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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

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GROWING SEASON ENDING

The growing season, which extends from the last killing frost of spring to the first killing frost of autumn is already ending in northern regions. The length of the growing season in the United States varies from under 90 days in the Rockies and the central latitudes of Canada to a perpetual growing season at Key West, Florida. Along the northern border of the United States, the time is generally limited to 100 or 110 days, while on the southern boundaries over 240 is the rule.

At high altitudes the season is shorter than usual for the latitude, near large water bodies longer. For instance, at the bottom of the Grand Canyon the growing season is more than 100 days longer than on the high rim, while along the shores of the upper peninsula of Michigan crops can grow a month longer than in the interior.

Evidently, the northern farmer must usually content himself with one, or at most, two plantings of the same ground in one season, and must limit his choice to crops that mature quickly. It is well to remember, however, that although the growing season is so much shorter in the north, the day is considerably longer. More hours of sunlight are conducive to more rapid growth and often to a higher quality product. In the opinion of some agriculturists, the best crops of any variety are likely to be found near the northern limit for that type.

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