

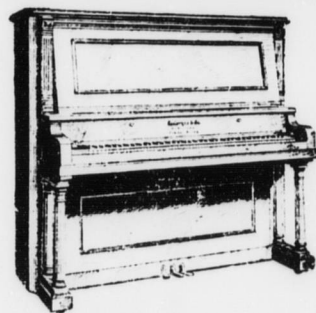
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Do Green Manures Sour the Soil?

The essentially fundamental factors in permanent soil fertility are humus and nitrogen. Commercial fertilizers do not supply humus at all, and they supply nitrogen at too great a cost. Stable manures supply nitrogen in too limited a quantity and the humus at too great a cost. The only solution of the problem is to grow a crop of legumes and in the green state turn the whole crop in and thereby secure the full benefit of the humus and the nitrogen content of the whole crop.

Why is this method of improving our soils and producing greater crop yields not more universally practiced by our farmers? Entirely, I believe, from one misconception, green stuff turned in sours land. This view, doubtless, gained its prevalence from the fact that the first process in decay is fermentation, and therefore the development of some acid. But that this acid is readily disposed of and does not to any appreciable extent permanently affect the soil or decrease crop yields, can be easily learned by looking deeper into the subject.

"But," some one says, "I turned under a heavy green crop and the succeeding crop was almost a failure." Just like the man who has a sick cow, bores into her horn, finds its hollow, and concludes his cow is afflicted with that terrible malady, hollow horn. Just as if the poor cow's horn had not always been hollow. So the man who turned

in a crop of green manure and finds his next crop short, concludes that the acids have ruined his crop. The causes are entirely different. The chief if not the only one, is that the moisture supply has been cut off. Growing crops are nourished by capillary water. The smaller the opening, the higher the fluid rises. The flame of a lamp is fed by the oil that rises through the openings in the wick. These are very small. If we wish more light, why not take out the wick and insert in its place some wheat or oat straws? By this process we would not get any light at all. The oil could not rise to the top of this wick.

Something like this happened to the man who turned in the green stuff. According to the common idea, he wished to cover it all completely. This required that the sod be completely turned over. This process can be readily seen, creates a layer of green stuff between, say, the soil and the subsoil. Being in an undecayed state the openings through it are too large to admit of capillarity. During the following summer when the drouth prevails, the growing crop fails to meet expectation from want of moisture, not acids in the soils.

We overcome this difficulty by thoroughly incorporating the green stuff with the soil before planting. Then at right angles to the rolling cut up with a sharp disk harrow. Then turn land and the green stuff will be mixed with the soil and capillarity will be maintained. A bumper crop, acid or no acid, will be the result. —G. M. Garren, in The Progressive Farmer.

To Establish State Baptist School.

Rev. W. B. James accompanied by Rev. R. D. Garland of the Baptist State Mission Board, and Mr. D. T. Meadows, a very prominent Baptist layman of Henry, went over into the northern part of the county the first of this week looking for suitable location and inducements for establishing the Baptist School which the State association has decided to build some where in the northern part of Patrick or eastern Carroll. These gentlemen were very favorably impressed with the inducement offered both at Woolwine and Buffalo Ridge. They also have in view a location

near Laurel Fork. Where the school will finally be established will depend first upon the best location where the most people can be reached and benefited and second upon the assistance the local people will render in the way of securing a suitable farm and in helping to erect the required buildings.—Stuart Enterprise.

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If you are suffering with any old, running or fever sores, ulcers, boils, eczema or other skin troubles, get a box of Bucklen's Arnica Salve and you will get relief promptly. Mrs. Bruce Jones, of Birmingham, Ala., suffered from an ugly ulcer for nine months and Bucklen's Arnica Salve cured her in two weeks. Will help you. Only 25c. Recommended by all druggists.

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