

Use High Grade Fertilizer Only

Sand and Cheap Materials Are Expensive Because of Handling Cost.

The principal arguments for high-analysis fertilizers are: (1) they save on freight, (2) they save on the cost of handling, (3) they do not require a filler, and (4) they require the use of higher grade goods by the manufacturer. So says Prof. C. P. Blackwell, chief of the agronomy division, Clemson college, who explains that high-analysis fertilizers are those containing 16 per cent or more of plant food.

Results to Farmer.

If a farmer buys a low-analysis fertilizer, the manufacturer, in order to make up this, must of necessity use one of two things. He must either use low-analysis materials for his ammonia and potash, or he must use a filler. In either case the results to the farmer are practically the same. For example, the manufacturer may use sand as a filler. One may argue that sand is very cheap and it should make little difference in the price of the fertilizer, but let us see if that is true.

To begin with, that sand must be hauled to the fertilizer plant. It must be unloaded and handled into the plant. It must then be mixed in with the fertilizer. Then it must be sacked, tagged, and handled out of the plant. All this is paid for by the farmer. It is then shipped to the farmer's freight station at his expense, and he must now haul it to his farm and distribute it over the land. All this takes labor, so in the end this sand has cost the farmer a great deal. The manufacturer will generally say that he does not charge the farmer for this filler and perhaps he does not directly, but indirectly he does add it to the farmer's bill.

Again, one may say that the filler does not amount to much. That may or may not be true. If the farmer is buying 8-3-3 fertilizer (and more than 40 per cent of the fertilizer sold in South Carolina is of that analysis), this 8-3-3 fertilizer can be mixed from high-analysis materials with less than 1,500 pounds of material for each ton of fertilizer, the remaining 500 pounds being filler. This 500 pounds of filler must add materially to the cost of buying this fertilizer and applying it to the field.

Low Analysis Materials.

As a general rule, however, the manufacturer would, most likely, use low-analysis materials for making up this fertilizer. The result, however, is practically the same so far as the farmer is concerned. He pays for the expense of handling the large bulk of low-grade material used in making up this fertilizer, and frequently the materials used are not so good as the higher analysis materials.

Deep, Mellow Seed Bed Is Required for Soy Beans

Soy beans require a deep mellow seed bed similar to corn and it would pay to plow the field and keep it in good condition until the first of June which is about the best time to sow the beans. Manchu is one of the best varieties for hay. The oat cups should be used in the grain drill and they should all be left open when sowing for hay. The drill should be adjusted to sow from 60 to 90 pounds per acre.

The beans must be inoculated to get the best results and the best way to do it is to secure some soil from a field where soy beans are grown, being careful to get soil that has contained some of the soy-bean roots. Spread this out and let it dry, but do not expose it to the sun for the light will kill the bacteria. Then mix three or four quarts of the soil with each bushel of the seed and drill it together. Be careful not to get the seed covered too deeply. Never plant deeper than three inches, depending upon the soil.

Useful Manure Spreader

Durability of manure spreader depends largely upon resistance to wear of its gears and bearing surfaces. A spreader has to withstand almost as bad usage in this respect as plow or cultivator. Modern spreaders are generally made with bearings carefully guarded against dust and grit. All moving parts that require lubrication should be covered and protected so dirt and stone cannot get into them. An oiled surface will hold dust and grit.

Cows Fail to Clean Well

It is very noticeable in some sections where the soil is under continuous croppings for a long period, as well as during hot, dry seasons when the crops do not grow well, that the cows fail to clean naturally at calving time. This frequently happens when the cows are fed a ration that is low in mineral matter. In herds that are fed sparingly and with a poor ration the number of cows that fail to clean are many more than from a well-fed herd.

Cause of Weak Pigs

There are several things that cause pigs to be weak at birth. Probably the most common cause is the improper care of the sow during pregnancy. The sow must be fed a carefully balanced ration containing plenty of protein and mineral matter for these substances must be present to build the growing embryos. Exercise is very important because the sow must be in good health to nourish the young pigs.

Hardy Western Ewes Best for Beginners

Are Freer From Parasites Than Native Animals.

Because western ewes are harder and freer from parasites than native ewes, they are recommended as foundation stock for the beginner in sheep husbandry by Phil A. Anderson of the division of animal husbandry, University farm at St. Paul, Minn.

Mr. Anderson explains that sheep that come to the market may be divided into two general classes—natives, or sheep of medium or long wool breeding, raised on small farms, and westerns, or sheep of fine wool or Merino breeding, raised under western range conditions.

Usually the natives come to the market in small lots. Buyers of large numbers, therefore, are likely to get sheep of different breeding. Often native ewes show poor breeding because poor sires were used on many farm flocks. Western ewes, on the other hand, come to the market in larger consignments. They are smaller in size than natives, but they have the advantage of hardiness and greater freedom from disease and, if mated with good rams of the medium-wooled or long-wooled breeds, they will produce very acceptable lambs.

If the beginner is in position to make a finer selection, Mr. Anderson advises him to pick ewes having broad firm backs, wide loins, full and plump legs of mutton, smooth shoulders and short necks. By saving the best ewe lambs each year, the farmer can cull the poorer stock and build up a flock worth while.

Handbook Prepared for Benefit of Cow Tester

A handbook for cow testers has been prepared and published by the United States Department of Agriculture which will be of considerable value and help to the men engaged in the work of testing cows for production in cow testing associations. Many testers are not especially trained for their particular work, but by following the suggestions of the handbook and the standard methods advised, they will make their records much more valuable to the dairymen, and also more useful in the various studies by the department based on such records. Every tester should have one of these handbooks; they are printed in a convenient size for carrying in the pocket.

The handbook not only informs the tester just how to do his work in the most valuable way, but also informs the owner of the herd just what he can expect of the tester. A thorough knowledge of the duties of the tester by both the tester and the owner of the herd should aid materially in promoting harmony and better co-operation in cow testing work.

A copy of the handbook, which is called Miscellaneous Circular No. 26, may be secured upon request, as long as the supply lasts, from the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Soy Beans Recommended as Emergency Hay Crop

The Pennsylvania agricultural experiment station has completed some feeding experiments comparing soy bean hay and clover hay with alfalfa when fed to dairy cows. During the winter of 1923-24, ten Holstein cows were used in a nine-weeks' duration trial. The soy bean and alfalfa hay used was of good quality. The cows were all in a high state of lactation.

The cows receiving soy bean hay produced 3.3 per cent less milk than those receiving alfalfa hay. As an emergency hay crop for dairy farms soy beans are highly recommended.

A feeding trial of six weeks' duration was conducted comparing red clover hay with alfalfa hay for milk production.

The cows receiving the clover hay produced 6.5 per cent less milk than those receiving alfalfa.—Pennsylvania Experiment Station Bulletin No. 188.

FARM FACTS

Repair machinery for spring operations.

Cabbages keep well in a barrel buried in the ground.

Watch your seed corn, peas, etc., and fumigate promptly if weevils appear.

Between 1918 and 1924 the plantings of lettuce rose from 16,800 acres to 63,000 acres.

The most successful pure bred live stock raising in the future will be a community enterprise.

The exceedingly slow and over-cautious man may seldom make mistakes, or accomplish anything.

Even if machinery did not rust out when exposed to winter weather, it's an eyesore lying around the premises.

High-grade marl gives about the same results as limestone in making clover grow, if used in the same quantity to the acre.

Don't go into debt to buy feed for poor cows. Investigators find that one ton of every eight purchased by feeders is unwisely used and is therefore an economic waste.

HOLIDAY TIME WITH THE PORTO RICANS

Christmas Offers Pleasures New to Northerners.

A morning dip in the Caribbean sea, freshly gathered oranges and grapefruit for breakfast, eaten in a patio surrounded by the delicious freshness of flowers still wet with dew, a gloriously blue sky overhead—these were a few of the reasons why we left home and the frozen North at the holiday season to seek the land where poinsettias grow wild in the dazzling tropical sunshine. Even though such surroundings did not seem at all keeping with our idea of the Christmas season, the experience of merely being there was delightful and long to be remembered, says a contributor in the New York Herald-Tribune.

Christmas in Porto Rico is a religious holiday and not a gift day. The real celebration, such as we know, comes in January and is called Three Kings' day. The fifth, sixth and seventh days of the month celebrate the visit of the wise men to Christ's birthplace. On the evening of January 5 the children arrange boxes containing grass outside the windows of their homes for the horses of the kings. Inside are placed their shoes for the gifts that the wise men bring them, as they did the Christ child. Almost two weeks are given up to merrymaking among both old and young. There is little work done, especially among the country people, who go from house to house for dancing.

The guitar and many odd instruments, some of which are of Indian origin, furnish the music. One of the group often sings, improvising words to suit the occasion. In the absence of music for dancing, hives are tightly stretched on sticks and beaten to the accompaniment of a washing noise made by scratching with a wire t'gourd cut with grooves before drying.

Although there are many days of feasting, the greatest preparations are made for January 6. The plumpest of little pink-eyed pigs is roasted to leave the company of his brothers and sisters, pass through the hands of the cook and, when delicately roasted over a bed of charcoal, occupy the place of honor among the multitude of Christmas dishes. Mealy sweet potatoes, such as we do not see in our northern markets, are sliced raw, fried and served with it. Yautia, a starchy root vegetable, is boiled. Large green bananas are roasted, or baked in wine, brown sugar and spices.

Chicken with rice is a favorite dish, and gaudules, a cousin to the bean, is cooked in a highly seasoned sauce. The salad is usually quite simple, a favorite one being sprouts of a certain variety of palm, dressed with olive oil and lime juice and served on a bed of lettuce. Sweetmeats hold just as prominent a place on the bill of fare as they do in the North. Many sweets have a fruit foundation in the form of a paste or of crystallized fruit, the guava and bitter orange being favorite fruits for this preparation. The lechona is a melonlike fruit introduced into Spain by the Moors, and brought by the Spaniards to America. While still green the fruit is thinly sliced and cooked with brown sugar.

Another sweet which is given freely to children is made of the sweet potato. The vegetable is first cooked and mashed, then cooked again with sugar and coconut milk. The mixture is made quite stiff, and when cool it is cut into squares. Very small portions of these desserts are served, and they are usually accompanied with cheese. Fresh fruits in abundance help to decorate the Christmas table. The orange and grapefruit season is at its height, and fresas, a kind of strawberry, may be gathered the year around.

The very name Caribbean sea spells romance. Stories of Sir Francis Drake and the pirates and buccaneers who met in battle here came to our minds as we gazed out over the peaceful waters. Not exactly Christmaslike, but a peaceful, pleasant holiday nevertheless.

Worth Waiting For

One depositor of a Rochester (N. Y.) bank, had an unexpected cause for thanksgiving. He called at the bank with a passbook that had not been presented for interest since 1905. When told there would be a little delay in writing up the passbook he flatly refused to wait and only did so after considerable persuasion. He apparently considered what interest might be due as of little importance. The passbook, when presented, showed a balance of about \$1,100, and was returned to him with \$1,463.89 credited in interest and a total balance of \$2,563.31.

Perfectly Natural

"My stars!" ejaculated Mrs. Johnson upon her return from a call on a neighbor. "Mizzus Spradling told me she'd heard that some feller shot and killed his brother-in-law at the Christmas eve dance tuther night over beyond Mount Pizzy."

"Aw, well, when a feller is a brother-in-law and then up and goes to a dance with in torment can he expect to get—p'tul—shot?" returned Gap Johnson of Rumpus Ridge.—Kansas City Star.

Lunatics Have Journal

Lunatics publish a magazine at the asylum in Humberstone, Leicestershire, England. None of the officials interfere in any way with the editing and issue of the publication. It is neither censored nor re-edited and copies are sold to persons interested in the patients and the asylum.

MOTHER!

Child's Best Laxative is "California Fig Syrup"



Hurry Mother! Even a bilious, constipated, feverish child loves the pleasant taste of "California Fig Syrup" and it never fails to open the bowels. A teaspoonful today may prevent a sick child tomorrow.

Ask your druggist for genuine "California Fig Syrup" which has directions for babies and children of all ages printed on bottle. Mother! You must say "California" or you may get an imitation fig syrup.

One Consolation

Jud Tinkins says you've got to give the saxophone credit for one thing, it hasn't any chance of hearing the feller that used to whistle "Listen to the Mocking Bird" with variations.—Washington Star.

DEMAND "BAYER" ASPIRIN

Take Tablets Without Fear If You See the Safety "Bayer Cross."

Warning! Unless you see the name "Bayer" on package or on tablets you are not getting the genuine Bayer Aspirin proved safe by millions and prescribed by physicians for 23 years. Say "Bayer" when you buy Aspirin. Imitations may prove dangerous.—Adv.

Hindrance to Mariners

The Sargasso sea was discovered by Columbus on his first voyage. He became involved in it for about a fortnight. The sea is so named because of the large amount of seaweed particularly in the form of Sargassum-baciferum which it contains.

Green's August Flower

The remedy with a record of fifty-eight years of surpassing excellence. All who suffer with nervous dyspepsia, sour stomach, constipation, indigestion, torpid liver, dizziness, headaches, coming-up of food, wind on stomach, palpitation and other indications of digestive disorder, will find GREEN'S AUGUST FLOWER an effective and efficient remedy. For fifty-eight years this medicine has been successfully used in millions of households all over the civilized world. Because of its merit and popularity GREEN'S AUGUST FLOWER is found today wherever medicines are sold. 30 and 90 cent bottles.—Adv.

Valuable Material

Fluorspar is a very important product, since it is used in the manufacture of glass and of enameled ware, in the electrolytic refining of antimony and lead, in the production of aluminum, in the manufacture of hydrofluoric acid and in the iron and steel industries.

A Lady of Distinction

Is recognized by the delicate, fascinating influence of the perfume she uses. A bath with Cuticura Soap and hot water to thoroughly cleanse the pores followed by a dusting with Cuticura Talcum powder usually means a clear, sweet, healthy skin.—Advertisement.

Fisherman's Pet Seal

Mr. R. Sharpe, a Lowestoft (England) beach fisherman, has made friends with a seal, which swims after his boat whenever he launches it.

Blows Its Own Horn.

For 78 years Hanford's Balsam of Myrrh has been the friend of rich and poor. Lived that long on its own merits. 3 sizes.—Adv.

Hardly Probable

Old Professor (returning to his chair after brief absence finds cat resting there)—Great heavens! Is it possible that I've been sitting on that cat all afternoon?

A simple, old-fashioned medicine, as good today as in 1837, is compounded in Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills. They regulate the stomach, liver and bowels. Adv.

Fable

Once upon a time there was a man who told a girl she was the first woman in his life. She was.—Life.

Ginger Snaps!

so good that each one calls for more

1/2 cup sugar (granulated)
1 cup molasses
1/2 cup shortening

3/4 cups self-rising flour
1/2 teaspoon soda
1 teaspoon ginger

Heat molasses to boiling point. Add each when removed from fire. Pour hot molasses over shortening. Mix sugar with flour and combine mixture. This will make a stiff dough which is easily handled if thoroughly chilled before rolling very thin. Cut and bake on greased pans in moderate oven.

NOTE: In making rolled cookies of any kind, it may be necessary to add more flour to make dough stiff enough to handle.

A book of delightful recipes is enclosed below, send for your free copy.

WHO doesn't love old-fashioned ginger snaps—those nut-brown cookies with that tang of spice and fresh molasses? Light enough to be healthful, spicy enough to be appetizing, tasteful enough to make you want to eat a whole jarful—how the folks will enjoy them if they're made from good self-rising flour.

It's real fun to make ginger snaps, hurry-up cakes, doughnuts, waffles and dozens of other delicious things if you use self-rising flour. Like plain flour, it comes in a number of different grades and sells at various prices—the grade determining the price you pay. To save you time in cooking and to insure you light, tasteful bakings, pure phosphate baking powder has been added.

Buy self-rising flour that carries the blue symbol of the Soft Wheat Millers' Association. This Blue Shield on a bag of self-rising flour means you are buying pure, healthful, wholesome flour that has the hearty approval of food officials, dieticians and baking experts. If for any reason you are not satisfied with the baking results, your money will be cheerfully refunded.

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Unless you see the "Bayer Cross" on tablets you are not getting the genuine Bayer Aspirin proved safe by millions and prescribed by physicians 24 years for

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These mixtures are more popular than any tobacco fertilizer sold in the Carolinas of which we know. It is really a wonderful mixture and you will like it.

Made with Sulphate of Potash or Sulphate-Magnesium. If you have sand-drawn trouble use the Sulphate-Magnesium Potash. Also made in 8-3-4 and 8-3-5. There is a salesman in every bag of Josey's Fertilizers.

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