, too much means weak, yellowing plants, whereas too little means brown ends on the fruits. Cucumbers and melons resent saturated conditions, but do like a damp humid atmosphere to prevent red spider; this pest makes the leaves pale and paper-like to the touch. Feed all these plants regularly with any fertilizer - a little and often is the best method.

A.V. Mitchell.

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