

EARLY STOCKS
by Roger Farmer

To determine the time of seeding for a Christmas crop of stocks in this climate, two varieties of column stocks were seeded at approximate two-week intervals from July 22 to August 15. These were transplanted about one month later, grown as cool as weather permitted until they could be run at 50° nights. All stocks cut between Jan. 6 and Feb. 13 as shown in the table.

Variety	Seeding Date	Benching Date	Blooming Date
Large Flowered White	7-22	8-15	Jan. 16 - Feb. 13
	8-1	9-1	Jan. 16 - Feb. 6
	8-15	9-14	Jan. 23 - Feb. 13
Bright Rose Pink	7-22	8-15	Jan. 6 - Feb. 13
	8-1	9-1	Jan. 6 - Feb. 13
	8-15	9-14	Jan. 16 - Feb. 13

Conclusions:

1. The time of seeding and benching had no apparent effect upon the blooming period. Conditions for bud formation were not right until all plants were old enough to form buds.
2. The stems were longer than necessary. For Jan. 16 to Feb. 6 blooming, Aug. 15 seeding and Sept. 15 benching gave adequate stem length. Direct seeding in early Sept. would probably accomplish the same results.