

"The outcome of a number of tests goes to show that, for fattening purposes, these tubers must be given with grain, and have a similar result to feeding with ordinary potatoes; 325 lbs. of wheat fed with 820 lbs. of artichokes gave 100 lbs. increase. The average composition of the artichokes is shown here in contrast with the potato":—

	Water.	Ash.	Protein.	Carbo hydrates.	Fat.	Nutritive Value.
Artichoke ...	79.5	1.0	2.4	16.7	0.2	1:7
Potato ..	78.9	1.0	2.1	17.9	0.1	1:8.6

JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE.

The culture of Jerusalem Artichokes (*Helianthus tuberosum*) has long been neglected in the Malay Peninsula. It is difficult to imagine why this should be so as their cultivation is of the easiest. Beyond deep changkoling of the soil and the keeping down of weeds, little further attention is required.

The tubers are used as a vegetable, sometimes as a dish but more usually for flavouring purposes. They are very popular with many Europeans, and as good vegetables are difficult to obtain, this plant ought to be more widely cultivated than it is at present. Plants will grow in almost any situation but the best results and largest tubers are obtained when they receive plenty of room and liberal treatment. Deeply changkol the soil and add to it a little well decayed cow manure about a fortnight before planting. Avoid using horse manure for various reasons.

The roots or tubers are planted in rows 2 feet apart and it is often as well to shade the plants when the leafshoots first appear. The stems do not grow to the height they do in Europe but they usually produce flowers, which is the exception in England. When the plants are about four feet high (usually their full height) the leaves wither and die. It is then that the tubers are in an edible condition.

When artichokes are grown as a vegetable for European consumption, it is not advisable to plant up a large area at once as the resultant tubers soon become discoloured and uneatable if lifted and stored, and if left in the ground for very long they would commence to sprout again. If a small bed is planted with tubers at the above mentioned distances and three weeks are allowed to elapse between each successive planting, a continuous supply of fresh tubers can be obtained. It usually takes from three months from the time the tubers are planted until the next crop is available.

The plant is really a Canadian sun flower.

J. W. A.