

HOW TO STORE SWEET POTATOES SUCCESSFULLY

Dryness, and Even Temperature, Ventilation and Curing Are Essentials That Should Be Carefully Looked Into.

The subject of storing sweet potatoes should be of interest to practically every farmer in the Southern States. Not every one is growing sweet potatoes for the market, but almost every farmer in the South grows them for his own use. A comparatively small percent of them succeed in keeping, or even try to keep potatoes from one season to the next.

There are just a few essential things to remember in storing potatoes, which, if followed out, will assure success; but it does not make any difference how these essentials are put into practice, the results will be the same.

In the first place, they should be kept dry, not allowed to freeze, and they should have a certain amount of ventilation. In addition to this, whenever possible, they should be cured out before storing; however, this is not absolutely necessary.

Prof. H. M. Connolly, Assistant Horticulturist at Washington, D. C., has conducted a number of demonstrations in the South during the last two years. During the winter of 1912 and 1913 he had eight houses in the South, built on a plan furnished by his department; and in the winter of 1913-14 he had 22 houses.

Mr. Connolly tells me that notwithstanding the fact that some of these houses were built late in the season and that in some cases, the potatoes were even moved from other places of storage into these houses, that every one has proved a success.

These houses are built with a double wall with dead air spaces between, and built up off the ground so as to allow free circulation of air under the house. I will not undertake to describe this house, nor to go into details with reference to how it is arranged, for you can get this information in bulletin form from the Department at Washington, D. C.

Mr. Connolly states that in no one case has the loss from decay amounted to as much as 2 per cent. in this house; but there will of course be a certain amount of loss from shrinkage, which will probably run to about 15 per cent. up to April 1. By this method the potatoes are dug and placed in the house directly from the field and a heater is put into operation to dry out the atmosphere and, to a certain extent, cure out the potatoes. The heater is kept in operation for about 10 days, after which time the temperature and moisture are regulated by ventilators.

This house is devised so as to combine all the essential features in curing and storing, and it seems from the past two years experience that it is meeting these conditions; and is a most practical and economical way to store sweet potatoes in a commercial way.

We realize that the house referred to would probably be too large and too expensive for the farmer where sweets are not

grown for the market. In a case of this kind, the farmer would have to use some method that would as nearly as possible include the essential features of this house. He may do this by building small houses on a somewhat different plan, by banking them in a barn, or in cellars. A comparatively easy and economical method is to store them out in the field. This may be done by making a long bank of them holding several hundred bushels. This is a method that we have used for several years and we have found it entirely satisfactory.

The potatoes are brought out of the field and placed in long banks five or six feet wide at the bottom and as long as you care to make them. A well drained place should be selected but no excavation made. The potatoes are simply left on the ground and piled up as high as they will pile up in the shape of a barn roof. If the weather is fair they may be left in this shape for several days, when corn stalks should be placed over them three or four inches deep, placed close together so as to shed the water; they should not come close enough together at the top to exclude the air. Dirt is put on top of these stalks two-thirds or three-fourths of the way from the ground to the top. Then some kind of roof should be placed over them so as to keep them perfectly dry, and so placed as to allow the warm air coming from the potatoes to escape. It is unnecessary to allow them to have very much air, but a little air is essential. It is unsafe to open up these banks along the top or at intervals for the purpose of allowing them to get more air after they have gone through a certain amount of the curing process.

We have been using this method for five years and have never lost more than 3 or 4 per cent. from rot, and in every case where we have lost, the loss was caused from allowing them to get wet or from some other avoidable reason. A permanent shelter could be built and a bank of this kind made under the shelter each year, provided necessary precautions are taken to do away with the rotten potatoes from the year preceding, so as not to run too much risk from this source.

If one has plenty of barn room, they can be stored in banks of this kind and covered sufficiently to prevent loss from freezing. I have seen them kept in rather large quantities in barns very satisfactorily; but one should be careful not to take too much risk in storing them in too large quantities in this way.

Cellars and other devices may be used, but the essential to success, as stated in the beginning, should be borne in mind.

—L. T. Rhodes, in The Progressive Farmer.

NOTICE.

Let all of our people please bear in mind that the M. E. church of Danbury will be dedicated next Sunday at 11 o'clock, September 27th, by Rev. R. M. Hoyle, presiding elder of the Mount Airy District. Quarterly Conference on Saturday.

THOS. J. FOLGER.

DEPARTMENT OF WOMAN'S WORK.

(Conducted By the Woman's Union Missionary Society of Danbury.)

Two Cents A Month—Why Not?

You who complain that the missionary assessments are heavy, are you aware that the combined annual assessment for home and foreign missions averages only twenty-six cents a month from each member, with an extra stamp thrown in for Christmas, would pay the assessment in full. Of this amount, twenty cents is for foreign work and six cents for connectional work at home; or, to put it another way with perfect justice, twenty cents apiece to save the world and six cents for the salvation of our own land.

But we are not doing even that well. We are paying on assessment an average of seventeen and a half cents a year for foreign work and five cents for connectional home work. Only once in many years has our liberality as a church risen to the full measure of the assessment.

The Base Line.

It should be remembered that the assessment is the base line of missionary support. It is the only fund that can be confidently counted on for the maintenance of the regular work of missions. It measures, too, the interest and co-operation of the great mass of the church membership. Only one church in twenty carries a special and not one member in a hundred.

Failure to meet the assessment means failure all along the line. It means failing interest on the part of the church. It means failure to meet our God-given opportunities abroad. It means disloyalty to Christ and indifference to our fellows. It cannot be justified or excused on any ground whatever. Crops may fail, business may be depressed, financial panics may come; but under no conceivable condition in this land of plenty can our people plead inability to give on an average a postage stamp a week to carry out our Lord's last and most sacred command.

The Assessment In Full.

We are asking this year for the assessment in full. To ask for less would be an injustice to the work, a lack of faith, and a reflection on the church's interest and liberality. There are some churches that will not meet it. There are many that can and should go far beyond. We are paying to-day less per capita on the assessment for foreign missions than we did twenty-five years ago. We stand next to the bottom of the list of great American churches in our giving to this cause. It is high time that we should awake for the sake of the work and no less for our own sakes. A church without the missionary spirit is dead or dying. An individual without it is either ignorant or unchristian. For every reason we must do at least this little that is asked of us as our share in the world's evangelization.

How To Do It.

The responsibility rests upon every pastor, lay leader, missionary committeeman, and member of a missionary society. Lay the obligation before every member of the church. Insist on a contribution from each one. Make a special appeal to those of greater financial ability. Lay the facts before them and ask them to help. Set a Sunday for full collections. Put all the church organizations behind it and make it a great day for missions. Special helps will be furnished by the Board on request. Collect all subscriptions promptly. Let none go by default.

Enlist your people in prayer, that God's world-loving Spirit may come upon our great church and lead it into worthy partnership with his plan for the world's redemption. Above all, pray privately, in groups, in the congregation, humbly, earnestly, expectantly. These are days when God is doing great things for and by his church. He is ready to bless us and make us a blessing beyond all that we have ever asked or thought. He waits only on our readiness. Shall we not let him have his way with us? "Awake, thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." Ephesians 5:1.

EXCURSION! TO Norfolk, Va.,

And Return, Via Southern Railway,

Monday = Wednesday, September 28th-30th, 1914.

Southern Railway will operate low fare excursion to Norfolk, Va., on Monday, September 28th, this being the last excursion to be operated this season.

Special train consisting of both day coaches and Pullman sleeping cars will leave Charlotte at 5:00 p. m. Monday, September 28th, arriving Norfolk 6:30 a. m. Tuesday, 29th, and returning will leave Norfolk at 7:30 p. m. Wednesday, September 30th. Two whole days and one night at Norfolk.

Following round trip fares will apply from stations named:

Charlotte	\$4.50	Gastonia	\$5.00
Concord	4.50	Mooresville	5.00
Morganton	5.00	Hickory	5.00
Shelby	5.00	Statesville	5.00
Greensboro	3.65	Lexington	4.50
Winston-Salem	4.00	Reidsville	3.35
North Wilkesboro	5.25	Elkin	5.25

Fares from all other points not shown on same basis. Passengers from all branch line points will use regular trains to and from Junction points connecting with the special train.

Important that Pullman reservations be made in advance.

For Pullman reservations or other information apply to any Agent Southern Railway, or,

R. H. DeBUTTS, D. P. A.
Charlotte, N. C.

CALENDAR FOR Fall Term 1914

THE SUPERIOR COURT OF STOKES COUNTY

His Honor W. A. Devin, Judge Presiding.

Wednesday, Nov. 4th, 1914.

W. R. Padgett, 17	T. M. Lawson vs. J. A. Stone.
J. D. H., N. O. P. 15	The Bank of Stokes County Assignee of C. H. McDaniel vs. A. J. White and C. H. M. Daniel.
N. O. P. 19	J. H. Fulton, admr. of Jacob Fulton, vs. Wm. L. Hairston.
J. D. H. 23	J. H. Carter and J. A. Williams, trading as Carter & Williams, vs. Dr. D. C. Dicks.
J. D. H. 24	James O. Southern vs. Peter Kiser.
N. O. P. 2	Della Joyce vs. John Joyce.
Sums. Docket	John H. Bondurant vs. Emma Bondurant.
J. D. H. 8	Mittie J. Hylton vs. Thomas W. Hylton.
Sums. Docket	R. H. Kiser vs. Tip Johnson.

THURSDAY, NOV. 5th, 1914.

J. W. H. 14	Laura Hairston vs. Hilary Hairston.
J. & P.	T. W. Terry vs. W. S. Crews.
N. O. P. 20	O. N. Petree and others vs. B. J. Savage and others.
J. W. H.	
N. O. P., W. B. & W. 8	
J. & P., J. D. H.	

MOTION DOCKET.

Watson, Buxton, Watson, Petree. 1	Jas. Rierson and W. W. King vs. Z. V. Robertson, et al.
J. D. H. 2	Wm. H. Carroll vs. Gideon Ferguson.
N. O. P.	Alice J. Watkins vs. Robert L. Lawson.
J. W. Hall, S. E. H., W. B. & W., N. O. P. 3	Mrs. M. J. Crouse, et al. vs. Curtis Crouse, et al.
J. D. H., J. & P.	L. P. Grogan vs. Wm. Smith, et al.
Haynes and Jones. J. D. H. 4	Melissa B. Flippin vs. James C. Flippin.
J. W. H., E. B. J. 5	Zilla J. Gann and husband vs. A. J. Gann.
W. B. & W. for W. W. King, N. O. Petree for Ada Dodson and husband and Emma Smith and husband.	W. T. Spencer vs. M. C. Voss.
J. D. H. 6	A. J. Fair vs. A. P. Stephenson.
N. O. P., C. O. M. 7	Julius Bennett vs. J. O. Bennett.
J. W. H., E. B. J. 9	T. V. Sizemore vs. Southern Railway Company.
J. D. H. 11	Farmers Quickstep Tel. Co. vs. The Rawley Medical Co.
N. O. P. 12	V. D. Boles, Mrs. Annie T. Boyd, Ex. and Wm. O. Fowler vs. A. L. Payne.
J. D. H. 13	J. Calvin Kiser vs. The Bank of Stokes County.
M. & H. and W., N. O. P. 13	Lola Bennett, Admx. of W. D. Bennett, W. R. Bennett and O. M. Bennett, partners trading and doing business as W. R. Bennett & Son. vs. John W. Burwell.
J. D. H. 16	Martha Ann Bennett and husband vs. John W. Burwell.
W. B. & W., C. M. Bernard, N. O. Petree.	
Helsabeck 17	
J. D. H. 21	
N. O. P. for Ex. E. B. J. for W. R. Bennett & Son.	
N. O. P. 22	
J. W. H.	

Cases not reached on the day set for trial, will be taken up on the next or succeeding days in their order. Motions will be heard at any time at the convenience of the court.

This Sept. 21st, 1914.

M. T. CHILTON, Clerk Superior Court.