

A Page of Interest to Our Farmer Friends.

TO IMPROVE EXHAUSTED SOIL

Practice Suitable Rotation of Such Crops as Corn and Peas, Peanuts, Soy Beans, Etc.

(By G. H. ALFORD, Farmers Co-operative Demonstration Work West Jackson, Miss.)

J. W. H. Vaughan, N. C., asks the following question: What is the best way to improve exhausted land? Is it best to plant corn and cotton on beds on well drained upland? What are the best implements to use in cultivating corn and cotton on upland.

Plow the land deeper every time it is broken and turn under the corn and cotton stalks, oat, pea, soy bean and other stubble, grass and trash. If the soil needs drainage, drain it. Reduce the washing to the minimum by thoroughly pulverizing the soil and filling it full of vegetable matter for about ten inches. Keep something green growing on the land in the spring, summer, fall and winter. Practice a well balanced system of farming—one that will include more leguminous crops to enrich instead of wear out the land; one that will include more stock to consume the grass and leguminous crops that must be grown to enrich the land and to make manure to further enrich the land. Practice a suitable rotation of crops such as corn and peas, oats followed by peas, peanut, soy beans, or lespedeza, and cotton. Under this system of rotation with the legumes, your land will need only ground phosphate rock and possible potash. By practicing this rotation of crops the Louisiana station at Calhoun brought the cotton up to a bale and more, the corn yield to 37 bushels, and the oats in one case to more than 60 bushels.

I think it advisable to plant the cotton on slightly elevated beds. Plant the corn on a level. Cultivate the corn on a level.

Cultivators, heel sweeps and harrows. A turning plow is out of place in a cultivated field after the land is broken unless the soil is devoid of vegetable matter and runs together after heavy rains or unless it rains for two or three weeks and it becomes necessary to bury grass. If the soil becomes hard after heavy rains, it may be advisable to use the turning plow as a necessary evil. If it is necessary to use the turning plow to stir the soil or to clean out the grass, by all means use cultivators or harrows a few days after using the turning plow to thoroughly pulverize the soil and make a dust mulch.

The Amateur Gardener.

Our secret as amateur gardeners may be summed up in the first sentence of Elizabeth and Her German Garden "I love my garden." Indeed, love will work wonders even with cabbage and carrots! We adored every square inch of dirt, every green and aspiring sprig, and if the squash family seemed sickly, for instance, we solicitously telephoned the seed-store man to find out the kind of insect powder to administer, and whether with or without water. Something interesting was always happening! In our happiness we pined the idle rich with their ready-made gardens on the boulevard, and thought the Elizabeth was wise when she wrote, "If Eve had had a spade in it, we should not have had all that sad business of the apple."

Unwittingly we almost made one fatal mistake; we tried to eat all the twenty-nine kinds of vegetables—that is, until there was a protest from the department of the interior. Then we were seized with a sudden desire to sell the surplus to our friend, the groceryman, and for two days we toiled doing up bunches of lettuce for the aggregate sum of \$1.10—when we went on a strike. We tried giving the stuff away to our friends and neighbors, the milkman and the iceman, and the Home for the Aged, but still regiments of radishes and things continued to sprout in that 2,000 square feet. We regularly expressed boxes to friends over the country—there is a low rate on vegetables—even as far as Philadelphia. The remainder of winter vegetables we left, in the late autumn, to a poor family in the neighborhood, basketfuls, with our blessing!—Harper's Bazar.

The main thing in feeding for eggs when prices are high, is a warm place for the hens to roost.

DEMAND FOR HORSES.

Number of Animals Used Something Tremendous.—Call for Those Keenly Felt—Percheron Is Particularly Adapted to Texas.

The number of horses that are used in the delivery vans of the great dry goods houses of the country alone is something tremendous and shows at once what little difference the automobile has made as far as this kind of traction goes in the large cities of the country, and this is still more marked when we take into consideration the great breweries, the heavy hauling companies, and the vast unopened sections of this country and Canada which call for the heaviest and most powerful breed of draught horses. The automobile has not even touched this latter heavy draught work, nor will it for many years to come. It is very doubtful indeed, whether motor traction will ever materially interfere with the purposes for which heavy draught horses are at present used, and it is questionable, too, whether the motor van or truck will do much more than it has done in regard to the services for which these two kind of draught horses are required.

The horse in the crowded and busy commercial centers of great cities has proved up to date and in all probability will prove in the long run, to be the power that is best adapted for traffic in the congested districts and thoroughfares, and when the horse and the automobile have competed for ultimate supremacy in these two fields it will be found that it is the mechanical and not the animal power that will be found wanting.

The lighter draught or van horse is still in great demand and will continue to be so, and breeders who produce a good active stamp of horse of this description will continue to find a profitable market for him.

In regard to the heavier breeds, it is important to notice the increasing demand from the west and northwest, to say nothing of the boundless expanse of fertile territory being opened up in the Canadian northwest, where farming activities are developing to an enormous extent and which calls for large numbers of horses of the heavy breeds, and of which the Clydesdale is the favorite in that country.

Domestic breeding does not begin to meet the demands for these horses, and as the opening up of this territory is only in its infancy, the numbers that will be required to do the heavy work of this vast region can only be imagined. The same argument holds good in the undeveloped sections of the United States where the same conditions will prevail, and where farmers and others using these heavy draught animals will call for their favorite breeds according to the section of the country in which they are best liked. This means of course great chances for the Shire, Clydesdale, Percheron, Belgian and Suffolk, which are the five greatest breeds of heavy draught horses in existence.

The demand for heavy horse power has never before been so keenly felt, a fact which shows very plainly how much they are in demand.

To such an extent have western buyers been purchasing this class of animal that they have bought up every heavy draught horse on whole ranges, which certainly does not look as if the heavy draughts was a back number. In Texas the Percheron is in great demand; the climate seems to suit him and the horse appears to suit the people, but Texas is an enormous territory and there is ample scope and plenty of work to do for any class of heavy draught horse in the Lone Star state. And it is the same in every agricultural section of the country.

Effect of Cows on Land.

About seven years ago, Mr. A. Kasmier purchased one of the poorest, most run-down farms in Fulton county. It consisted principally of about 75 acres of red gullied land, which would hardly produce a third of a bale of cotton to the acre. There was also about an equal amount of wood land, which he fenced in for pasture. He had little to go upon but managed to get hold of a few cows, and purchased more as opportunity offered, until he worked up a nice little herd of about

twenty. He purchased a good male and continued to improve his herd, until he has now some fine milkers that will give between four and five gallons per day.

The writer paid a visit to him in May and was astonished at the improvement which he has made in his land. We found him planting corn with a two-horse planter on land that he had manured from his stable during the winter, spreading the manure broadcast as it was made. The land was plowed last fall, so that no loss was sustained during the winter by washing, and the manure worked in when preparing for his corn this spring.

He had about 10 acres of the prettiest wheat we ever saw, and twice that much in oats. The wheat will make anywhere from 20 to 40 bushels per acre, and the oats—well, it is difficult to say what they will produce. Last year he threshed 300 bushels of fine Burt oats from seven acres, and he showed us the bin in his barn with over 200 bushels still unused. The oats were vigorous, dark green in color, showing the effect of manure on the land and it was remarkable that all the gullies have disappeared.

Another thing that was especially noticeable; while his land is quite rolling, we did not see a single terrace, and he has been able to keep his land from washing by deep plowing and by laying off his rows as nearly as possible on a level. The fact also that he sows down a large part of his land in wheat and oats and follows this with cowpeas has helped greatly in building up his land and preventing erosion.

Mr. Kasmier sells his butter in Atlanta at 35c per wholesale, and disposes of his buttermilk at 15c per gallon, which brings him in a steady income the year round, and really constitutes his principal money crop. His farm is a small one, worked principally by himself and family, with a little hired help now and then; and he is gradually getting ahead, until he has gotten him up a nice barn, a comfortable home and one of the best arranged little dairies we ever saw on a small farm. He had the advantage of a nice spring near his house, so that he could run the cold spring water through his dairy and keep his milk at an even temperature, and keep his butter cool and firm, so that it has not been necessary for him to go to the expense of buying ice for this purpose.

Mr. Kasmier does not grow cotton to any great extent, but last year he did make some cotton—over a bale to the acre—on a few acres which he planted. He is rapidly bringing all his land into a high state of cultivation, and it is easily worth today over one hundred dollars per acre. We doubt very much if he would accept that price for his farm.

In a small pasture near the house we noticed a few South-down sheep, a new venture of Mr. Kasmier's which he took hold of last fall. The sheep are doing nicely and he believes will be a profitable investment.

His farm is a marked contrast to those adjoining where no cows are kept, plainly illustrating the fact that with even a small dairy farming land can be brought up to a high state of cultivation and made worth many times what similar land, without cows, would make. This little farm stands as an object lesson to Southern farmers, although it is in an out of the way place where few have an opportunity to see it. We wish we could bring the lesson home to our readers, as we are sure it would convince them that the way to build up the land and make a farm profitable is to raise stock of some kind or carry on a dairy. While Mr. Kasmier has not been able to show any very great profit from his dairying operations, at the same time it has given him a good livelihood and the principal benefit has come through the improvement—Atlanta Journal.

Feeding Newly Hatched Chicks

The poultry experts of the Kansas State Agricultural College feed the newly hatched chick crumbly food for the first three weeks, then nothing is used but dry feed, consisting of the seed-cracked grain, and "corn bread" baked crisp and then crushed fine.

A hen that lays 150 eggs a year costs no more to feed than the one that lays only 75 eggs.

LIVE STOCK NOTES.

Sunshine is good for the pigs. Keep them in it.

The hogs should not be allowed to become lousy.

It is perfectly feasible to use green oats for silage.

Whey is worth about one-half as much as skimmilk for pig feeding.

The boar should be kept in a pen and yard some distance from the sows.

Pigs will begin to eat at four weeks, and sooner if a sow is a poor suckler.

The shoats should not be kept in the same enclosure with the brood sows.

Get the young pigs out on the ground as soon as the weather will permit.

The swill or feed barrel should be well cleaned and scalded every week, at least.

Hogs enjoy being scrubbed with warm water and soap and it is good for them.

Keep the sleeping quarters and feeding places clean and thoroughly disinfected.

Nothing will retard the growth or cripple a young pig so quickly as to keep it on board floor.

Spray with some good disinfectant, and grease all over—and don't neglect the inside of the ears.

Good skimmilk is worth 25 cents per hundred for pig feeding, when corn sells for 50 cents per bushel.

Cowpeas and corn make excellent silage, or the mixture may be used to furnish the best of sheep and hog pasture.

Excepting oil meal a farmer should grow all the varieties of feeds necessary to the most successful swine husbandry.

New Diphtheria Treatment.

New York Globe.

A couple of Russian doctors are working on a new method of immunization against diphtheria. It consists of direct treatment with the diphtheria poison which is inserted into nostrils on pledgets of cotton. Dershowsky found that by means of this procedure (the doses of toxin presumably being gradually increased in strength) he could in a few days produce a higher and more lasting immunity to diphtheria than by means of the ordinary antitoxin.

The latter has some disadvantages despite its great value and may be superseded in certain cases by the newer prophylactic if the claims of the Russian doctors prove true. The antitoxin is more rapid in its action and hence should be preferred for treatment in actual cases of diphtheria. Blumenau, one of the Russian experimenters, reports the use of the toxin on seventeen children, with the production in most of them of a high degree of immunity.

In making the ordinary antitoxin a horse is treated with increasing dose of the diphtheria poison until its blood becomes rich in an antidotal substance. The horse is then bled and the fluid portion of its blood contains the antidote concitutes the diphtheria antitoxin of commerce. The Russian doctors scheme simply amounts to cutting out the horse and letting each human being manufacture his own antidote. Where there is time there is something to be said for this plan, if it is safe and effective.

Changing Variety of Seed Wheat

Many farmers make the mistake of sowing year after year a variety of wheat which yields several bushels less per acre under their conditions than some other variety would do under the same conditions, says the Maryland experiment station. Often the only reason why a particular variety has become popular in certain localities is because when first introduced it gave an extra high yield due more to exceptionally good treatment in a favorable season than high-yielding qualities of the variety. When a new variety is introduced in a community or on a farm it should always be grown in the same field and beside a well-known or standard variety. It is difficult to determine the possibility of any variety when comparing a field on one end of the farm with another on the other end, or what is still worse, comparing one man's field with that of his neighbor.

Take time to burn or bury deep all fowls that die.

NEW SPRING SILKS.

Embroidery, Laces and Silk Trimmings Have Just Arrived

A complete line of Mens and boys new spring suits.

A FEW SPECIALS Just Arrived

Marquissettes' in delicate shades - - - 35 cts.
Fancy Chiffons - - - - - 35 cts.
White lace brocades - - - - - 65 cts.

WILSON'S DEPARTMENT STORE.

CORNNO

"The Feed That is All Feed"

For Horses, Mules Cows,

Hogs, and Poultry.

Remember Six Times

CORNNO is the largest selling brand of feed in the United States. CORNNO is the original Alfalfa balanced grain ration. All others are imitations.

CORNNO is a better Feed for less money. CORNNO will measure 3 2-3 bushels to every 100 lb. bag. CORNNO is GUARANTEED absolutely to do all that is claimed for it. (Reward if it fails after 30 days continued use, if used according to instructions.)

CORNNO will enable your stock to do more hard work—they look better, feed better and work better.

Feed same measure as oats; 1/2 to 3/4 more than shelled corn.

Insist on CORNNO—the ORIGINAL—the BEST. ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES.

Our famous brand of Flour "ELDEAN" HAS NO EQUAL

Wetmur & Houston

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. HAY, GRAIN AND FLOUR.

CORTRIGHT METAL SHINGLES THE FIREPROOF ROOF

Never need repairs—Inexpensive—Stormproof—Will last as long as the building. Roofs put on over twenty years ago are as good as new today. For further detailed information apply to FOR SALE BY THE FARMERS SUPPLY COMPANY.