

only; but this barren hard earth of which I now write, must onely be broken by this violent and extreme labour, or else there will neither be mould, earth, or any converture for the Seed, but only foul, great, and disorderly clots and lumps, through which the grain can never pass, and that which lyeth uncovered will be made a-prey to fowl, and other vermine, which will hourly destroy it.

After you have sown and herrowed the ground, you shall then see if there remain any clots or hard lumps of earth unbroken, Of Clotting the Earth. which the teeth of the harrow are not able to tear in pieces (as it is very likely you shall perceive many) for these hard barren earths which are plowed up in their green swarths, are nothing neer so easily broken and brought to mould, as are the mellow soft earths which have been formerly plowed many times before, because the hard and intricate roots of the Grass, Moss, and other quick substances growing upon the same doth bind and hold the mould so close and fast together, besides the natural strength and hardness of the earth, that without much industry and painful labour, it is impossible to bring it to that fineness of mould which Art and good Husbandry requireth; therefore as soon as you behold those clots and lumps to lye undissevered, and unbroken, you shall forthwith take good strong clotting beetles, or mauls made of hard, and very sound wood, according to the proportion of this figure.



And with these mauls or clotting beetles, you shall break all the hard clots and lumps of earth in pieces, even to so small dust as possibly you can, because you are to presuppose that these clots thus hard, tough, and unwilling to be with any means digested
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Markham, Gervase. Markham's farewell to husbandry: or The enriching of all sorts of barren and sterile grounds in our nation, to be as fruitful in all manner of grain, pulse, and grass, as the best grounds whatsoever. Together with the annoyances and preservation of all grain and seed ... Now newly the eleventh time revis'd, corrected and amended, together with many new additions, and cheap experiments. For the bettering of arable pasture, and woody grounds. 11th ed., Printed for Hannah Sawbridge, 1684. The Making of the Modern World, link. [gale.com/apps/doc/U0100278535/MOME?u=ncsu_main&sid=bookmark-MOME&xid=50a30f13&pg=17](https://www.gale.com/apps/doc/U0100278535/MOME?u=ncsu_main&sid=bookmark-MOME&xid=50a30f13&pg=17). Accessed 10 Feb. 2022.