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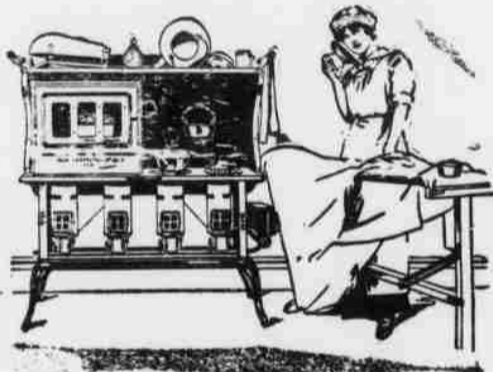
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OUR FARMERS' COLUMN

Articles Pertaining to Agriculture Will Be Found in This Column Every Week

WHAT CROPS CAN BE SOWN AT THE LAST WORKING OF CORN AND COTTON.

In sections north of the Cotton Belt crimson clover and rape are crops sometimes sown at the last working of corn. This is only practicable when corn is cultivated until the latter part of August, or the seasons are short and the weather is not too hot after the corn is laid by. In that portion of the Progressive Farmer territory lying north of the Cotton Belt crimson clover may be sown at the last working of the corn if it is cultivated pretty late.

But the crop which should be sown in corn when it is given its last working is cowpeas. All things considered, there is no other crop the equal of cowpeas for sowing in corn in the Cotton Belt.

Cotton is usually cultivated to a later date and offers better opportunities for sowing winter-growing cover crops at the last working. In the northern third of the Cotton Belt where the cotton is cultivated up into August, crimson clover, bur clover, vetch and rye may be sown at the last working, but as a general rule we do not advise the sowing of these crops in cotton at the last working. We believe that in practically all cases, especially in the southern two-thirds of the Cotton Belt, these crops do better sown immediately after first picking.

There are objections offered to the sowing of cowpeas in corn and of any of these winter-growing cover crops in cotton. When the corn is heavy, planted as thick as it should be on good land and cultivated as late as a dry season demands, it is apt to be so thick that cowpeas will make little growth. Fortunately such lands need the cowpeas less, but they will make growth enough in any cornfield to pay for sowing.

On lands where cotton grows large and late and is usually planted thicker than it should be, the same objections are made to sowing any crop in cotton. Cotton so thick that crimson clover, bur clover, oats and rye cannot be sown after the first picking, has been allowed a stand too thick for the best cotton yield.

It appears, therefore, from the foregoing, that about the only crops to be generally sown in the corn when laid by is cowpeas, and that there is no suitable crop for sowing at the last working of cotton. The observations of the writer support that statement.

In sowing cowpeas in corn I believe they should be sown broadcast and an abundance of seed used. They are usually sown in corn to be grazed or plowed under for improving the soil and my observation is they make a larger growth as a whole when sown thick and broadcast.—Progressive Farmer.

IRISH POTATOES.

This is from Alabama: "I want to plant an acre in Irish potatoes now, and have a very good piece of bottom land, which was in oats and peas last year, and in oats this year, all crops being removed. What is the best variety to plant now? Please advise as to preparation, fertilization and planting these."

The land should be deeply broken and well pulverized. Then run out deep furrows by going twice in the furrow, and apply 500 pounds an acre in the furrows of a good high-grade fertilizer. Here where I live we have a sandy soil and I use a fertilizer made here that runs 2 per cent ammonia, 8 per cent phosphoric acid and 10 per cent potash. In your section I would assume that a good 4-8-4 ready-made fertilizer will answer better. Put the fertilizer in and mix it with the soil, either with a bull tongue or by dragging a log through the furrows. Make the furrows three feet apart and plant the potatoes, cut to two eyes, 15 inches apart in the rows. Cover rather lightly at first and as they grow work the soil to them till level, and then cultivate level and shallow, the object at this season being to conserve moisture by getting the potatoes deep in the ground and keeping a dust mulch on the surface. I always hill up early potatoes, but never late ones, as the hill would dry out and you would lose the moisture needed. I plant the Sir Walter Raleigh, but many here plant the Green Mountain and the Hoosier. All of these are good. Do not plant before the middle of the month.—Progressive Farmer.

LIVE STOCK SECTION

That the South enjoys advantages which are such as to make it a great live stock section of this country is hardly a matter to be denied, and with the other states of the South North Carolina has such advantages as should make it an industry of great profit and value. Individual cases show that this view can be demonstrated as correct, and our view is that conditions in North Carolina are ideal for making it the place of a great live stock industry.

There are conditions to be met which have acted as handicaps. The Progressive Farmer believes the three most important reasons why the South does not produce more live stock are cotton, the negro and the large number of gentlemen farmers who do not live on their farms, but to farming on a large scale. "In short," it says, "the South has not largely developed a live stock industry because conditions have not been suited to the development of live stock men." Our need, then, is for men who will study the live stock industry and enter into it as a regular part of their farming operations. All the conditions of climate and soil are such as to promise success.

These conditions, or reasons why the South should raise live stock, are well summed up in the Progressive Farmer as follows:

"1. Its long growing season, which makes the growing of two forage crops a year practicable, enabling it to produce forage cheaply.
"2. It has a large number of le-

gumes suited to the different seasons of the year and adapted to varying soil conditions, and legumes are our cheapest and best live stock feeds.

"3. Our soils are deficient in nitrogen and humus, and the growing of legumes is the best means of supplying these deficiencies, but to obtain the most benefit from a legume crop after it is grown, it must be fed on the farm and the manure returned to the land which grew the crop.

"4. Our lands are lower in price but by means of our longer grazing and growing season they will produce as much feed per acre in a year as the higher-priced lands of other sections, which means we can produce feeds at lower cost.

"5. Because there is no natural or climatic or other conditions which offers any serious obstacle to live stock raising except the cattle ticks, and they may be easily eradicated as proved by the rapidity with which infested territory is being cleaned.—News and Observer.

BURSTING BARN

More barn space will have to be provided for the hay crop. Larger cribs will have to be built for the corn. New storehouses will be required to store the harvested products.

A great year indeed is this for the man "who feels as all."

Yesterday's government crop report indicated a total yield of wheat of 900,000,000 bushels. The total yield last year was 793,380,000, while in 1912 the total yield was 730,267,000 and in 1911 it was 621,333,000.

The estimated total production of oats this year is 1,219,000,000 which is considerably more than the crops of 1913 and 1911, although not quite up to the 1913 yield.

Reports on rye, barley, hay, etc., show big crops in sight and satisfactory conditions.

All of which means prosperity, spelled with big letters. The silly talk of hard times becomes ridiculous in the face of this glowing picture of bursting barns and bumper crops.

The New York Herald is an independent newspaper. Recently it carried a letter from its Chicago correspondent which the Philadelphia Record reprints, with comment. The letter pictures so well the real situation that we reprint an excerpt from it, which follows:

"Western merchants, serene amid all the pessimistic clamor of months past, hail the wonderful story of wheat as the harbinger of still better things. Already doing a thriving business, they are looking forward to a big summer trade and a healthy expansion of their activities in the fall."

"It is not wheat alone that holds forth the rosy promise. The oats crop at this moment seems destined to go for beyond the billion-bushel mark. Never was there a finer outlook for hay. Corn is still in its infancy, but in acreage and reasonable conditions it presages results quite in keeping with those of its sister grains.

"There are many sound reasons, said John V. Farwell, 'for my prediction that this country is beginning to enter an era of prosperity greater than any in the past. The merchants have scarcely been touched by the seemingly adverse conditions of the last few months. Unusual crop prospects and a better feeling in the agricultural states are reported to us by all our travelers.'

"Millers, farmers, railroad men and Western bankers tell me the crop prospects are unprecedented," said George M. Reynolds, president of the Continental and Commercial National Bank. The general business situation might be better, but it might also be vastly worse. Merchandising is moving well and we most need to bring back confidences in industrial and commercial centres and relief for the railroads. Give them a chance for fair return, to make needed improvements and extensions, and the steel and other industries will quickly show the effects. The whole country would benefit thereby."

"Little patience is entertained in this part of the country toward those politicians who for manifest partisan purposes are seeking to show that the country is far on the way to bow-wow land with demitrimming."

True enough. The people of the country are not ignoramuses. When they hear professional politicians talking "hard times" and predicting financial ruin they know they are manufacturing imaginative straw men with which to deceive the voters.

Colonel Roosevelt's recent gloomy picture of national poverty and misery causes one to laugh when viewing the situation as it exists today, a slight being shown in the above picture of agricultural prosperity and plenty. Charlotte News.

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The planting of Seed Potatoes in June and July is increasing to a wonderful extent. A great many farmers claim that they give better crops planted at this time than they do when planted in the spring. Potatoes planted in June and July mature in the cool weather of the fall, at a time when they can be harvested to best advantage.

* The Seed Potatoes we offer are put in cold storage early in the season, so as to keep in first-class, vigorous condition.

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