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DON'T CULTIVATE TOO DEEP.

It is estimated that the Farmers of North Carolina lose 1,000,000 Each Year By Cultivating Their Corn Too Deep.

If we knew as much about the root of the corn plant as we know about its aerial part and the ear we should secure larger yields per acre, for this knowledge inevitably would do away with deep cultivation, which is fundamentally wrong.

At last I have been able to secure a photograph which shows to my satisfaction the root development of a corn plant six weeks old. Of course some of the roots were broken off in getting the plant out of the ground. In length the principal roots of this plant range from two to five feet. Imagine what a mass of corn roots is in a field when the plants are six weeks old or older!

THE MORE BROKEN ROOTS THE HARDER FOR THE PLANT TO GROW.

A good healthy plant should have about as much root growth as the plant shows. This plant three weeks later would show a much more elaborate root system. It would be about this time that corn would be laid by.

Plants feed through their roots, taking in food and water through the root hairs that branch off from the larger roots. Roots being the feeders of the plants, great care should be taken not to injure them. But this is not done by the generality of corn growers. They practice deep culture, and lay by the crop by plowing deep and ridging the rows. Many soils naturally are shallow, so that in order to secure plant food, roots must confine themselves near the surface, especially when the moisture supply is adequate to their needs.

Now it is evident that deep culture of corn after it is five weeks old or older is sure to prune the roots. Every grower has had proof of this when he lifted his gangs out at the end of the row and noticed clusters of fine roots wrapped around the shanks right over the shovels. These are corn roots that have been torn out. The more of them you break off the more difficult it is for the plants to gather feed; you handicap them just that much, and cause them to use their energies in overcoming the injury.

MAKING FIVE BUSHELS MORE PER ACRE CONVERTED MR. WING.

Every root is busy conveying food and water to the plant. Cut it and the plant suffers. You may not notice the injury, but its effects will be reflected in the yield, even though you may secure what you think is a good yield—it would have been larger if you had not pruned the roots by deep cultivation.

If you don't believe this, all you have to do is to try deep and superficial tillage side by side. You will be convinced. I had my doubts about the matter until I showed myself in this way. The difference on my farm in favor of the shallow culture was five bushels per acre. It has been more in tests made by other growers and by Experiment Stations. In any case I am sure a farmer will find shallow culture more profitable, and the beauty of it is that it does not cost any more. In fact, it is easier on the team. It has other advantages, too.

BETTER NOT CULTIVATE AT ALL THAN RUIN THE ROOT GROWTH.

Surface tillage leaves the field level so that it is more easily got over by wagons, mowers, binders and other implements that are used the same or the following year. Deep cultivation facilities

soil erosion, especially in rolling districts, such as we have here. Plowing deep at the last, or when laying by corn, is a severe shock to the plants, severing thousands of roots, disturbing others and promoting the evaporation of moisture. It is worse than no cultivation at all. Many a grower has injured his crop to the extent of eight or ten bushels per acre in this way.

NO EXCUSE FOR RIDGING CORN AT ANY TIME.

There is no excuse for ridging corn at any time, especially when laying it by. Some men think the brace roots should be covered, and for this reason practice throwing dirt to the corn. This is a mistake; brace roots do not require such attention. Let them stick out naked. They are for emergencies. If the corn plant should be lodged, then these brace roots will get busy and help it get up or aid in overcoming the injury inflicted by the wind or other cause of the plant's downfall.

Most farmers practice deep cultivation in order to cover up the weeds that are not cut out by the operation. If they would use the right kind of cultivators there would not be any weeds to cover, provided there was a favorable season for farm work. I appreciate that rains in the spring often delay cultivation of corn so long that weeds get a big start, and are mastered with much difficulty, but this is not generally the case. Weedy corn-fields are usually to be attributed to an inferior seed-bed and poor culture at the outset. There isn't much excuse for them. We have been able to keep our corn clean, even in wet seasons, by doing the right thing at the right time.

THE RIGHT WAY TO CULTIVATE.

Should a rain occur immediately after planting, we either run the harrow or a weeder over the field just as soon as the soil is sufficiently dry to work satisfactorily. Any weed seeds that may have sprouted in the meantime are promptly killed by this operation. Moreover, the crust on the surface is broken and the dust mulch left the evaporation of moisture, which is very important in weather such as we had last spring. The breaking of the crust also is an advantage to the sprouting corn in that the sprouts can force their way through without difficulty. A weeder is used every week, sometimes twice a week, after the corn "comes up" until it is too large properly to work with this admirable tool; then the surface cultivator is introduced. The weeder used with proper frequency will kill the young weeds before they establish themselves.

USE OF WEEDERS AND CULTIVATORS.

In case wet weather interferes so that the weeds get too big for the weeder (remember that this implement is a weed preventer rather than a weed killer), then cultivators fitted with knives instead of shovels take the place of the weeder. These knives cut about an inch of dirt, making a clean sweep of the weeds. They do not get down to the roots of the corn plants. We do not hesitate, however, to use the shovel cultivator while the corn is small, in case we cannot do satisfactory work with the weeder or the surface cultivator. I do not believe that any appreciable injury is done corn by the shovel cultivator until the plants are say six inches high; then its use should be discontinued. So if the weeds get a start while the corn is young, you can go after them with the shovel cultivator and plow as deep as you like. But don't keep this up; as the corn progresses introduce superficial tillage.

THE FINAL WORKING OF THE CROP.

We continue to use the surface cultivator as long as we can without breaking down any corn; then, in order to preserve soil moisture rather than keep down weeds, which have already been conquered, we use a one-horse harrow shaped like the letter A, dragging it between the corn rows. This tool finishes the job in fine shape, leaving the surface smooth and well broken up. We have also used the wheel of a corn planter in giving corn its final working. A fine-tooth harrow is to be preferred.

It is a good practice to sow cow peas, rape or sow beans with the corn just before the last cultivation. If you have sheep and hogs these crops will make you money.—Progressive Farmer.

STOKES BOY IN TENNESSEE.

Thinks the Wheat Crop Here Looks Better Than It Does There—Stock As Well As Other Things Are High.

Knoxville, Tenn., June 4.—Just a few words to the Reporter, as I am one of the old Stokes county boys.

I left Stokes on the 23rd of May. I saw some beautiful scenes on my way here crossing the Blue Ridge mountains. When we started up the mountains I wondered how we would ever get across, for it looked to me just like we were running against a rock wall, sometimes the engine and cars would be in a round ring but we kept winding around until we got across. We came through six tunnels and it took five minutes to run through the last one. We run on the banks of the French Broad for about 60 miles and there was high mountains, one on each side of us.

Knoxville is a fine place. The crops look very well here but I think the crops in Stokes look as well or a little better than they do here. The wheat crops look better in Stokes than here. This is an awful hilly and mountainous country. Tennessee river runs along the edge of the town. It is a fine place to boat ride, and a good many places for the people to enjoy themselves. Knoxville has about 70,000 inhabitants.

They raise some stock here, but stock are high here and everything else is high.

ARTHUR BOYLES.

Mr. Alex. Southern, of German-ton Route 1, attended the Confederate Veterans reunion at Richmond, Va., last week.

Mrs. D. A. Binkley and children returned Friday from an extended visit to their old home at Lewisville, Forsyth county.

Jamestown Ter-Centennial, Norfolk, Va., April 26th, Nov. 30th, 1907.

Southern Railway announces extremely low rates to Norfolk, Va., and return on account of the above occasion. The following round trip rates will apply from Walnut Cove, N. C.:

Season Tickets, \$13.30.
Sixty Day Tickets, \$11.10.
Fifteen Day Tickets, \$10.40.

Coach Excursion Tickets, \$6.20.
Coach Excursion Tickets will be sold on Tuesday, with limit seven days from date of sale, will be stamped "Not Good in Pullman or Parlor cars." Other tickets will be sold daily April 19th, to November 30th inclusive.

The Southern Railway will afford excellent passenger service to and from Norfolk on account of this occasion. For further information, and Pullman reservations address any Agent Southern Railway or write W. H. TAYLOR, G. P. A., Washington, D. C. R. L. VERNON, T. P. A., Charlotte, N. C.

MOUNT AIRY HAPPENINGS.

Local Market Has Lots Of Home Raised Vegetables—Vote To Be Taken On \$25,000 Bond Issue For Statesville Air Line Railroad—Other Notes.

Mount Airy, June 6.—The trucking interests around this city are becoming an important industry, for now the local market is well supplied with early home-raised vegetables, which are far superior to those shipped from elsewhere.

This has been an unusually cold and dreary spring, but by referring to an old newspaper published in 1880 we learn that on the 17th of June of that year one inch of snow fell at Shelby. Hence, this is not the coldest spring ever known in the Old North State.

The past few days have been record-breakers in planting tobacco, millions of plants having been transplanted to the open fields. There has been a scarcity of plants, but most of the farmers in the county have secured enough to set reasonable crops. Of course the crop will not be as large as that of last year, but with careful and thorough cultivation, it will doubtless bring as much.

The Board of County Commissioners has ordered an election to be held in Dobson on July 10th for the purpose of voting upon the question of issuing \$25,000 in bonds as stock in the proposed Statesville Air Line Railway that is to be built through this section. While bonds for this purpose were defeated in that township last November, it is said that sentiment has greatly changed, and that the bonds will be voted is freely predicted. There is no question as to the great advantages of this enterprise, as it would mean more to that immediate section, as well as to the entire county, than anything else that could be done, and it is hoped that the citizens of that township will take advantage of this great opportunity, which would materially aid in the development and upbuilding of the county.—Mt. Airy Leader.

When to Wear Good Clothes.

When people know you are making money you can afford to wear old, shabby clothes. But when you're hard up put on the best togs you can get. You know it doesn't make any difference how bad a wolf feels, just so he doesn't show his distress. Once he begins to limp and whine the rest of the pack are upon him in a trice, ready to eat him up.—Lamar Democrat.

Miss Mattie C. Taylor, of Winston, came up Thursday and will spend some time here visiting relatives.

Mr. D. S. Watkins, of Walnut Cove, was here Thursday. Mr. Watkins attended the reunion of the old Confederate Veterans at Richmond a few days since. He also visited the Jamestown Exposition while he was away. Mr. Watkins says that the buildings, grounds, etc., like a good deal of being finished and that the attendance is small.

REMARKABLE RESCUE.

That truth is stranger than fiction, has once more been demonstrated in the little town of Fedora, Tenn., the residence of C. V. Lepper. He writes: "I was in bed, entirely disabled with hemorrhages of the lungs and throat. Doctors failed to help me, and all hope had fled when I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery. Then instant relief came. Then coughing soon ceased; the bleeding diminished rapidly, and in three weeks I was able to go to work." Guaranteed cure for coughs and colds. 50c. and \$1.00 all druggists. Trial bottle free.

OAK GROVE.

Oak Grove, June 4.—Mr. D. F. Tillotson, wife and daughter spent Saturday and Sunday with relatives, Messrs. Jno. E. and Geo. W. and Bony Smith. All had a jolly old time.

Mr. Charlie Boyles, of Pinnacle Route 2, called on Miss Ella Smith Sunday.

Mr. Martial Smith filled his regular appointment at Mr. Dock Boyles' Sunday.

Mr. Voss met with the Oak Grove choir June 2nd, and a large crowd was present. He will be with them July 7 at 9 o'clock, a. m. Everybody invited to come out and take a part.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Bony Smith is conducting an interesting Sunday School at Oak Grove. The people both old and young are taking a great interest in it. We believe that a good Sunday School is one of the cornerstones of the upbuilding of the churches of our fair land and country.

PLEASANT BOYS.

Death Of Mrs. Mary M. Boyles.

Mrs. Mary M. Boyles was born May 19th, 1836, and died June 3rd, 1907, aged 71 years and 15 days. She leaves one son, two brothers, four sisters and a large number of relatives and friends to mourn their loss. Her husband was lost in the Civil War. She lived a widow more than 40 years. She was afflicted about one year, and for quite a while she was confined to her room and suffered much. She had close and kind attention, but every effort failed, the time had come. The remains were laid to rest in the family cemetery near her brother's, Mr. D. M. Tuttle, on June 4th in the presence of a large congregation of relatives and sympathizing friends, the writer conducting the funeral services.

P. OLIVER.

MR. KITCHIN INTERVIEWED.

Says He Will Gladly Canvass the State With Any Competitor Who Thinks He Is Unsuited For the Office Of Governor.

Raleigh, June 3.—In a lengthy interview given out here Congressman W. W. Kitchin, who is in the race for the Democratic nomination for governor, to succeed Governor R. B. Glenn, declared that he would be glad to canvass the State with any competitor who thinks he (Kitchin) has failed in his Congressional duty, or that he is or has been in any political combine, or that he is unsafe or hostile to business, or that his trust and railroad record is contrary to the interests of the people, or that he is otherwise unsuitable for the office of governor. He says he is constrained to make this challenge because he cannot undertake to notice all the charges that ignorance and malice may make against him and believing that joint discussions contribute to a just understanding of differences and relying on the intelligence of the people to refute slander and withstand all efforts to mislead.

CURES BLOOD, SKIN DISEASES, CANCER, GREAT EST BLOOD PURIFIER FREE.

If your blood is impure, thin, diseased, hot or full of humors, if you have blood poison, cancer, carbuncles, eating sores, scrofula, eczema, itching, risings and bumps, scabby, pimply skin, bone pains, catarrh, rheumatism, or any blood or skin disease, take Botanic Blood Balm (B. B. B.). Soon all sores heal, aches and pains stop and the blood is made pure and rich. Druggists or by express \$1 per large bottle, 3 bottles for \$2.50 or 6 bottles for \$5.00. Sample free by writing Blood Balm Co., Atlanta, Ga. B. B. B. is especially advised for chronic, deep-seated cases, as it cures after all else fails.

THE FRUIT CANNING INDUSTRY.

Mr. J. Walter Tuttle Gives His Experience In The Business—One and a Half Acres Should Make Enough Tomatoes To Fill 12,000 Cans.

King Route 1, June 8.

Mr. Editor: A few years ago I ordered a canner. I never had seen any canning done but followed the instructions given in the book. We canned string beans, apples, tomatoes, peaches and lost but few cans the first year. We have sold out this time and are having calls for more.

We planted one-fourth of an acre in tomatoes last year and canned and sold \$71.38 worth. The cans cost us \$17.00, leaving us for our work \$54.38 for the one-fourth acre. The tomato crop last year was counted about one-half yield. We only lost three cans of tomatoes.

We have 1 1/2 acres this year for tomatoes, and it would not be doing extra to furnish me two cans to the vine, making 12,000 cans or 1,000 dozen at \$1.00 a dozen would be \$1,000, less \$360.00 for cans, leaving me a profit of \$640.00. Even if it only makes one can to the vine it will be half this amount which will bring more than that much planted in tobacco, and only takes a short while to make it.

You can get a canner that will can about 1,000 cans a day for ten or twelve dollars. Every farmer lets enough fruit and vegetables lay on the ground and rot to have a can once a day for six months. This can be saved with a little amount of work.

You can open your cans and use them again by putting live coals of fire on top of the lids and melting the solder.

Don't let fruit stand in the cans after opening. Empty immediately and wash and dry your cans perfectly and they will not rust. Put them in a dry place as tin will rust in a damp cellar.

Buy you a canner and save your fruit, and if you have more than what is needed at home, sell at wholesale prices and you will be surprised how much you can make in such a short time. Pack your cans full and nice and where you sell this year you will have no trouble in selling next season.

Respectfully,

J. WALTER TUTTLE.

Taxes for Four Months School.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Joyner issued today explicit and positive instructions to all county superintendents of schools to make careful estimates of the money necessary for each county to assure a four-months' school in each district and present this statement to the county commissioners, who will be expected to make an additional levy of taxes at their July meeting for the amount needed, this being under section 4112, public school law, and section 3, article 9, of the Constitution, the contention of Superintendent Joyner being that four months of school are now clearly a necessary expense for which tax must be levied in spite of the Barksdale vs. Sampson commissioners case by the Supreme Court in 1885.

He says he is sure the Supreme Court now will sustain the necessity of such a tax and all the counties now without four months school must levy it.—Raleigh item.

Marriage At Madison.

The marriage of Miss Bessie Pratt, of Madison, to Mr. G. H. Simpson, of Durham, was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents at Madison on last Wednesday. Both are popular young people.