

# A History of Elma Forester's Tomato Club Work.

I made my seed bed on the 28 of March.  
The first thing I did was to make a box two  
feet wide and four feet long without any  
bottom. The sides were one foot wide and a  
little higher on the North side. Then I filled  
the box 6 inches deep with good stable manure.  
I tramped this down a little then put a board 3  
inches of good garden soil on top the manure.  
on this I planted the seed, and covered them  
about the fourth inch deep. I kept the bed moist  
and on the eleventh of April the first plants came  
up, I put canvas over the box to protect the plants  
from the wind and cold at night. and in the day  
time I would take it off. on the 10 of May, I set out  
my first plants. in about a week I hoed them out,  
a good rain came and they began to grow

Nicely. I had them plowed three times and hoed them each time. I did not know how to prune them until they were so large that it was very hard work, they had several large stems to each plant and so many suckers it took a long time to prune them. Then I got some shantlings and drove one up the side each plant tied a string to the plant, then to the stake. and as the plant would grow, I would tie it up with another string, I tried several ways I found this way of staking the easiest way. I had some trouble with some kind of disease, that a little worm would get in the stem of the plant about even with the ground, and just hollow it out then the plant would just wilt and fall over, if you would pull the plant up and open the stem you could find the worm. Then the cut worms