

AGRICULTURAL.



From the Southern Planter.

EXPERIMENT IN THE TILLAGE OF INDIAN CORN.

It is the practice of many good farmers to break up their land for corn the preceding autumn. My experience teaches me differently. I have always found that blue grass turned over in autumn was not killed by frost, and gave a deal of cross-ploughing and other work in spring to get the ground in good order for planting, and a great deal more work in after-culture, than when the soil is turned under as soon as possible before planting. Besides this, you lose your best pasture, for sheep in particular, from early frost in autumn, till March, say, on an average, four months a year.

But whether you break up corn land in spring or autumn, it must be well done to insure a good crop. The depth of ploughing must depend on two things: first the depth of soil, which should always be kept open, and secondly, by the ability of the farmer to use a two or three horse plough; but at all hazards, he must not soil, if he expect to insure an average crop in dry seasons, and time, too, if his land is deficient in that fertilizing auxiliary.

Supposing the ground to have been broken as directed, and left in the rough state, till the time of planting approaches, which is better indicated by nature than by the observation or than any man's notion of a particular day: for if you plant too soon, that is, before the ground is warm enough to sprout the seed quickly, you will, as a rule, have much replanting to do, which is sometimes attended with more labor and expense than the first planting. If you plant too late, the culture of your corn will interfere with your clover and grain harvests, and your corn may be injured by early frosts: so that, as in most other acts of man, a middle course is best for planting. In this and like matters, we may probably find the building and blossoming of forest trees a good criterion for planting corn and sowing some seeds: for instance, when the leaf of the tulip, or wild poplar tree is the size of half a dollar, Indian corn may be safely planted, and when the chestnut blossoms are fading, buckwheat may be sown with a fair prospect of a good crop.

As soon as time is practical before planting corn, the ground should be rolled and thoroughly harrowed and then marked off for planting at such distances as may be determined on, according to soil, situation and climate. I plant as close as I can, to allow room for after-culture. The power the land, the closer I plant, regulating the number of stalks to the acre, by the number left in the hill, rather than by the distance between the hills or checkers, and the rows of stepped or drilled corn. Twelve hours at least, before I intend to commence planting my corn, I dissolve half a pound of gypsum in some boiling water, into which I pour about a gill of tar, add a quart more water as will make thirty gallons, then put the seed corn in. Stir it well and allow the corn to soak twelve hours at least. When ready for planting take the corn out and let it drain a while, then roll it in plaster of Paris, and put five or six grains in a hill. It will not be long coming up, nor much troubled by weeds and the like, and will seldom require re-sowing.

The next process, if the land was not silted when broken up, is to run a sharp roller as near the corn, on each side as a horse can walk, and as deep as he can draw it. This done, as soon as the first planting is large enough to thin, run your two horse harrow over it, following at the same time, with a hand hoe to thin and draw a fine earth on the remaining plants. Without any other cultivation than this, excepting a handful of plaster, does a second time applied on the hill, where, averaging, I have made eleven barrels of corn to the acre, from several acres. As a general rule, with me, the culture of Indian corn after it is planted, consists in simple culture, and the most favorable circumstances, without the guano, have yielded five bushels of corn per acre. Two years before, it yielded less than a barrel and a half of corn per acre. The guano cost me \$17.87 the ton of 2240 lbs. delivered at my landing, of \$1.27 per acre.

2d. Between the 1st and 15th of November, of the same year, I sowed on thirty acres of corn land twenty five bushels of the early purple straw wheat, applying at the same time 120 lbs. of Peruvian guano per acre. Both the wheat and guano were ploughed in with single horse ploughs and left just as the plough left them. The yield was 600 bushels of

wharf, of twenty bushels per acre, and twenty-four bushels to one of seed. The land on which this experiment was made, was poorer than that on which this experiment was made. The cost of the guano was the same per ton, and \$4 06 1-12 per acre.

3d. The last week in October, 1851, I sowed seven bushels of blue stem wheat on six acres of corn land, applying at the same time 235 lbs. of Peruvian guano per acre, and ploughing in both wheat and guano with single horse ploughs. The land was then rolled with a heavy log roller. The yield was 144 bushels of wheat, or twenty-four bushels per acre. This land would, probably, have produced five bushels per acre without the guano. The corn had been matured in the hill, and yielded about four barrels per acre. It was not measured. The past summer this land was covered with clover, knee-high. The cost of the guano was \$19 00 per ton of 2240 lbs. or \$4 02 1-4 per acre.

4th. The last of September, 1852, I sowed on fifteen acres of land, which had been fallowed in July and August with a heavy two horse plough, twenty-three bushels of blue stem wheat, and applied at the same time 220 lbs. of Peruvian guano per acre. Both wheat and guano were ploughed in as in the preceding experiments. The land had been harrowed before the wheat and guano were sowed. The yield was 520 bushels, or twenty-seven seven-nineteenth bushels per acre. This land consists of the ten acres mentioned in the first of these experiments and nine acres mentioned in the first of these experiments and nine acres adjoining. About two-thirds of it was guanoed in the fall of 1850. These previous applications of guano had greatly improved the land, and it would probably have yielded from eight to ten bushels of wheat without the aid of further manuring. The cost of the guano was \$43 32 per ton of 2000 lbs., or \$4 76 1-2 per acre. It is proper that I should state, that the greater part of the wheat grown on this land (four-fifths of it) was exposed to the long rains which fell during the latter part of the summer, and a great deal of it was thrown away in the straw. The guano and wheat, in all of the above experiments, were ploughed in from two to three inches deep. No gypsum was used with the guano.

5th. In February and March of the present year, I sowed 1500 lbs. of Peruvian guano on nine acres and 17 perches of land, throwing it on the land ground. I then threw the soil up under four feet with a two horse plough. About one-half of these beds had a two horse harrow run over them. About the middle of April I left the beds with a single horse plough and dropped the corn two feet apart in the furrow, covering it with two horse harrow. The corn came up luxuriantly and stood well. When about half leg high, and when the land began to be very grassy, I threw the dirt from the cart with a single horse plough, and followed with the hoe as rapidly as possible, cutting away the grass and weeds and pulling the dirt around the corn where it had been left too naked by the plough. Ten days after, I threw the dirt back to the corn with the same plough, running but one furrow and leaving the beds as flat as I could. About six days after this, and with the same plough, I broke the middles out entirely finishing the whole process before the 20th of June. After harvest, I ran over with the hoe, chopping away the bunches of grass and weeds which they occurred and pulling off the suckers, of which there were not a few. At the first working of the corn it was thinned out to one stalk, except occasionally where the growing plants looked unusually vigorous, in which case two stalks were left in a hill. The nine acres and 17 perches yielded ninety barrels of corn, a specimen of which I have brought with me for exhibition. The cost of the guano was \$43 32 per ton of 2000 lbs., or \$4 76 1-2 per acre. The quantity per acre, 166 lbs. Eight acres of this land in 1847, the year that I bought it, yielded seven barrels of corn, less than a barrel to the acre. It has since been thrice dressed with guano for wheat and about one-half of it has been burned. I gave for it \$3 23 per acre. The following figures show the profits per acre, after deducting the cost of the land, the cost of the guano, and the cost of cultivation:

Table with columns for item and amount. Items include: 10 barrels of corn, \$30 00; Fodder, chucks and stalks, 5 00; Cost of land, \$6 33; Cost of guano, 3 59; Cost of cultivation, 3 70; Balance after paying for land, guano and cultivation, \$29 00.

THOMAS JONES, JR. Richmond County.

Experiment on the Benefits and Products of Guano, compared to costs, and in doing so, I wish to be considered a competitor for the premium offered on that subject.

1st. The first week in October, 1850, I sowed on six acres of fallowed land ten bushels of blue stem wheat, applying at the same time 200 lbs. of Peruvian guano per acre. The wheat and guano were both ploughed in together with single horse ploughs, and then harrowed. The yield was 248 bushels of good wheat, or 24 bushels per acre and to the seed of one, with me, the culture of Indian corn after it is planted, consists in simple culture, and the most favorable circumstances, without the guano, have yielded five bushels of corn per acre. Two years before, it yielded less than a barrel and a half of corn per acre. The guano cost me \$17.87 the ton of 2240 lbs. delivered at my landing, of \$1.27 per acre.

2d. Between the 1st and 15th of November, of the same year, I sowed on thirty acres of corn land twenty five bushels of the early purple straw wheat, applying at the same time 120 lbs. of Peruvian guano per acre. Both the wheat and guano were ploughed in with single horse ploughs and left just as the plough left them. The yield was 600 bushels of

wharf, of twenty bushels per acre, and twenty-four bushels to one of seed. The land on which this experiment was made, was poorer than that on which this experiment was made. The cost of the guano was the same per ton, and \$4 06 1-12 per acre.

Judge Shaw, of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, has decided that the sections of the liquor law authorizing the seizure and destruction of liquors, are unconstitutional. This decision deprives the bill of its vitality.

Advertisement for 'COWS AND VEGETABLE LITHOTRIPTIC' as a friend of the human family, treating diseases of the bladder and kidneys.

Advertisement for 'NEW FALL DRY GOODS' from Maxwell & Horah, featuring various fabrics and clothing.

Advertisement for 'ENCOURAGE HOME INDUSTRY' featuring a machine for home use.

Advertisement for 'A STOCK OF SHOES AT BARGAINS' from Maxwell & Horah.

Advertisement for '\$35 REWARD' for information regarding a stolen horse.

Advertisement for 'THROUGH TICKETS ON BLAND & DUNN'S DAILY MAIL LINE'.

Advertisement for 'A. J. O'HANLON, GROCER AND COMMISSION MERCHANT' in Fayetteville, N.C.

Advertisement for 'T. S. LUTTERLOH, FORWARDING AGENT' in Wilmington and Fayetteville.

Advertisement for 'WATCH THE TIME' regarding tax lists and property assessments.

Advertisement for 'CLOCKS! CLOCKS!! CLOCKS!!!' for various timepieces.

Advertisement for 'FIRST ARRIVAL' of new spring style hats.

Advertisement for 'POLISHED SEED CORAL' for jewelry.

Advertisement for 'M. BROWN & SON' featuring a large stock of goods and dry goods.

Advertisement for 'Jew David's Hebrew Plaster' for medical relief.

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Advertisement for 'POLISHED SEED CORAL' for jewelry.

Advertisement for 'MURPHY'S STORE' featuring a variety of goods.

Advertisement for 'FALL AND WINTER GOODS' from R. A. Murphy.

Advertisement for 'COATS, PANTS AND VESTS' from R. A. Murphy.

Advertisement for 'DRUGS AND MEDICINES' from R. A. Murphy.

Advertisement for 'GROCERIES' from R. A. Murphy.

Advertisement for 'BUGGIES! BUGGIES!' from John S. Johnston.

Advertisement for 'SHEEK'S CELEBRATED Wheat Threshers'.

Advertisement for 'CARRIAGES' from Smith & Holder.

Advertisement for 'CLOAKS, Mantillas and Shawls' from E. Myers.

Advertisement for 'A NEW STOCK OF MARBLES'.

Advertisement for '150 NEGROES WANTED!' for agricultural work.

Advertisement for 'HENRIETTA LINE OF STEAM & FREIGHT BOATS'.

Advertisement for 'No for South Troy and Eagle Mills'.

Advertisement for 'A MINE OF WEALTH' from Andrew Baggaley.

Advertisement for 'REMOVAL AND CHANGE' from Morris L. Halliwell & Co.

Advertisement for 'SILK AND FANCY GOODS' from Morris L. Halliwell & Co.

Advertisement for 'UNIFORM PRICES' from Morris L. Halliwell & Co.

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Vertical text on the right margin, likely containing additional advertisements or notices.