

Farm Department.

Conducted by J. M. BEATY.

The Comparative Value of Cow Peas and Soy Beans.

The year 1902 gave the writer a season of experiences with rich results. He has contended that when better known the soy bean would be, as a farm and feed crop, second only to corn. Events in 1902 bring the matter right to the door of dairymen, feeders, breeders and farmers.

All kinds of ordinary hay and fodders can be perfectly cured and housed. The farm bears evidence that curing cowpea hay is a difficult problem, too often a total failure.

In ten years' experience more than one-third of the time we have either lost all or a large part of our pea hay. Our best seasons we have lost a part of the best of it—the leaves. If rained on after they are cut, the leaves, stems and vines turn black, the leaves shatter off, we get into the barn a lot of stringy stuff with a hempen fiber so tough stock cannot masticate it, and have a big waste. The quality of the feed is seriously injured.

For hogging off, for pasture, or to plow under we regard the cowpea a wonderful crop.

In this correspondence we have given tables from the bulletins of the Department of Agriculture, of Washington, D. C., showing that as a means of taking nitrogen from the air and fixing it in the soil, the soy bean stands first, clover second and cowpeas third. We have also shown from the letter of Mr. James Bellwood, of Virginia, that he has thrashed "over one hundred bushels of soy beans from one acre of rich 'James River' bottom land." No man in Virginia has higher standing or character than Capt. Bellwood. We copied from these bulletins that analysis shows that one bushel of soy beans has a feeding value equivalent to more than three bushels of corn. Then (I don't say it, but the United States says) this one acre of beans was worth more than 300 bushels of corn for feeding purposes.

We have also given tables showing that corn fodder and soy bean hay, equal parts, make a perfectly "balanced ration."

The difficulty of getting seed that would grow, and harvesting soy beans, have kept them in the background. With our better knowledge both are overcome.

The soy bean is so rich in nitrogen that if thrashed and put in bulk with the least moisture in the seeds they will heat enough to injure the germ. That part of the crop the farmer wants for seed he should let stand until the leaves fall off, then cut, shock and let stand until the seed is dry, thrash and put in sacks (do not bulk) and store in a dry place. Thus treated every seed will grow. The idea is to thoroughly eliminate all moisture. A common separator thrashes them as easily as oats.

HARVESTING AND CURING THE CROP.

Previous to 1902 we have been able to cut and bind a few bundles in a comparatively green state. They cured out perfectly, but following the cutting we had ideal curing weather, hot with fresh winds. We feared to put it out to the public lest wet, muggy weather might cause them to heat and mould. In 1902 we determined to test the matter, and found a machine that could cut and bind them in their greenest stage. The weather was cloudy, with showers every few days. We selected about three acres of very heavy beans from 3 1/2 to 5 feet high, in full bloom (their greenest stage). We cut them in the afternoon, leaving them on the ground to wilt and dry out a few days before shocking. That night a hard shower wet the bundles thoroughly. They were shocked the next day as we would wheat.

A few days after they were shocked we had a down-pour. The dense and immense foliage turned the water off like a duck's feathers, then followed four weeks of cloudy and showery weather ideal to test the question whether soy beans cut green and tightly bound would cure out into perfect animal feed. They were six weeks, until perfectly cured and dry, and when fed out not a moulded bundle was found.

Two days before we cut the beans we cut four acres of cowpeas. The continued wet weather caused us to lose the pea forage—it rotted. But we got a fair crop of pea seed.

The superiority of the soy bean

over any other crop will be emphasized in our future farming by growing soy beans alone for feed, pasture and to plow down. —Robert C. Morris in Progressive Farmer.

A Good Use for Bugs.

To the subject of insects, harmful and beneficial, more attention is given here than in any other State in the union. Here was the first applied the discovery that there were insects that feed upon and destroy the various white, black and purple scale insects that kill the orange, olive and other fruit producing trees. This discovery has resulted in importing and breeding the various lady bugs which have made our citrus crop safe. We have learned the use of another kind of useful insect. The lady bugs swarm upon scale covered trees and keep up a perpetual picnic, increasing as they go, until the orchard is cleaned entirely. Then Mr. Crawford found that we have a minute insect, a native of this golden west, which, properly encouraged, moves into the black scale, inhabits it as a place of residence and proceeds to eat up its habitation, and then moves with its increased family into others. This little friend of ours does not increase fast enough to entirely overtake the black scale, which outbreeds it, but it does destroy from one to three quarters of the black scale every year, and the black ladybird of Australia does the rest.

We got the San Jose scale from China. It arrived before we had our immigration laws against such aliens, and was unfortunately named the San Jose scale, to the injury of the good name of that splendid fruit region in the Santa Clara valley. It is now nearly exterminated here, thanks to another internal parasite and a ladybird bearing the royal name of rhizobius toowoombae. The San Jose scale was carried east and as the use of beneficial insects is not as well understood there as here, it has in some sections become the terror of horticulture.

A cheap and admirable remedy is something that has been eagerly sought by fruit growers, and as bugs seem to fill these requirements more nearly than anything yet discovered, a new commercial industry may yet be established in this product of the west.—San Francisco Call.

How to Manage Sheep and Lambs Through Summer and Fall.

The sheep and lambs should have plenty of pasture. If they can have the run of a woods, they will enjoy picking the briars, weeds and sprouts, and the shades of the trees will make a more pleasant place for them, in the heat of the day, than the fields. If they can also have the run of a field, they will enjoy grazing there in the cool of the day, and the grass is more nutritious than that in the woods.

It is important that they have fresh, pure water. It is better if they can have water in a trough, from a well or spring, than to drink from a branch or marshy place. Liver fluke and other diseases are caused by drinking or grazing on marshy ground.

But few shepherds have sheds in the pasture for the sheep in summer, but they are a prime necessity for your sheep if they are to do their best. I prefer a shed made in sections, so that it may be moved from one place to another when desired. Put it on the highest and poorest knoll in the field. When the field is put in corn, the shed having been removed to another pasture, that knoll will bring the best corn of any part of the field. Have windows in the shed, and cover them with burlap to make it dash and keep the flies out. Tack burlap at the top of the door, letting it hang down loose. Then sheep will go in and out under the burlap, and the flies will not bother them when in the shed. They will also learn to go to the shed to get out of the rain. Have a salt box in the shed, and keep it filled with four parts salt one part sulphur and five parts wood ashes. This is the best medicine I have ever used to keep them free from stomach worms. It will also do much towards driving the ticks from their wool.

The lambs may be weaned at 4 1/2 to 5 months old. If the lambs are to go to market in the fall, they should have some grain in addition to good pasture. Keep them growing right along until they are sold.—Indiana farmer.

Cheerfulness is health; its opposite, melancholy, is disease.—Haliburton.

Facts Worth Knowing About the Panama Canal.

Estimated cost of the Panama Canal, \$200,000,000.

Amount paid French Company for the title, \$40,000,000.

Amount paid Panama Government for perpetual lease of canal lands, \$10,000,000.

Length of canal, 46 miles. Canal width varies from 250 to 500 feet at the top, the bottom width being 150 feet.

There will be five twin locks of concrete masonry, each lock 738 feet long and 82 feet wide, with a lifting capacity of 30 to 32 feet.

Lake Bohio (artificial) covers 31 square miles.

Alhajuela Lake (artificial) covers 5,900 acres, and will furnish motive power for operating the locks and lighting the canal from ocean to ocean.

Distance from New York to San Francisco by old route, 13,714 miles; by the route through the canal, 5,299 miles.

Distance from New York to Manila by present route via San Francisco and Yokohama, 19,530 miles.

Distance from New York to Manila by Panama Canal via San Francisco and Yokohama, 11,585 miles.

Distance saved in a sailing trip around the world by the new route through the Panama Canal, 2,768 miles.

The Panama Canal was practically begun in 1883 by the French Company. They had completed about two fifths of the length, when because of fraudulent management the company failed, and the work ceased in 1889.—June Woman's Home Companion.

Cured His Mother of Rheumatism

"My mother has been a sufferer for many years with rheumatism," says W. H. Howar, of Husband, Pa. "At times she was unable to move at all, while at all times walking was painful. I presented her with a bottle of Chamberlain's Pain Balm and after a few applications she decided it was the most wonderful pain reliever she had ever tried, in fact, he is never without it now and is at all times able to walk. An occasional application of Pain Balm keeps away the pain that she was formerly troubled with." For sale by Hood Bros., Selma Drug Co., and Benson Drug Co.

Why He Was Listened To.

It is said that Dr. Joseph Parker was once asked how he managed to draw thousands to his City Temple simply to hear him preach. His reply is characteristic:

"You would understand if you read my library."

"Is it a good one?"

"O, it's good, bad, indifferent, grand, and squalid," answered the mighty talker. "It's everything. It's in underground trains and on 'busses, in aerated tea shops, smart restaurants, at churches, stations, parties, receptions, meetings, jubilees, and sick beds; you find it in prisons and boudoirs. The fact is, you can never get away from it. We call it 'human nature,' for want of a better name, I study it—that's why I call it my library. Most men don't, you see. But that's why I am listened to."—The Classmate.

Summer Colds.

Summer colds, usually hang on stubbornly and are hard to cure. Rydale's Elixir speedily cures summer colds and lingering coughs. This modern scientific remedy is a prescription, especially adapted to the successful treatment of all chronic, throat or lung diseases. If you are afflicted with a summer cold or lingering cough, get a trial bottle of Rydale's Elixir. You'll be surprised at the result. Trial size, 25c. Family size 50c. Hood Bros., J. R. Ledbetter.

The Meaning of "Imbibes."

Teacher—"Have you looked up the meaning of the word 'imbibes,' Fanny?"

Fanny—"Yes, ma'am."

Teacher—"Well, what does it mean?"

Fanny—"To take in."

Teacher—"Yes. Now give a sentence using the word."

Fanny—"My aunt imbibes boarders."—June Woman's Home Companion.

Ladies and Children

who can not stand the shocking strain of laxative purges and cathartic pills are especially fond of Little Early Risers. All persons who find it necessary to take a liver medicine should try these easy pills, and compare the agreeably pleasant and strengthening effect with the nauseating and weakening conditions following the use of other remedies. Little Early Risers cure biliousness, constipation, sick headache, jaundice, malaria and liver troubles. Sold by Hood Bros., J. W. Benson, and J. R. Ledbetter.

Count De Staylate—"When I was a youngster I used to ring doorbells and then run away." Miss De Hint—"And now you ring them and stay."—Buffalo News.

BAD BLOOD

Reveals itself in many ways. Sometimes the impurities in the blood mark and mar the skin with blotches, pimples, boils or other eruptions. Sometimes the result of bad blood is rheumatism or a debilitated condition which is popularly described as "feeling played out, hardly able to drag myself around."

The impurities and poisons which corrupt the blood, clog the liver and cloud the skin are removed by the use of Doctor Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It does more than eliminate the poisons; it increases the activity of the blood-making glands so that there is an increased supply of pure, body-building blood. It brightens the eyes, cleanses the skin, and gives new, physical energy.

Accept no substitute for Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery.

"I thank God for the good your medicines have done me," writes Mr. James M. Sizemore, of Mitchell, Lawrence Co., Ind., Box 501. "I was not well for two years. My throat was always sore, head ached, and back ached nearly all the time. My weight was 135 pounds. I was taken sick with typhoid fever, and when the fever left me I had such a pain in my left side I could not breathe without pain. I thought I must die. My wife went to the drug store and procured a bottle of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery and a trial of his 'Pleasant Pellets.' I discontinued the use of my doctor's medicine and began with the 'Golden Medical Discovery' and 'Pellets.' I at once began to feel better: the pain soon left my side and I could breathe with ease. In a week or so I felt so good I could not stay in the room. I began to walk about the streets: I felt better each morning. After a month's use of the medicine I was well. That was over a year ago. Now I weigh 184 pounds and feel better than ever in my life."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure constipation.

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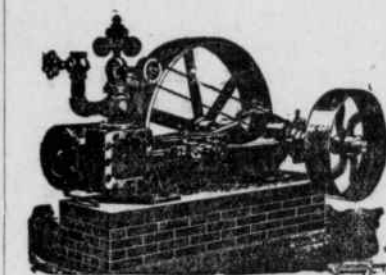
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