

THE FARM AND GARDEN.

SCATTER THE MANURE.

In using manure for fruit trees or small fruits it should be well scattered. The roots extend long distances from tree trunks and hence it is absurd, as some growers do, to pile most of the manure against the trunk. Spread it evenly on the surface or work it in the soil. The same rule applies to small fruits. The roots travel long distances, even though in many cases they are almost invisible.

SECURING GOOD SEED OATS.

The price of oats is now very low, but in most cases they bring proportionably all they are worth as compared with other feed. Never before were there so many poor light oats, or oats that had been injured in curing, as this season. There is likely to be difficulty next season in getting good seed oats, and it is well to secure oats that are full weight and not musty for seed. At the best oats in our climate tend to run out, on account of hot, dry summers, and if poor seed be sown the deterioration is more rapid. It may pay seedmen this year to procure oats from Nova Scotia or some other portion of Canada, provided they are there exempt from the failure that attaches to most oats grown in the States.

FOR EGGS IN WINTER.

"To get many eggs in winter one must give the hens some care and attention, and furnish them with warm and comfortable quarters. The pullets that were hatched early and the yearlings of last spring will be the best layers. After fowls pass their second year as a general thing they are not profitable as layers. Better kill them off than to keep old fowls. It is also a good thing to change, either by buying or exchanging eggs for a setting, or by introducing some good fowls from a neighbor's flock. To induce laying give plenty of meat scraps and some green food. See that they have gravel and plenty of pure water, and while they may run out freely during pleasant days be careful and keep them housed up in cold, stormy weather. Don't allow them to run out on the snow or in rain-storms. They must be kept out of windy weather and cold draughts if they are to lay eggs in the winter months. If they can be allowed to run in the animal stables in the daytime it will increase the egg-production, and a roosting-place where they get some warmth from the stabled animals, wherever it is all practicable, will have a good effect on their living. They want a sufficiency of food of a mixed character, mostly hard grains of different kinds, but not so much as to make them fat."

UTILIZING PUMPKINS.

Pumpkins are a valuable and nutritious food for cows, if they are only rightly spread before them. The orthodox way of feeding them is to draw a wagon-load into the pasture, and scatter them promiscuously about in a partially crushed condition, for the cows to fight and choke over.

It always pays to feed intelligently, and we might add, humanely, and we append a way of offering pumpkins to cows that we believe to be more efficacious than the manner described. Gather only ripe, sound pumpkins; the green and decayed ones discard; knock off the hard stems and handle with a pitch or dung-fork. Near the pasture fence build a plank-bottomed pen, or a large, shallow dry-goods box would do, and into this dump a part of a load of selected pumpkins. Now, go into them with a sharp spade, and chop them quite finely. Most of the entrails and seeds will slough and rattle off, and the meaty blocks of the fruit, shovel over the fence into a long stationary trough, for the cattle to partake of at leisure.

Roots, such as mangels and rutabagas, can advantageously be served the same way, and if fed in winter, your chopping box can be placed in the cellar or stable.

The seeds of pumpkins act too vigorously on the kidneys to be beneficial to cows, hence care should be taken that they be excluded from their menu.

At this time of the year it is the endeavor of dairymen not so much to increase their milk flow as to maintain its previous quality. Meadows are annually leached, through their depletion of after-math, for this, when some substitute should be provided. Our experience with pumpkins as a cheaply produced food has been satisfactorily in the extreme, and we recommend their more extensive cultivation. Those varieties of the fruit that yield most prolifically, and produce the firmest, sweetest meated pumpkins, are the ones to plant. If planted in a field separate from corn they do far better than when shaded by the maize.

Dairymen, do not despise the pumpkin because it is ubiquitous. Cultivate it well and feed it intelligently, and you will be satisfied with the result.

GREEN MANURING.

The necessity for restoring some of the fertility to our soils which are cropped each year is apparent even to the most casual thinker. If the soil is not to be absolutely impoverished, there must be a returning to as well as a taking from it of the elements of fertility. This is a self-evident truth, and requires no proof or illustration to make its establishment complete. Green crop feeding is the most natural, most feasible and

most economical method by which to return the plant food that is taken from our fields by continual cropping. Barnyard manure will always, of course, remain the farmer's chief reliance for enriching this land, but green manurial crops will be found to be a valuable and inexpensive adjunct to this.

Their effects upon the soil are remarkable, their vegetable or organic matter rendering it at once friable, active and fruitful. The green crops most profitable to be employed for this purpose are those denominated "air-feeders," those possessed of the power to absorb the elements of organic life from the air, such as clover, buckwheat, rye, peas, beans, etc. Clover undoubtedly stands at the head of the list. It contains a large proportion of potash, lime, magnesia, nitrogen, chlorine, and carbonic, phosphoric and sulphuric acid. Its great value as a manurial plant lies in the fact that its leaves and stems absorb the largest part of its fertilizing gasses from the air, and take only a comparatively small portion from the soil. It is a voracious "air-feeder." Moreover, its long, thick roots draw the fertilizing saline and mineral elements of the sub-soil up into the surface soil, and render them available as plant food. It is a cheap and most available agent to supply soils with necessary nitrogen, which has been well denominated one of the "scarcest and dearest of manurial elements."

Buckwheat is also a valuable manurial green crop. It is a rapid and hardy grower, and can be successfully grown on the same plot year after year, without materially exhausting the soil. Two crops of it can be grown and plowed under on the same ground in one season, and the ground seeded down with grass or a grain crop in September. It should be grown far more extensively than it is, its grain making a complete poultry food, while its cultivation is strongly recommended as an eradicator of Canada thistles, witchgrass and other foul and obnoxious weeds. It also has a high hygienic value as a purifier of the air, taking up the effluvia and miasma rising in the air from foul sink spouts and other slovenly spots about the farm or out-buildings. Let us raise more buckwheat. The seed costs but little; it will grow upon any kind of land, from drifting sand to impact clay; it gives a good crop; its straw contains considerable quantities of potash, soda, lime, magnesia, phosphoric acid and sulphuric acid, and when plowed under, it puts the soil in the best possible condition for other crops, especially wheat and grass.

The pea is of great value as a manurial crop, even after the fruit has been gathered and the vines are fully ripened. They contain a very large proportion of potash, lime, magnesia, soda, carbonic acid and chloride of sodium, besides sulphuric acid and phosphoric acid; and when plowed under, it puts the soil in the best possible condition for other crops, especially wheat and grass.

Rye is also a most valuable manurial crop, but on the score of economy is not so profitably used for this purpose, its grain being too valuable to be economically sacrificed as manure.

European agriculturists also employ turnips, corn, vetch and mustard as green manurial crops, the turnip being rated as the best, as it grows in the cool and moist climate of England to the greatest perfection. But this, like the vetch, is a precarious plant in the hotter and dryer climate of New England.

The proper time to plow down green crops, to renovate the soil, is in the warm weather of summer, when they are just coming into flower. They then take on a quick decay from their immature condition when the sun has its greatest power to aid in the process of fermentation and decay. Let our farmers try the practice of green manuring, and the results achieved will be sure to induce them to continue it as a settled policy in their farm operations.

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Cold stables may be cheaply made warmer by lining them with building paper.

An excited horse is like an excited child. We have seen a child scolded and "jawed" until it could not comprehend what was wanted of it.

An eminent authority has said that grasses are social in character—that they thrive best where they have close neighbors of different varieties.

Plants should not be watered with very cold water. It should stand in the sun and become as warm as the atmosphere in summer before being applied.

The old idea that young cattle and colts must winter at straw stacks in open fields to make them tough happily has gone, much to the comfort of the young animals.

If we might turn to profit all the loss suffered by American farming by weeds farmers could well afford to pay all the taxes, reserving to themselves the blessed privilege of unlimited grumbling as a partial compensation.

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE was 40 years old when she wrote "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

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News About Town.

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The Emperor of Germany's new crown weighs three pounds and has a frame of solid gold.

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. The cure costs one hundred dollars for any case of catarrh. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address, F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

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Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50c and \$1 bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

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If your grocer sends you anything in place of **SAPOLIO**, send it back and insist upon having just what you ordered. **SAPOLIO** always gives satisfaction. On floors, tables and painted work it acts like a charm. For scouring pots, pans and metals it has no equal. Everything shines after it, and even the children delight in using it in their attempts to help around the house.
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