

Thursday, 30th April 2020

Science lesson 28

Starting a woodlot

A woodlot is a piece of land where trees are grown

Factors considered when starting a woodlot

1. Size of land
2. Capital
3. Fertility of the soil
4. Labour
5. Security
6. Soil drainage

Starting a tree nursery bed.

Nursery bed

A nursery bed is a piece of land prepared for raising seedlings before they taken to a well prepared garden.

importance of raising seedlings in a nursery bed.

1. It protects seedlings from bad weather conditions.
2. It makes it easy to care for seedlings e.g. weeding, thinning, spraying etc.
3. Helps a farmer select quality seedlings for transplanting.

Types of Nurseries.

1. Nursery bed
2. Seed boxes
3. Soil blocks

Care for seedlings in the nursery bed.

1. Watering.
2. Thinning.
3. Spraying.
4. Hardening off

Factors to consider when choosing a site for a nursery bed

1. Soil drainage
2. Soil fertility
3. Nearness to the water source
4. Nearness to home or school

Steps taken when starting a nursery bed.

- a) Choose a good site, clear the land and dig deep to make the soil fine.
- b) Add manure in the nursery bed and mix it well with soil.
- c) Furrow the soil using a stick and plant the seeds you have selected.
- d) Cover the prepared area with mulches, provide a shade and water.

NB: Remove the shade when the seedlings are about to be transplanted.

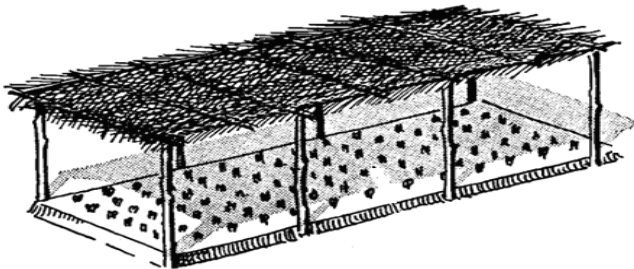
Hardening off: It is the making of seedlings get used to harsh garden conditions.

The garden conditions are strong rain and strong sunshine among others.

Ways of hardening off

1. Removing shade gradually
2. Reducing watering

A diagram showing a nursery bed



Activity

1. Give the meaning of these terms
 - a. Nursery bed
 - b. Hardening off
2. Give one way hardening off can be carried out by a crop farmer.
3. How is a nursery bed important to a farmer?

4. How are the following activities important in a nursery bed;
 - a. Thinning?
 - b. Spraying?
5. Apart from gradually removing the shade, how else can a farmer make seedlings get used to harsh weather?
6. How is hardening off useful to crops?
7. Name any two examples of harsh weather seedlings are most likely to find in the garden.
8. Name the garden tool which is good for watering
9. Why is the garden tool mentioned in 7 above good for watering?
10. Name the garden tool used for making holes in the ground in which seeds or seedlings are placed
11. Mention any two crops which can be raised from a nursery bed
12. State any two ways of caring for seedlings in a nursery bed
13. Why should a nursery bed be put;
 - a) Near a home or school
 - b) Near a water source
 - c) In an area with fertile soils
14. What do you understand by a woodlot?
15. Mention any two examples of trees which can be grown in a woodlot
16. State any two ways in which a woodlot is useful to the environment