

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE FARMER

FROM PIG BABYHOOD TO MARKET

Some Suggestions on Making Money in the Hog Business, by a Farmer Who Is Doing It.

By C. C. Bowsfield, Illinois.

Every farmer, who raises as many as 100 hogs in a year, ought to divide them into spring and fall herds. By this means he will be able to distribute the labor to suit his convenience, economize in room, sell when the market suits him, and furnish his customers on short notice, any kind of pork desired, from suckling-roast to prime bacon.

The thoroughly practical man can turn hogs into money very rapidly, but the business needs to be on a scale extensive enough to enable him to properly divide his fields and buildings, and to make thorough experiments, with different types, and different kinds of food.

I have observed two or three bad failures recently, which were caused primarily, by the old and erroneous idea that hogs do not require much ground room or forage.

In raising pork for the market, the farmer ought to keep in mind these vital points: Cost of feeding, danger of disease or sickness, and range of market prices.

Starting the season with 50 to 100 pigs just weaned, the owner should provide pasturage of some kind. I would give this lot of young animals one mess per day, of bran and shorts moistened with slops, skimmed milk or whey. This is ample in a grass-plot of five or ten acres.

Clover is excellent for forage, but artichokes and rape are better. A



Berkshire Gilt.

Little corn soaked in water is good when the pigs begin to show growth.

What they need above all else, however, is the range, with just about such a line of food as would be required to give young cattle a steady and rapid growth. Field-peas ought to be available toward the end of summer. The hogs can be allowed to do the harvesting themselves.

This will give firmness and sweetness to the flesh, and could be used right through the fall, instead of corn. My preference would be to give the final month to a dressing up with corn. This crop being ready in October, the fattening process can be rushed through the month of November, or until conditions are right for marketing.

The clearest profit is made in ten months, at which age, the hogs ought to average 150 pounds. Animals that get good pasturage, and about such a diet as I have described, are pretty sure to escape disease. It is essential to have plenty of pure water in the hog lot.

The farm should include three or four small fields, securely fenced, so that one kind of forage could be rested, while the other was used. Then again, if the swine detects fever or other sickness in the herd, it is easy to segregate those animals which are affected. Prompt action, along this line, may prevent heavy loss, and, until they are upward of a year old,

Millet as a Food

The claims of millet as an important soiling food rest upon the fact that it is a good milk producing food, that it yields well on good land, that it may be grown as a catch crop and in hot weather in some instances after another crop has been harvested.

Its weak point as a soiling crop is the short season during which it can be fed.

The great points to be kept in view in preparing the land for millet are to have it finely pulverized and moist and as clean as possible. The question of moisture is all important.

If the land can be plowed some time before sowing the seed and rolled and harrowed a few times in alternation in the interval, the process will be found helpful not only in retaining ground moisture a short distance below the surface, but also in accumulating the same even in dry weather.

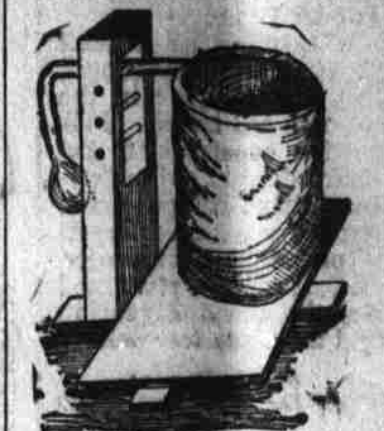
Usually depositing the seed with the grain drill is more satisfactory than sowing broadcast, and in some instances following at once with the roller will make the difference in a dry season between success and failure in the crop.

Sow from three to four pecks per acre for soiling and of various varieties, as Hungarian, German and broom corn.

If large varieties like the Japanese kinds are used, they are usually sown in rows and cultivated. From 12 to 20 tons of green millet per acre should be obtained from good and well-managed land.

A Handy Bag Holder

This illustration explains the construction of a convenient bag-holder. The weight, hung as shown, rests



against the back of the upright post and holds the bag at the desired height.

SUMMER IN THE DAIRY

At no time of the year is dairying more unpleasant work than during the time when pastures are short and the flies are troublesome.

Now is the time when it pays to have supplemental forage crops and to darken the stables and keep the cows inside during the hottest part of the day. The cold weather during the winter is less difficult to contend with than the hot sun and flies during the summer.

Low-Headed Orchard Trees

Commercial orchards of apples and pears are nowadays headed much lower than formerly, 8 feet being a very common height for starting the head of these trees, while with the peach and plum the head is started even lower, 18 or 20 inches being a common height.

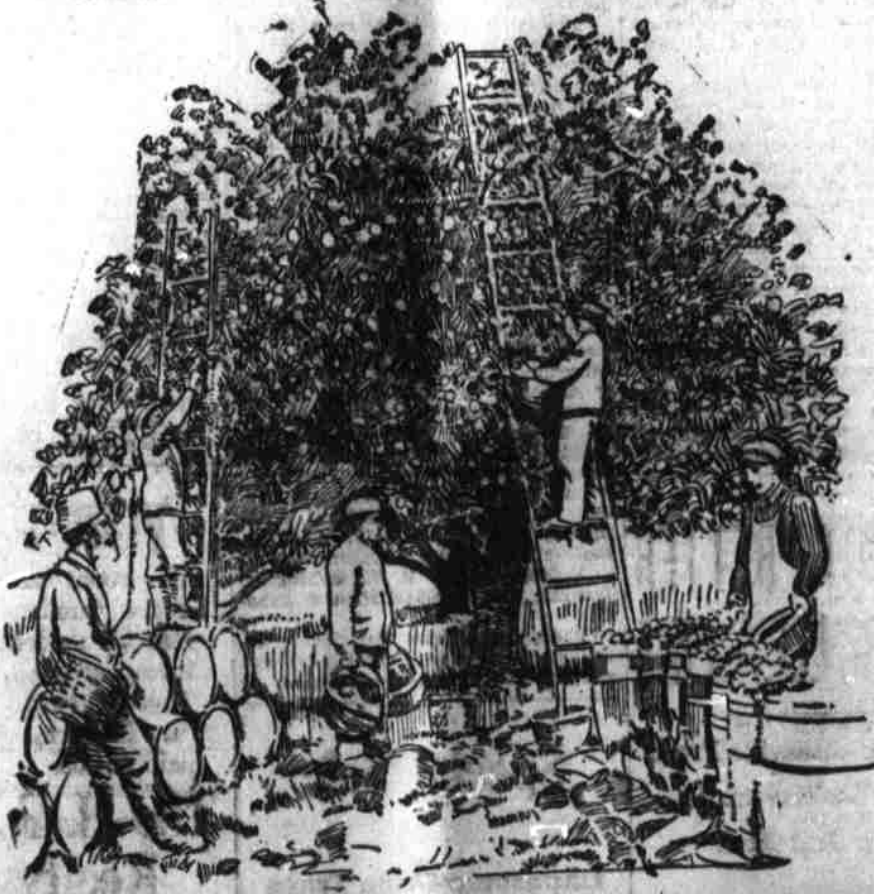
The reason for this is that in certain localities where windstorms are frequent, the low-headed trees are less likely to be broken, lose a smaller proportion of their fruit and are less subject to injury from sun scald, as the low head of the tree serves to a certain extent as a shade for the body.

The cost of harvesting the fruit from low-headed trees is much less than that of gathering from tall trees. With the low-headed trees a considerable portion of the crop can be gathered by the picker standing upon the ground, while with high-headed trees the major part of the work must be done from ladders, which greatly extends the time required to do the picking and consequently, increases its cost. Pruning, spraying, trimming as well as harvesting will be found to be more convenient on low than high-headed trees.

If your young chicks do not show the quality you expected make up your mind to spend from \$10 to \$25 on new cockerels next winter.

If the young ducks are not provided with shelter and taught how to use it they may be drowned in the heavy showers.

LOW-HEADED TREES WOULD MAKE APPLE PICKING EASIER



GROWING THE ORRIS PLANT

Cultivation is Not Difficult, and Profits Are Fairly Good at Present Prices.

By Doctor C. A. Gitchell, Virginia

The orris plant is a beautiful Iris. There are of this species of plants eight hundred varieties. Some of them bloom under the snow. Some grow in water.

The flowers of some of them yield an indelible liquid dye. Some of them have an exquisite perfume when in bloom. One of them is the orris plant.

Its leaves are long, thin, tough, wide in the middle, and of a pale-green color. It produces, on each stem, several sweet and fragrant large white or blue flowers in the early spring.

The root, after being dried, possesses a delicate perfume, which has the peculiar character of permanency, the strength of the perfume increasing with age. For these the plant is grown. Orris is the commercial name for the dried root. Perfumers and manufacturers of perfumed specialties use it powdered and granulated as the base of their products.

It enters into every face powder, sachet-powder, tooth-powder, violet-powder and every other perfumed powder. It imparts to the perfume of these powders the quality of permanence.

The seat of the foreign orris industry is around Florence and Verona, in Italy, from whence most of the orris comes.

Like all the varieties of the Iris Family, the roots grow near the surface of the soil, are tough and tenacious, so that the plant is extremely hardy and easy of propagation. The plant will stand the roughest kind of treatment and still survive.

While moisture is good for it, water standing about the roots causes them to become soft and rot. Manure, or any moist substance, produces a similar effect, and for this reason all manuring must be in the soil and before the planting.

When there is a drought, however, the plant does not die. The roots lie dormant during the dry spell, and when rain comes new shoots spring up, and in a short time the plant is fully revived.

Weeds that completely envelop established plants do but little injury, because the plant is a late fall and early spring grower.

It grows after the weeds in the fall have died, and is at it again in the spring before the weeds appear. In a comparatively mild climate the tops remain green throughout the entire winter.

It makes two distinct growths each year, sending up new shoots in both fall and spring. The root formation is regular and circular, new shoots and roots growing from the outer rim as the plant increases in size, and each season's growth remains attached.

It is desirable to so divide pork production, that a considerable number of hogs will be especially fit for bacon, and a rancier class of animals be needed for this purpose.

Hogs may be produced to run to an age of eighteen months, and weigh 400 to 500 pounds. These should be kept in such order that they can be sold off, at any time, between fifteen and eighteen months, according to the trend of the market.

They are supposed to be from fall litters, so that they must be housed for two winters, and have outside range for the one summer. They are to be fed for growth, and not for fat, until they are upward of a year old,

to the growth of the previous season. At the end of a year the small feeders attaching to the under side of the roots partially die, and this portion, after sending forth the flower stem, becomes suitable for drying.

If not harvested it is not lost, as it remains attached to the other parts of the plant by a small connecting root.

Among the many good points may be mentioned the following: It will thrive in the open field without any protection in winter. The plant is not injured by bugs or moles; it has no fungous enemies.

It will succeed on land too poor to produce the standard crops with success. Women are fond of it, and the beauty of the plant, especially when

in bloom, gives it an attraction for persons of taste and refinement.

The orris-plant possesses three sources of income for the grower. An acre is capable of producing 4,000 pounds of dried root, 1,000 dozen flowers and 20,000 small roots for planting after those for drying have been gathered. The value of these products may exceed \$3,000 per year.

The plants are certainly hardy in our middle latitudes where they grow on various types of soil, especially well, perhaps on gravelly loams. They multiply rapidly and are propagated from the ends of rhizomes, the so-called bulbs, which are cut off at the time the root is dug for market. The root not required for planting is peeled, carefully dried, and powdered.

because while the hogs are feeding in one field the other will be recovering and later furnish much more attractive feed than as if both pastures are used as one.

The vicious hog that is forever breaking out and causing trouble for one's neighbor cannot be killed too quickly.

It is a good plan to provide summer shelter for the hogs on a high spot where the wind will have a full sweep.

Two pastures are better than one

Free range for hogs does not mean that they should be allowed to run over our neighbor's farm.

With good fence wire as cheap as it is today it is an easy matter to divide up the hog pasture into convenient lots.

Two pastures are better than one

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AUCTION SALE

At MORRIS, N. C., the New Town

OF

100 BUILDING LOTS

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We have sub-divided into various size lots. So you can buy as small or as large a tract as you want. Remember Morris is bound to grow.

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REMEMBER THE DAY. GOOD MUSIC. YOUR RAILROAD FARE FREE TO MORRIS. Morris is less than 30 minutes ride from Asheville.

TERMS: 1-3 Cash, Balance in 6, 12 and 18 Months.

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