

THE RALEIGH STAR AND NORTH CAROLINA GAZETTE.

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"North Carolina—Powerful in intellectual, moral and physical resources the land of our sires and home of our affections."

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FARM WORK FOR SEPTEMBER.

On the cultivation of wheat, rye, timothy—draining, &c.—the fall exhibition. As introductory to our labor of this month, we have but a remark or two to make. We desire to call the attention of the farmers and planters of Maryland, and neighboring States, to the fact that the FAIR OF THE MARYLAND STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, will be held in Baltimore on the 10th, 11th and 12th days of October, proximo.

The constitution of this distinguished association, is as liberal as the motives of its founders are patriotic. It admits the agriculturists of every State in the Union to become members, and competitors for premiums. This is in the true catholic spirit of an enlarged and enlightened patriotism—it seeks to do good in the genuine feeling of true brotherhood—it restricts its blessings to no contracted geographical lines, but with a wise forecast and far reaching philanthropy, offers its generous embrace to all. This is worthy of the age, worthy of the noble example set us by our pilgrim sires, worthy of the agriculturists of our State, and cannot fail to draw thousands hitherward. And as such will be the case, we call upon all engaged in cultivating the earth, who may not be prevented by distance, not only to come, but to bring with them the products of their households, of their fields, and specimens of their flocks and herds. To the LADIES we hardly need appeal; for in their noble pride of sex—in their love for their husbands, fathers and brothers, and in their devotional love of country, we have every guaranty that they will do their whole duty.

Turn we now to what should be attended to

ON THE FARM.

Those who may not have got in their rye should make it a point of duty to get it in as early this month as possible, and, unless the soil be in good heart, they should be sure to treat it to a dose of such manures as will afford it the peculiar kinds of food upon which it delights to feed. In the analysis of 1000 lbs. of the grain and straw of rye, the following were found to be their constituent elements, viz:

Potash and Soda,	5.75
Lime,	3.00
Magnesia,	1.09
Alumina,	0.91
Oxide of Manganese,	0.31
Silica,	24.61
Sulphuric Acid,	1.93
Phosphoric Acid,	0.97
Chlorine,	0.26

Such being the inorganic constituents of Rye, we can very readily con-clude that, by applying 10 bushels of ashes, 10 bushels of lime, 10 lbs. of Epsom Salts, 5 bushels of bones, 1 bushel of plaster, and 1 bushel of salt per acre, a good crop of rye, even upon soils considered thin may be reasonably calculated upon, and that a marked improvement of the soil, looked for. These substances, of course, are to be shovelled over and well mixed before being used. It should be sown broadcast just before the ground is seeded, and harrowed in with the seed. In the above compost we have increased the quantities of lime, ashes and bone-dust to what we recommended last month, in order, that besides securing a good crop of rye, the improvement of the soil itself may be measurably increased; and we have added Epsom Salts with the view of furnishing the requisite quantity of Magnesia, and, with the explanation, we shall content ourselves by referring the reader to our remarks in the last number, for information as to the mode of preparing the land, culture, &c.

WHEAT.

The importance of this, one of the greatest staple crops of our country, cannot be appreciated too highly. In a large portion of the States, it is the money crop of the farmer, while everywhere throughout our almost illimitable boundaries, it is the most favorite breadstuff. In view of these facts, it is necessary that pains should be taken in its culture, and more especially in such the case, inasmuch as the grain is liable to numerous diseases and casualties, which curtail its products, and blight and disappoint expectations which were reasonably presumed to be well grounded. What is termed winter-killing is an evil, whose ill effects we believe may be greatly lessened through the agency of subsoil ploughing, as an auxiliary to the ordinary ploughing given to wheat grounds. By loosening the earth some six or eight inches beneath the upturned soil, the water which falls upon the surface is enabled to descend beneath the reach of the young roots of the wheat plants, and thus they are, to some extent, protected against the uprooting effect consequent upon the expansion and contraction of sudden freezings and thawings of that portion of the soil immediately subject to the atmospheric influence. It seems reasonable to us, that the less the degree of moisture or wet which exists in the immediate vicinity of the roots of the wheat plants, the less danger there is of their being thrown out by sudden transition from cold to heat. So far as the subsoil plough may open the soil below the ordinary line of ploughing—or, in other words, below the inverted body of the soil, so far will the waters proceeding from rains and snows descend, and be placed in a condition not to be so violently operated upon

by atmospheric changes; and it is within the pale of probability, that at the level made by the subsoil plough, there will be found a conduit to carry off those surplus waters which have hitherto been the cause of seeping out of the wheat plant, on each recurring spring. Independently, however, of these considerations there is another resulting benefit. By increasing the depth of the soil, heat and air is admitted, and certain chemical transformations take place, which improve the character of the subsoil add to the mineral resources of the soil, and promote the healthful growth of the plants, increase the quantity of the product, and improve the quality of the wheat. The roots of the wheat plant at maturity, have been traced to the depth of three or four feet, and hence the supposition is fair one, that, in proportion as you depress the resistance of the earth to the descent of those roots—in proportion as you meliorate the condition of the soil beneath the ploughed soil, by the admission of warmth and air so will you improve the character of vigorous and healthful growth to the plants which derive their support therefrom.

Smut is one of those diseases which injuriously affect wheat—it is a disease, however, that is entirely within the control of the wheat grower, so that he, whose wheat may be smutty, must be set down as a slovenly farmer, who by his neglect, has placed himself in a category, which shuts him out from the sympathy of his fellow farmers. With these remarks upon the advantages of subsoil ploughing and smut, we shall proceed to other details.

Seeding in Corn Grounds.—Where wheat may be seeded in corn grounds, it is necessary that in ploughing or cultivating in the seed, the surface should be made as level as practicable; but we are free to say, that nothing but dire necessity would ever induce us to grow wheat on corn ground.

Wheat is a grain that requires a clean fallow, and hence it is that cleanliness of field, is sought to be attained in the culture of the corn, as a preparative for wheat. For ourselves we would rather seek to attain that end through the repeated stirring of leyward ground after it had been broken up—this would involve increase of labor, but we would not mind that, as we would fully calculate to receive our reward in the increased quantity of the product. We have never thought that fields intended for wheat were sufficiently stirred, or that attention enough had been paid to the extermination of grass, weeds, and their respective seeds, before the ground was seeded. In England, wheat fields, in the course of preparation, receive from 2 to 5 ploughings, harrowing, raking; after each of which the clods of grass and weeds are gathered by hand rakes, and either burnt or removed to the dung heap. This minute and particular mode of preparation may be pursued there, where labor is not more than one third the price it is here; but though, owing to the high price of labor with us, we cannot follow their example, we might obtain some portion of the advantages, by being a little more particular than we are. By ploughing deep, subsoiling, harrowing and rolling, and leaving time for the upturned grass and weeds to vegetate, and then subjecting the land to a stirring with the cultivator and harrow, a tolerably clean tilth might be obtained to seed upon. This might be accomplished simply by commencing the following a few weeks earlier than usual, and by stirring the soil as we suggest twice before seeding, at intervals of from eight to ten days apart. It may not be allowed for any one to do these things the present season, but nevertheless, our intimation is not the less opportune.

Seeding on a naked fallow, ploughing, &c.—Where it is designed to break up a clover-ley, grass sward or old field, for wheat, we would plough deep, say 8 inches, turn the furrow flat, run a heavy roller in the direction of the furrow, then harrow and cross harrow. If we intend to use Guano as a manure we would sow it broadcast, at the rate of from 200 to 400 lbs. per acre, taking care to let the plough cover nearly as fast as the guano was sown as a precaution, however, against the escape and consequent loss of the already formed ammonia of the guano, we would previously mix a peck of plaster with every hundred pounds of it. The ploughing done, we would again harrow and roll, when the soil should be ready for the reception of the seed.

Putting in the Seed.—We believe that the best plan to sow wheat, is by the drilling machine. By this method greater regularity is attained in the distribution of the seed, a great saving of seed is effected, a considerable gain in product obtained, less liability to winter-killing secured, while the chances of exemption, to some extent, against the rust, by the free circulation of air through the drills, are increased. If, however, the drill should not be used, and the seed plough should, the wheat should not be buried more than from 2 to 3 inches at farthest. If the cultivator be used, the depth would be regulated by the depth of its tines, but whether the plough, cultivator or harrow, be used, the ground must be rolled with a heavy roller, so as to bring the soil into immediate contact with the seed, and effect a smooth surface. Should any one contemplate manuring the ground with bone earth, we would suggest that 10 bushels per acre will be enough, but that its activity would be increased, by mixing

10 bushels of ashes, per acre, with it.—Sow broadcast; harrow and roll.

Water Furrows.—The wheat in, lay off water furrows, and run the roller cross-wise over them.

Preparation of seed.—Wash the seed wheat in clean water, until the water ceases to be discolored, then soak it in a brine made of salt, strong enough to float an egg, for 12 hours. When you want to sow drain the brine from off the wheat, lay the wheat on a floor, and add as much freshly slacked lime to it as will coat every grain; this can be effectually done, by letting one hand apply the lime while the other is shovelling over the wheat. Take no more out of the brine any one day than can be put in during the day. This process will destroy the smut if your seed is thus affected, and secure to your crop an exemption from that loathsome disease.—This soaking process will produce other good effects; it will encourage early germination, push forward the growth of the plants at the onset, and enable them to send forth their roots earlier than otherwise, and thereby get a foothold in the earth before the setting in of hard frosts; all objects of moment.

In connection with the subject of soaks; it is but proper to remark that various other substances have been recommended, as solutions of arsenic, solutions of copperas, solutions of blue vitrol, stale chamber ley, solutions of lime, and ley of wood ashes, but as we have tried the one we recommend, and it is as simple and effective, we prefer it to any other.

Selection of Seed.—Care should be observed in selecting your seed wheat; it should be of a good variety, free from the seeds of weeds of every description.

Quantity of Seed per Acre.—If sown broadcast less than two bushels per acre should not be sown; if sown in rows with drill, five pecks will answer, a saving to be appreciated where a man has a large field to sow, which, when added to the advantages which are said to ensue to the drilling over the broadcast system, should operate strongly with all well judging minds who estimate properly all that tends to enlighten economy; for if more grain can be grown with less seed—with a saving of 3 in every 8 pecks, none can hesitate long in terminating on which side his interest lies.

Manure for wheat.—We have before suggested Guano and bone-dust as proper manures for wheat, and we remark that all wheat lands should be limed, unless that mineral is naturally existing in it.—Lime enters into the composition of both the grain and the straw of wheat, so also does potash and phosphoric acid, magnesia and sulphuric acid. If therefore, these substances, by a long course of culture, may have been extracted from the soil, they may be reinstated by a compost formed precisely as we have suggested under the head of rye.

Kinds of Wheat.—Each wheat grower must consult his own good judgment upon this subject; all we can say is, that the Mediterranean has more generally come out, throughout the last season, unscathed, than any other.

DRAINING WET LANDS.

As the season is now suitable to the operation of draining, and we believe it is beneficial to the increase of the products of the soil as it is conducive to health, we feel that we cannot perform a more acceptable service to our patrons than by summing up the advantages of the practice, as laid down by Johnston and Colman:

1. Draining carries off all stagnant water, and gives a ready escape to the excess of what falls in rain.
2. It prevents the ascent of water from below, either by capillary attraction, or springs.
3. It allows the water of rains to penetrate, and find a ready passage from the soil instead of washing the surface.
4. The descent of water through the soil is followed by fresh air, which occupies the space just left by the water.
5. The soil after thorough draining becomes looser, more friable and easily broken; this is especially true of stubborn clays, which in practice become altogether another soil.
6. By freeing the soil from the excess of water, it becomes warmer, and thereby advances the crop to an early harvest; thus it is equivalent to a change of climate.
7. When the autumn is wet, draining carries off the superabundance of water, and prepares the land for sowing fall crops, which would otherwise be retarded, or sit together prevented.
8. In its consequences it is equivalent to an actual deepening of the soil.
9. In wet soils, bone, lime, wood ashes, rape-dust, nitrate of soda, and other artificial manures are almost thrown away.
10. He who drains confers a benefit upon his neighbors by producing a salubrious climate, thereby conducing to the physical health and moral happiness of the whole population within the range of such improvement.

[For a particular description of the best modes of draining, we must refer the reader to the able essays in our last volume upon the subject.]

SOILING TIMOTHY SEED.

If not already done, your timothy seed should be sown without delay. If your soil is not fertile, you should be sure to give

to it a generous dressing of manure, and, speaking from experience, we can say, that nothing is better than a plentiful dose of barn-yard and stable manure, composted together, as in these nearly all the food in which this most excellent grass delights to feed are to be found. We say a plentiful dose must be given, and we are certain, when our readers reflect, that timothy, when properly cared for, lasts for seven years, we shall not be considered as exacting. But however plentiful the dose of nutritive manure may be, unless the land shall have been previously limed, or that mineral be naturally present in it, the cultivator should treat it to a dose of lime. If not convenient to do so at the time of seeding, it may be limed next spring, as soon as the frost is out of the ground and there is no danger from poaching, or it may be delayed until after the grass is cut.—Twenty-five bushels of lime to the acre will answer, 50 better. If we were about to set a timothy meadow, and could get the seed in within the first ten days of the month, we should sow a peck of buckwheat upon every acre of it, with the view of sheltering the young timothy plants through the winter and early spring, and of deriving benefit, subsequent to the shade and decomposition of the leaves and stalks of the buckwheat plants, as well as a measurable exemption from weeds. In early spring, as soon as the frost was out of the ground, we would pass a roller over it.

Soil.—The soil which suits timothy best is a moist, rather stiff loam—when we say moist, we do not wish to be understood as meaning wet; for though it delights in moisture, it does not thrive well where the roots are surrounded by water—it must have time for taking up and digesting its food; and that it cannot do in soils saturated at all times with water. We have grown timothy in moist bottoms, and upon high grounds, and in both places successfully, but we ascribed our success in each to the liberality of our manuring, and the care which we devoted to the preparation of the ground.

Preparation of the Soil.—As we have before promised, the land must be liberally supplied with nutritive manures, and we have suggested that a compost of barn yard and stable manure is as good as any other kind, and so it is; but there are other substances that will answer. If the above compost be applied the dose per acre, should not be less than twenty double horse-loads, 400 lbs. of Guano, or 20 bushels of bone dust, and 10 of ashes, per acre will answer. If guano be applied like the barnyard and stable manure, it must be ploughed in—the bone-dust and ashes should be broadcast and harrowed in with the seed.—The land must be ploughed deeply and faithfully, without balk, with the slices laid flat, then rolled lengthwise of the furrows, harrowed first in the same direction and then crosswise. The harrowing must be continued until the soil is reduced to the fine tilth. In the reduction of the soil, the heavier the harrow the better—not so however in harrowing in the seed, then the harrow to be used must be a light one.

Quantity of Seed per Acre.—At this season less than a peck and a half of seed should not be sown, to allow for casualties.

Seeding.—In sowing the seed, the utmost care should be taken, to distribute it evenly over the field, so that no bad places be left, and that the timothy plants may have as few intruders as possible.

Ashing.—As ashes are not available in large quantities, except in favored locations, we will say, that annual dressing of timothy meadows with even 2 bushels of ashes per acre, will greatly tend to encourage the growth of the grass and improve the quality of the hay. Were we in a situation to make our selection, while we were liming our land for a timothy meadow, we would make a compost of equal quantities of lime and ashes, as potash is indispensable to the successful growth of the timothy plant. Where lime is not obtained, manure in double and triple quantities will answer fully as well.

Meadows.—All meadows which have been a year or two in crops, would be benefited by having a few bushels of ashes, say from 2 to 5 per acre, sown broadcast over them, and harrowed and rolled.

THRASHING OUT GRAIN.

This work should be gotten in with at the earliest convenience, in order that the farmer may be enabled to avail himself of every rise in the market; but before he stows it away in his granary, he should have that well cleansed, by scouring the floor, walls, and ceiling with ley made strong from wood ashes, and after permitting them to become dry by giving them a white washing.

PASTURES.

If you have a pasture for your stock withdraw them from it for a week or ten days—strew over every acre of it from two to five bushels of a mixture formed in the proportion of five bushels of lime, 5 bushels of ashes, 1 bushel of salt, and one bushel of plaster, and 2 bushels of bone earth, harrow this in and roll. If you have no pasture, you should exert yourself to prepare one, and it is unjust, as is often the case, to turn your cattle out to graze upon your neighbors, or to gain a livelihood in the roads. Any stock that may be deemed worthy of being kept is entitled to be well provided for, and at the expense of their

owner—no man has a right either legally or morally, to tax others with the support of his stock.

ORCHARDS.

If the pressing calls upon the labor of your force, has hitherto prevented you from the examination of your orchards, do so now. If you find any dead limbs on the trees, cut them off with a saw, down into the sound wood, smooth off the surface of the wound, and give it one or two paintings with a mixture formed of equal parts of fresh cow dung, lime and loam, or of a composition made of two parts beeswax, 2 parts rosin, 1 part tallow, and 1 part of spirits of turpentine; the beeswax, rosin and tallow to be melted and stirred over a slow fire, and when thoroughly dissolved and mixed, the spirits of turpentine is to be poured and stirred—to be applied with a painter's brush.

The above being done, as next year will be the bearing year of your orchard, treat your trees to something to eat. As good a compost as you could give them would be, for every acre of trees, 10 double horse cart loads of marsh mud, road scrapings or woods' mould, five bushels of each of lime and ashes, 2 bushels of bone dust, and 1 bushel of salt, to be ploughed in about three inches deep, or even harrowed in. He who expects healthy trees and fine, fair fruit, must feed his trees, neither man nor ox can work without food, nor can fruit trees exist for a long series of years and bear good fruit, unless they are periodically manured. It is useless to grumble about the deterioration of fruit, when you provide not the trees with food. Every living thing must eat. The fallen fruit either be picked up and given to the hogs, or the latter be turned into the orchard to pick them up for themselves.

COLLECTING MATERIALS FOR NATURE.

Go to your woods, to your marshes, to the heads of your creeks, to the road sides, head lands, fence corners, fence sides, and to every other place in and on your farm, and collect materials to convert into manure, form them into compost heaps, and if you judiciously mix them together, next spring will find you in possession of ample manuring resources. Employ a hand, a cart and horse in the collection of such materials until stopped by the frosts of winter—the expense will be nothing in comparison with the value of manure which may be thus accumulated. Mix the products of your compost heaps next spring with your barn-yard and stable manures, as you will find your quantity amazingly increased, while its quality will not be in the least impaired. Cover your cow yards and pig pens with the substances we have enumerated above, and your cattle and hogs will make it into first rate manure during the fall, winter and spring.

SETTING OUT ORCHARDS.

Do you intend setting out an orchard this fall? If you do, plough the ground you intend for it as soon in this month as possible—plough it as deeply as the strength of your team will permit you to go; let a subsoil plough follow the share plough, so as to pulverise the ground at least 12 or 16 inches. Just before you intend to set out your trees, put on twenty loads per acre, of a compost formed of equal parts of barn yard and stable manure, marsh, river or creek mud, 10 bushels of ashes, 20 bushels of lime and ten bushels of bone-dust per acre, spread this over your ground, and plough it in some four inches deep, harrow and roll, and your ground will be fit for the reception of your trees. In the preparations of the soil for an orchard, one cannot be too liberal in manuring, nor too careful in ploughing and reducing the land to the tilth of which it is susceptible.

FENCES.

Examine the fences which enclose your corn-fields—do it yourself, and have every weak point made strong. Failing pastures tempt stock to break in and destroy. Care in this regard now, may save you from vexation and loss hereafter.

But while we are upon the subject of fences, we will seize the occasion to mention the fact that there is no general law in Maryland, upon the subject of division fences; though several of the counties have special ones, which tax the owners of adjoining lands with one-half of the expense of the erection and repairs of such fences. This being a subject of general interest should be provided for by a general law; special legislation upon matters of general concern, is a thing that we have ever abhorred.—Presuming that the same defect exists in the laws of other States, we mention the fact in regard to the condition of our own State, that the subject may be brought home to the business, besoms, and interest of farmers and planters generally.

DUCKING SHORES IN MARYLAND.

Within the last few years, the ducking shores situated on the upper waters of Chesapeake, and those tributaries which empty into the same, have been rendered almost useless by intruders from other States. A few of the rivers have been attempted to be protected by special laws, but so defective have they been framed, as to defeat the very object they had in view. They annex a penalty against the citizens of other States, but the loafers in question, evade the statute by temporarily removing their families into Maryland, and by thus surreptitiously claiming the right of citizenship, bid defiance to the penalties of the laws in question. As we learn, that they have

boats so constructed as to sink down with the level of the water, the gunners lying down in their boats are enabled to approach the ducks unobserved, by floating down with the tide thereby destroying all possible chance of the proprietors of gunning grounds from getting a shot from their shores. This is an evil that should be remedied.

SALTING OF STOCK.

Twice a week at least the horses, mules, oxen and cattle generally, should be given salt. A mixture of a few finely sifted, lime, and salt mixed together in equal quantities, will answer better than salt alone.

OUR HOUSES AND CELLARS.

These should all be cleansed and white washed. Lime or plaster should be spread over their floors, as also on all places where offensive matters may have accumulated, especially in and around sewers and drains near the dwellings and quarters. One of the most reliable disinfectants known is that made of 3 parts common soil, 1 part manganese—these must be mixed together, placed in an earthen or other tight vessel and have small quantities of sulphuric acid occasionally poured over them. When gas ceases to be thrown off is the proper time to re apply the sulphuric acid. A quarter of a pound of sulphuric acid would last for a week. Another very excellent disinfectant is found in slacking lime with sulphuric acid; the acid to be poured on daily, in small portions until the lime ceases to throw off gas. Plaster, is probably the nearest disinfectant known and if repeated at intervals of a few days will prove an efficient one. We recur to this subject because of the prevalence of the cholera, and no one knows when his home may be invaded by it, and because, borrowing the sentiment from Washington—it is right in time of health to prepare against disease.

IMPLEMENTS AND TOOLS OF HUSBANDRY.

At all times have these kept in order, and when not in use under cover. To ensure their being so kept it is necessary to make personal examinations of them every few days. A duty which every proprietor should personally perform.

WORKING ANIMALS.

Feed these well, keep them well bedded at night, and have them curried or carded and brushed down twice a day. See that they are regularly watered three times a day, and occasional y receive linned meal in their menses. Amer. Farmer.

CROPS AT THE SOUTH.

The Nachitoches Chronicle, of the 28th July, says:

"It has been raining here, almost without interruption, for 40 days. The crop must be nearly past praying for." The Point Coupe Echo states "that since the river has fallen, nearly all the peach and China trees have died along the coast in that parish."

"The 'Red Republican' says: It is impossible for the cotton crop to recover from the injury it has sustained from the rain which had prevailed for thirty days. The opinion of intelligent farmers is, that more than half a crop of cotton cannot be made—that the sugar crop must be materially injured."

In Florida, the Tallahassee Journal states, that both the corn and cotton crop promises to be very good.

CROPS IN NEW YORK.

A correspondent of the New York Express, writing from Smyrna, the centre of the grain growing district of the State of New York, under date of the 5th ultimo, says:

"We are suffering severely here from drought, not having had a drop of rain for the last six weeks. English grain is much injured, and corn will amount to nothing, unless we have rain soon. Potatoes and other vegetables are considerably hurt."

"The term 'English grain,' in the sense used above, is inapplicable to us."

PITHY HINTS.

Snuff, on the necks and backs of calves and young cattle, will do more good than in the nose of any maiden lady or dandy bachelor; and brimstone bought for the hogs, will not prove that the itch has got into the house. Cards, on the cattle, make them look as much better as children with their hair combed.—A clean barn is a hint to the woman who takes care of the kitchen. Good milking stools save much washing in the house. A scraper on the door step saves brooms and dust.

HOUSE SNAKES.

Quite a thrilling affair is recorded as having taken place at Sanbury, Pennsylvania. A green house snake, so called, about 18 inches long, was found crawling into the mouth of an infant while asleep on the bed in a farm house. The mother came in and in an attempt to draw it out tore off part of the tail. She grasped it with a blanket and extracted it. It had entered about half its length. The child was suffocated for about ten minutes, and recovered, but vomited blood next morning.

Look on slanderers as direct enemies to civil society—as persons without honor, honesty, or humanity. Whoever entertains you with the faults of others, designs to serve you in a similar manner.