

FARM AND GARDEN.

Growing Clover.

The growing of clover is equal to deep plowing, because its long roots penetrate deeply in search of food for the stems and leaves, which, if plowed into the land will undergo decomposition and leave, near the surface, elements taken from the subsoil. Its leaves take carbonic acid largely from the atmosphere, and the plowing in of this crop augments the carbon of the soil very materially, which changes its color and gives it a greater capacity to absorb solar heat and to retain manures and ammonia, whether resulting from their decomposition or absorbed from the atmosphere.—*American Agriculturist.*

Remedy for Mange.

Mange is not a disease in the common sense of the term, but is caused either by a vegetable parasite or by an insect which grows in the skin. There are two kinds, but both are treated alike. The treatment is as follows: The skin is first washed with warm water and carbolic soap to soften it and open the pores in which the parasites are imbedded; it helps to rub the skin with a corn cob or something rough to break up the vesicles and remove the crusts. The parts are then dried and rubbed thoroughly with an ointment made as follows: Four parts of lard, one part of sulphur, and one part of kerosene; a few drops of creosote are added, about twenty drops to an ounce of the mixture. This should be well worked into the skin with a hard brush, and the application should be repeated weekly for three or four weeks, so as to destroy any new growth from eggs or spores. This disease is contagious, and the stables where a mangy animal has been kept should be well white-washed with lime.—*Prairie Farmer.*

Durability of Timber.

Timber varies exceedingly in its power of resisting decay, and the more resinous the wood is the sooner it decays under ground. Thus, pine and hemlock posts will rot off in two years if made of green timber, but will last four years if the timber is seasoned, and will resist decay for eight or ten years if well saturated with hot lime and tamped with coarse-broken stone when set. Seasoned locust and chestnut posts thus treated with lime and tamped with stone have remained sound for thirty or forty years, but if the timber is green when set the posts have rotted off in half this period. The frequently-appearing statement that posts set in the ground top end downward are more durable than if set the other way has also been disproved by tests, as might be reasonably expected. As the matter of the durability of fence posts is important to farmers—and it is well proved that locust is the most durable of all timber for that purpose, and chestnut is next to it—the planting of groves of these trees for this use should not be neglected. By and by it will be easy to collect the seeds, and this should be done in season.—*New York Times.*

Weed Killing.

It is true that weeds still keep growing, and must be destroyed that they may not ripen seed to fill the ground, to the detriment of future crops. It is not the labor to keep them down now that it was while crops were smaller and did not shade the ground. To go through a field and pull up the larger weeds which in some way escaped destruction at the last hoeing, or with a hoe to cut up those that are starting in certain spots, is not like the labor of giving the field a thorough hoeing. Then those which fringe the borders of the fields should be mown down, and the spots from which the early crops have been taken should be plowed or gone over with the cultivator, even though no other crop is to be put in this fall. Better the land should lie fallow than to be growing a crop of foul seeds to infest the neighboring soil.

Then there are weeds and bushes in the pastures and along the roadsides to be mown down. Let them lie where they fall until dry enough to burn, and then apply the match, so that the fire may assist in destroying the sprouts that may start from the roots. With the first growth cut down, and the second burned down, the third, if there shall be one, may be so feeble and tender as to be destroyed by the winter. Those weeds which are sufficiently mature to ripen their seeds should also be destroyed by fire if it can be done. If not they should be subjected to the gentle heat of the compost heap.—*American Cultivator.*

Poultry as Wheat Producers.

It has been claimed that one-fourth of the profit in poultry is in the manure they produce. From the experience of a wheat grower in Ohio, it would appear that the whole expense of keeping his poultry was paid by the droppings taken from the poultry house. This is the way it was done:

In the fall, after he has his corn in the shock, he goes to the field and gets a number of loads of nice, fine, dry dirt; this is placed under cover; once each week the hen house is cleaned out and the droppings covered with some of this dry dirt, in bulk about half as much as the droppings. This absorbs the moisture and retains the ammonia. Two or three times during the summer the pile is shoveled over, to have it thoroughly mixed and dried. The whole is then sifted to remove feathers, straw or anything else that would clog a grain drill. When he sows his wheat he has a phosphate attachment to his drill and uses a barrel of this home made fertilizer to the acre. The result is an extra five or ten bushels of wheat to the acre. This, he says, pays for the keep of his fowls, so all the income from the flock is profit except the cost of caring for them. If poultry can be made to increase the fertility of our farms to such an extent, what branch of farming pays better? This is not the experiment of a single

year, but has been carried on for a number of years. Results equal to those obtained by the use of commercial fertilizers upon meadows have been secured by the use of this home made wheat fertilizer. We have used it sown broadcast in early spring.—*Farm, Field and Stockman.*

Practical Hints on Raising Calves.

The important point in raising calves is to give them a good start, for which purpose nothing equals milk as it is taken from the cow. Though some people practice separating the calf from the cow the day after it is dropped, it is generally preferred to let it run with the cow for four or five days, taking all the milk it will. At least this period should elapse after a calf is dropped before the milk will be fit for use as human food.

After separating the calf from the cow new milk should be liberally fed for two weeks, and if this can be continued even longer it is advisable. No substitute for new milk should be given under two weeks. After that, however, more economical food may be compounded, if desired, and the calf will still thrive. If skim-milk can now be afforded, the calf will thrive on liberal feeding.

Willard says that if whey and oatmeal be properly prepared it can be made to serve as a very good substitute for milk. The whey should be dipped off when sweet from the vat, then bring to the boiling point and turn it upon the oatmeal. Let the mixture stand till night, then feed. In the morning whey sweet from the vat may be fed. At the commencement a little less than a pint of oatmeal per day will be sufficient for four calves. This may be gradually increased till each calf has a daily ration of half a pint. At first it is better not to feed calves all the whey they will drink at a time. A large feed of whey cloyes the appetite and deranges the health. A half pail of whey at first is enough for a feed which may be increased to three fourths of a pail and a pail as the calf increases in age. Two meals a day, if the calf runs in a good pasture, is sufficient. Calves fed in this way ought not to be weaned until they can get a good bite of after feed from the early cut meadows. It is important to keep them in a growing, thrifty condition with no check. When weaned earlier their growth is often checked by reason of short, dry or innutritious feed in pastures.

When whey is not to be had for feeding young calves the following is sometimes used: Take three quarts of linseed meal and four quarts of bean meal and mix with thirty quarts of boiling water, when it is left to digest for twenty-four hours and is then poured into a boiler on the fire having thirty-one quarts of boiling water. It is here boiled for half an hour, being stirred with a perforated paddle to prevent lumps and produce perfect incorporation. It is then set aside to cool and is given blood-warm. When first used it is mixed with milk in small quantity. The milk is gradually decreased till they get the mucilage only. Indian meal may be used in place of bean meal. Buckwheat meal cooked into porridge and added to whey is reported to have been used with good results.

It is considered a desirable point to hasten the maturity of the young animal by good feeding and care so that it will come into milk at two years, as such heifers make better milkers than those that come in at three years, besides the profit of milk for an extra season.—*New York World.*

Farm and Garden Notes.

Wilted food is not good for cattle. Reject a horse that is light below the knees.

You can't make good butter out of stale cream.

A cross cow in a herd will worry the others and lessen the milk flow.

All animals should be trained by kindness to love, not fear their owners.

Do not be afraid of taking too much pains in the manufacture of any dairy product.

Removing crop after crop from the land without returning something in its place destroys the fertility.

Don't throw the tops from the potato field into the pig pen if there has been any Paris green used on the crop.

A recommended cure for garget is to bathe the udder in water as hot as the hand can well bear; rub until dry and apply vaseline.

Manure thrown out of a stable window and allowed to accumulate against the barn eats off paint and hastens decay of siding and of sill.

Go through the fields, pulling up the larger weeds and cutting down with a hoe those newly starting. Every such stroke now makes the work easier next year.

The greater the decomposition of milk the more will the cream be affected, and as a consequence the more difficult will it be to obtain a nice quality of butter from it.

Some use kerosene oil to rid the hive of an *A*. This will kill them, but should be used very sparingly, as the bees dislike it greatly, and it would probably kill them as well if used carelessly.

A horse that is used to running away should be put in the hands of a good driver, be provided with a strong strap around the neck, and a stout rope halter, and should never be left standing without being securely fastened.

After the sweet corn has been thoroughly picked, there is nothing better than the stalks or fodder for keeping up the production of milk cows. Cut for each day's feeding the day before and let it lie and wilt for twenty-four hours.

Cauliflowers and such vegetables should be set out toward night or on a day when the sun does not shine, and well soaked with water. This gives them a chance to come up through the

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THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.

Under a spreading chestnut tree:
The village blacksmith stands,
And in a brimming basin he
Would wash his brawny hands;
But something else than water clean
His sooty palm demands.

And when the soap escaped his grasp,
With wonder he did note
That on the water's surface dark
The cleansing bar did float,
As swims upon a turbid lake
A pearl white fairy boat.

Week in, week out, from morn till
night,
He might have rubbed, I trow,
Had I not given him a cake
Of IVORY SOAP, when, lo!
Full soon those honest hands of his
Were spotless as the snow.

"Thanks, thanks," said he, "my worthy
friend,
For this which thou hast brought;
No village blacksmith should forget
The facts this Ivory Soap has taught;
For hands like mine it is the best
That can be found or bought."

A WORD OF WARNING.

There are many white soaps, each represented to be "just as good as the 'Ivory';" they ARE NOT, but like all counterfeits, lack the peculiar and remarkable qualities of the genuine. Ask for "Ivory" Soap and insist upon getting it.

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