



by  
ALICE  
WESSELLS  
BURLINGAME

## Down to earth

# Sow pansy seeds now for spring

This is the time to plant your pansies to enjoy next spring. Few people grow their own, but a couple little bits purchased in the spring do not go very far. Just for kicks, go to a seed rack (be sure the seedsmen is reputable) and just try growing your own beautiful pansies for 1979.

Seek a planting location near a shrub for protection. The spot should get three or four hours of sun per day. Work some peat into the soil for hold-

ing moisture, then sprinkle the seed into rows and cover lightly. If I were you, I would cut up some twigs nearly as big in circumference as your little finger and stick them every three inches around the planting area to warn of their location in case a gardening partner should decide to cultivate (Voice of Experience).

Keep in mind to not let the area dry out and soon you will see the seedling emerge. Just visualize how popular

you will be with your generous crop of pansies to share, not those things you have to pick up in the spring. By the way, about the second week of November, cut off some branches of evergreens and use them for a winter mulch.

In spring your plants will be ready for their permanent location and will be in bud. These won't be sissies and they can take the prime stage because they have been outdoors all winter.

**THESE ARE BRAGGING DAYS** as you harvest your edible garden crops. It isn't too late to set out seed of kohlrabi for a late harvest. Did you ever have the thrill of going out to the kohlrabi patch and preparing and eating the sweet, crunchy vegetable? Then you will say, "Look what I have missed all these years."

Sow the seed about half an inch deep and in rows one and one-half feet apart. As with all plants beginning the season now, watering is important. In about 14 days you will see the seed-

lings and, when two inches high, thin out. The thinnings can be transplanted. Before the last killing frost, harvest and place in a cool place in the garage.

Kohlrabi is ideal in a tossed salad, peeled and sliced thinly. It is also good served with a dip.

**HAVE YOU SEEN** the new "Food Processor Cook Book" published by Sunset Books (\$2.95, 78 pages)? Upon reading it, all I could say was, "Wow, there are so many new ideas for using garden food that I have never seen before."

I don't have a food processor, but I have a sharp knife. Vegetable pie, turkey bacon legs, fresh fruit ices, mock puff paste are but a few of those goodies to spring on your guests.

Whether you are a grower or an eater (or both) you can create your own little heaven by constantly exploring new ideas, be it growing pansies or kohlrabi, or discovering a new cookbook to glamourize your crops.



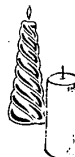
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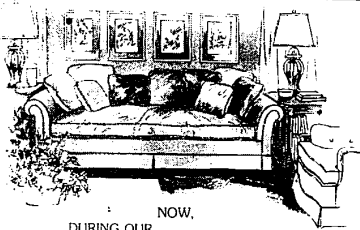
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