Nursery bed preparation:
1. Construct raised seedbeds of 1 m wide where no eggplant, potato, or tomato have been grown for at least 3 years.
2. Incorporate 5 kg/m² of good compost into the bed.
3. If possible solarize the planting bed to kill diseases (Fig. 1. left).
4. Form shallow furrows with a stick. One ha of tomato will require 150 to 200 g of good seed.
5. Sow seed and cover lightly with soil.
6. Pat firmly with a rake, mulch and then water.
7. Do not use fresh manure on a seed bed as it burns seedlings.
8. After seedlings emerge push mulch off the seedlines to allow sunlight.
9. Young seedlings require sufficient water. One week before transplanting, reduce water to harden seedlings.
10. Tomato seedlings will be ready with 3 to 5 true leaves (15-25 cm high). Onion seedlings are ready to transplant with 3 to 5 well-formed leaves. Transplant on a cloudy day or in the late afternoon.