

SOUTHERN FARM NOTES.

TOPICS OF INTEREST TO THE PLANTER, STOCKMAN AND TRUCK GROWER.

How to Plant.

To a correspondent who wants to plant after oats sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, cabbage and collards, also to sow the balance of the field in peas and then cut them for hay, the Southern Cultivator gives the following advice:

The method of preparation which is best for one of these crops is best for all of them. That method is to break the land fifteen inches. Harrow until the soil is very fine for five or six inches deep. Then plant each crop as you usually do. Bed a flat bed for sweet potatoes, rows three feet and plants set sixteen to eighteen inches apart.

Irish Potatoes—Red flat, thirty inches between rows. Open with a good shovel plow, wrap the pieces of potato ten to twelve inches. Cover with two furrows and break out as soon as they come up, throwing dirt around the plants. The Lookout Mountain is a good variety, but Early Rose, Triumph, Peerless, etc., are good. Cultivate rapidly and shallow, and dig them when ripe or grown. Put them in a dark, cool place and pick out the bruised ones. Very little covering will be needed in your latitude. They may be barreled after a few weeks, if carefully picked and holes made in the barrels for ventilation. Store the barrels in a dry, dark room.

Cabbages and Collards—Fertilize highly for these. Sow seed the last of August. Set plants in September or October. Cultivate often. Stir the soil if there is no grass.

Peas—Sow broadcast three-fourths of a bushel or plant in drill half bushel per acre. Whippoorwills are the best, but others will do.

Low, flat, hard, white, sandy land, with white clay subsoil—the land should be broken deep. Get through the hard layer of white clay. Harrow it well and then put in Johnson grass or Bermuda or alfalfa, or part in each as suits you best. This land if treated right will be very valuable for pasture and haymaking.

Very Superior Rice is Grown.

Rice is irrigated in South Carolina by manipulating river waters through trunks built in the dikes which protect the low marsh lands from the rivers. The delta lands are selected with reference to the possibility of flooding from the rivers with fresh water at high tide, and of draining them at low tide. The reclamation of these lands necessitates the building, parallel with the river, of costly dikes, capable of resisting the force of the flood tide, and also that of the river in time of freshets. After the dikes are built the field is divided into sections and squares by similar banks, called "check" banks. These squares contain from five to thirty acres each, and in turn are subdivided by ditches into bed, usually about thirty-five feet wide and extending the length of the square. Each of these squares has a wooden trunk with a door at each end, through which the water is admitted to the field. The trunks are from thirty to forty feet long, from three to twelve feet wide, and about sixteen inches deep, and are built under the dikes on a level with the beds of the ditches. In flooding the field the outer door is raised and the inner closed. As the tide rises the water comes in through the trunk, pushes the field door open, and passes through the ditches to the field. When the tide falls in the river, the pressure of the water in the field closes the inner swinging door against the muzzle of the trunk, thus holding the water. In draining the field this method is reversed, the field door being raised at low tide and the outer door dropped. The unlimited supply of fresh water and its perfect control by this system of flooding and draining account for the superior quality of rice for which South Carolina is famous.

Planting Cow Peas in Cotton Fields.

A correspondent commenting on our advice to sow cow peas in the cotton field when cultivating the last time, says that we make a mistake in so advising, as the peas will interfere with the picking of the crop. We differ from our friend. There is no reason whatever why the peas should any more interfere with the picking of cotton than they interfere with gathering a corn crop. In rows four feet apart there is plenty of room to plant a row of cow peas in the middle of each row, and yet leave room enough for the pickers to work without treading down the peas. Plant a bush variety rather than one growing long trailing vines, and no trouble will be caused by the vines running on the cotton. The importance of securing humus in the soil which the pea vines will furnish, is infinitely greater than any little trouble which the vines may cause to the pickers. Even though the pickers should tread down the peas not much harm will be done, for at the time when the cotton is ready for picking the peas will have made their growth, and they will serve as good a purpose trodden

down on the ground almost as though allowed to stand and be later trodden down by the stock. The main object of the planting advised is to secure vegetable matter to add to the soil. This is the great need of the cotton fields.—Southern Planter.

Cultivation of Sorghum.

Cultivation of sorghum is about the same as that required for corn. If the crust should form before the seed germinates or after plants appear above the ground, the field may be harrowed to thin out the plants and break the crust. Plowing does sorghum but little good unless it be planted in rows and thinned out in hills as for syrup growing. The harrow is the best implement for use. This may be used freely until the plants are too high for such work, when the cultivation should cease. As a rule the thicker the stand the better for forage. This, of course, depends largely on the strength of the soil and the food given by application of fertilizers.

The mowing machine is the best for harvesting a field of sorghum grown for forage. The stalks may be cut the same as ordinary grain. If left on the ground until after a rain much of the feeding value is lost because of the blades spoiling and the dirt sticking to the plants. When the heads are well formed is the best time for cutting the plant. It may be left in small bunches to dry or hauled away to the stack silo and put up ready for winter feeding. Sorghum designed for dry feeding should be kept under shelter in the barn or shed. Those who have not tested it will be surprised at its feeding value.—Southern Cultivator.

Turnips a Good Crop.

Turnips are good for the table and good for the stable. Stock are very fond of them. And the yellow varieties contain a very large per cent. of nourishment. We have found the yellow rutabagas to be excellent food for horses, cattle and hogs. Indeed, we have found that our mules would quit eating corn at any time to eat the turnips.

That they are good for the table is proved by the fact that our grocery merchants find it necessary and profitable to keep them in stock even when they have to be brought from the Northwest, or imported from Canada. That they should be thus imported is a reproach to our Southern intelligence. Turnips grow readily all over the South and yield wonderfully. Very few crops can be made to produce more per acre than rutabagas. From 1000 to 1200 bushels per acre have often been grown. Such yields as these are very profitable. The demand is ready and the price is steady.—Cultivator.

Diversified Farming.

The South is peculiarly adapted to diversified farming, and our farmers would reap far greater profits from this source than from the culture of cotton alone. The sooner this is realized and Southern farmers begin to contract the acreage of cotton and increase the diversified crops the sooner will they see permanent prosperity entering their homes and brightening their lives with new possibilities.

Have No Idle Land.

Land cleared of early and fall planted crops should be at once broken and fertilized and be planted with other crops to come in later. Never let the land lie idle and producing only weeds. It is wasting fertility and making work. If not needed for other vegetable crops, sow with cow peas or some other fodder crop and make some feed for the stock.

Cut Corn Up at the Root.

Do not pull any fodder, but cut the corn up at the root as soon as the ears are glazed and dented, and set in shecks to cure. Fodder pulling injures the yield of grain and leads to the wasting of a large part of the crop. Nearly one-half of the nutritive value of the corn crop is in the stalk, sheck and blades, and this ought all to be saved and fed.

A Slow Process.

The scrub animals of the South can be improved by crossing upon them thoroughbred males of improved breeds, but the progression will be slow, and you must not be disappointed at the receipts of sales of your first crosses.

Cassava.

Watch the weather and cut your cassava stalks just ahead of frost. Dig the roots at your convenience and care for them much as you do sweet potatoes.

The Eloquence of Selfishness.

Sorrow being essentially selfish, tears are merely the eloquence of selfishness.—New York News.

When a woman buries the hatchet she allows the handle to stick up.

GERMLESS SCHOOL BOOKS.

Salt Lake's Precautions Against Spreading Disease Among Its Children.

A new ordinance has been adopted in Salt Lake City with the idea of preventing the disseminating of scarlet fever and diphtheria germs among school children.

Both diseases have recently been epidemic among the children in the city, and the Board of Health decided that the germs traveled in the school books and other things carried by the pupils. The result has been the passage of an ordinance which is probably more stringent than any other of the kind ever adopted by any municipality.

It provides that none of the school books shall be covered with any material other than paper. In all schools in which there is a free distribution of books such books, after having once been used, must be recovered and thoroughly disinfected by the Board of Health.

A student once having received a book shall keep it as long as that book is necessary for his studies.

It is unlawful for the schools to collect pencils, sponges or other articles used by the students for the purpose of redistributing them to other students. A violation of any provision of the ordinance is punishable by a fine of \$25.

WISE WORDS.

Bad grass does not make good hay.—Italian proverb.

The tree is not to be judged by its bark.—Italian proverb.

Better to fall from the window than the roof.—Italian proverb.

Fools and the perverse fill the lawyer's purse.—Spanish proverb.

It is better to irritate a dog than an old woman.—Italian proverb.

Be ignorant thy choice where knowledge leads to woe.—Beattie.

The fault is great in proportion to him who commits it.—French proverb.

Poverty does not destroy virtue, nor does wealth bestow it.—Spanish proverb.

Deep swimmers and high climbers seldom die in their beds.—Dutch proverb.

Land mortgaged may return, but honesty once pawned is ne'er redeemed.—Middleton.

To succeed one must sometimes be very bold and sometimes very prudent.—Napoleon.

Where there is no want of will there will be no want of opportunity.—Spanish proverb.

Hares are caught with hounds, fools with praise and women with money.—German proverb.

How Muskrats are Secured.

Muskrats are frequently secured by forcing a long-pronged spear or gig through the tops of their houses and transfixing the animals within. The house must be approached cautiously, for it is vacated on the slightest alarm. After each successful thrust a hole is cut through the wall of the house with a hatchet and the game removed, when the hole is filled up. As the animals are scurrying through the house after the thrust of the spear some may be taking by spearing them through the ice if the thickness of the latter does not exceed two inches. The remaining members of the family soon return and set about repairing the breach in the wall of the house. If, when the wall is breached, a trap is properly set inside the house, near the edge of the nest and a few inches under the water, the first muskrat returning is usually taken. When a trap is so set, a stick about three feet long is placed through the ring of the chain and laid across the breach in the wall.

On sunny days in winter or early spring muskrats are shot while sitting on the ice or while swimming about or basking on logs. They are also secured in the same manner on moonlight nights. Large numbers are taken in this manner by sportsmen, but it is not a desirable method of obtaining them for the fur market on account of the damage done by the shot.

Handy Books of Insults.

Herr Schuch, a German author, has compiled a dictionary of 2500 insulting expressions, carefully tabulated, indexed and classified.

The work, on which Herr Schuch has spent years of labor, says the Chicago Chronicle, is called the Schimpfwörter Lexikon, and is divided into five general heads—insults for men, insults for women, insults for either sex, insults for children and collective insults for syndicates, groups and corporations. Herr Schuch, with that minute discernment of the searching German, has subdivided these classes into smaller ones, so that when one wishes to call his friend or enemy a name it needs but a short consultation with the book to find the exact epithet or phrase which will fit the case.

This work would have been invaluable to Mississippi River pilots in the old days, and even now the teamster may regard it as a welcome addition to his library.

The Fun of Doing Wrong.

Half the fun of doing wrong is the juggling with it to make it seem right.—New York Press.

HORTICULTURE

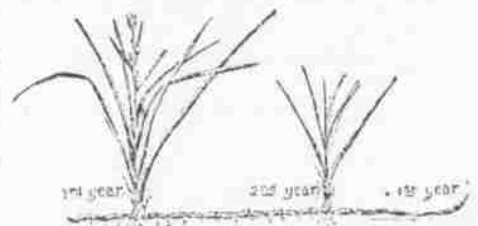


An Enemy to Squash Vines.

The old familiar squash bug is rapidly gaining ground over various sections in the destruction of squash and allied plants. It is a difficult insect to combat, owing to its feeding habits, and it sucks its food from the tissues of the vines. A plant can be protected by covering the hill with netting and burying the edges of the cloth about the hill. In some cases truckers plant many more seeds than are necessary, the extra plants being used as a bait for the insects, where they can be caught and destroyed. Clean culture and good fertile soil are good to keep the plants growing vigorously to resist the attacks of these pests. They can be destroyed by hand picking. If pieces of board or other material are laid near the vines, the insects will collect at night under them, when they can be caught and easily destroyed the following morning. During the egg-laying season the vines should be carefully searched for clusters of eggs and destroyed. The young insects also have a tendency to congregate on individual plants and they can be collected by hand.—American Agriculturist.

Plants Which Walk.

Not a few plants are possessed of the actual power of migration, not merely by their seeds becoming scattered, but by an actual geographical movement from year to year. The common purple orchid, for instance, forms a new bulb each year, and each year the new shoot appears nearly an inch from the spot occupied by last year's stem. Tulips planted in the shade will often find their way to a sunny spot. There is a North American fern which sends out a long, gracefully-arching frond, which, under the burden of its weight of buds and leaves, bends to the earth, and the tip takes root, and a new plant soon bursts out at this spot. This peculiarity has gained for the fern the popular names of "Walking Leaf" and "Jumping Fern." Several grasses and sedges develop creeping stems of great length, which give rise to new plants



THE SEA SEDGE.

at every point, or at intervals. The familiar quitch, twitch, or couch, is of this character; but the most striking examples are to be found in maram grass and sea sedge that occur on sand dunes by the sea. These plants of the seashore make ropes of their enormous creeping root-stocks wherewith the sands are tied together, and many banks that would otherwise wash away with the first high tide are held intact.

Pinch Raspberry Tips Sparingly.

The pinching back of growing raspberry canes in order to force the growth of lateral wood is frequently practiced by berry growers, but was thought to be an unwise proceeding. Two sets of experiments were, therefore, tried with blackcaps and red varieties, with the following results: In the pruned row the stumps were more numerous than in the unpruned, and where both tips and laterals had been pinched, more still. There were fewer berries, or rather a lighter yield, in the pruned than in the unpruned rows. This might have been expected because the larger the number of canes the poorer the fruit, as a rule. The smallest yield was from plants trimmed in both laterals and stems.

The reason for this increased number of stumps or canes is that the raspberry produces its new growth from the bases of the old, or two-year-old stems. In this way the new canes resemble the laterals produced higher up on the stem, the difference being that they may not and normally do not appear the season the cane fruits, but push into growth the spring following. For these reasons, therefore, pinching induces the increased development of these buds at the bases of the stems, which wait only favorable conditions to develop.

From these trials the conclusion was drawn that great care must be exercised to remove as little as possible of the tips by summer pinching and to depend mainly upon the thinning of the stems after the leaves have fallen, or at least late enough to insure the non-development of the basal buds. How many stems to leave each plant will depend upon the soil, the variety and its behavior in the neighborhood.—M. G. Kains, in New England Home-Stead.

The Elephant's Teeth.

An elephant has only eight teeth altogether. At fourteen years the elephant loses its first set of teeth and a new set grows.

Nothing Easier.

Mr. and Mrs. Bailey, a young couple recently married, were beginning their housekeeping, and were doing the work of putting the rooms in order themselves.

Mr. Bailey was having some trouble in hanging one of the presents, a fine clock, upon the wall of the dining-room.

"Why is it taking you so long, dear," asked the young wife, "to put up that clock?"

"I can't get it plumb," he replied.

"Then why don't you send for the plumber?" she asked, in perfect sincerity.—Youth's Companion.

The Species of Woodpecker.

There are some five or six species of woodpeckers, some of which farmers are prone to look upon with suspicion. Excepting a single species, the yellow-breasted woodpecker or sapsucker, these birds rarely leave any important mark on a healthy tree. The sapsucker is sometimes guilty of pecking holes in the bark of apple trees from which it drinks the sap when the little pits become filled. Large numbers of insects are also attracted by the sweet fluid in these pits, which the sapsucker also feeds upon, and to that extent largely compensates for the damage done to the tree. The flicker, or golden winged woodpecker, is seen mostly on the ground, searching for food, which consists principally of ground ants and grasshoppers. The examination of a flicker's stomach was found to contain more than 3,000 ants, yet some people persist in shooting this valuable insect destroyer for purposes of food.—New York Sun.

The expected birth of an heir to the Russian throne will not take place, owing to a mishap to the Czarina.

Mr. John W. Gates sailed for Europe on the Majestic.

F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., Props. of Hall's Cataract Cure, offer \$100 reward for any case of cataract that cannot be cured by taking Hall's Cataract Cure. Send for testimonials, free. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

About ninety-nine per cent. of the starch made in the United States is made from corn.

FITs permanently cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. \$2.00 per bottle and treatment free. Dr. R. H. Kline, Ltd., 151 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

The average duration of life in towns is calculated at thirty-eight years; in the country fifty-five years.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic, 25c. a bottle.

One of the greatest rivers of the world, the Orinoco, is also one of the least known to Europeans.

Jamaine Piso's Cure for Consumption saved my life three years ago.—Mrs. THOMAS ROBINSON, Maple St., Norwich, N. Y., Feb. 17, 1900.

TO YOUNG LADIES.

From the Treasurer of the Young People's Christian Temperance Association, Elizabeth Caine, Fond du Lac, Wis.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I want to tell you and all the young ladies of the country, how grateful I am to you for all the benefits I have received from using Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I suffered for



MISS ELIZABETH CAINE.

eight months from suppressed menstruation, and it effected my entire system until I became weak and debilitated, and at times felt that I had a hundred aches in as many places. I only used the Compound for a few weeks, but it wrought a change in me which I felt from the very beginning. I have been very regular since, have no pains, and find that my entire body is as if it was renewed. I gladly recommend Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to everybody."—Miss ELIZABETH CAINE, 69 W. Division St., Fond du Lac, Wis.—\$5000 forfeit if above testimonial is not genuine.

At such a time the greatest aid to nature is Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It prepares the young system for the coming change, and is the surest reliance for woman's ills of every nature.

Mrs. Pinkham invites all young women who are ill to write her for free advice. Address Lynn, Mass.

So. 37.

WANTED

250 Young Men
As soon as you find good conditions which we will guarantee in writing under a \$5,000 deposit to promptly procure them.
The Ga.-Ala. Bus. College,
MACON, GEORGIA.