

Try Some Crimson

Clover This Fall.

Numerous inquiries indicate an increasing interest in crimson clover. It is now being grown on small areas where a few years ago many claimed it could not be grown. It is one of our very best early spring-growing legumes. When sowed early enough and the winter is mild it makes considerable growth during the late fall and winter but its strong point is rapid, early spring growth and maturity. It furnishes an early crop of hay when feed is usually scarce, or may be plowed under at maturity in time for a crop of corn.

Its weak point is the difficulty of getting a stand. Failures with it are due to a variety of causes, but probably these occur most frequently from lack of inoculation: seeding too early when the young plants are killed by dry hot weather, or seeding too late, when the plants fail to make sufficient growth to withstand the winter freezing.

As a rule, failure to inoculate the soil is the most common cause of failure to get a good crop and next in importance in causing these failures is sowing too late, but except in the northern part of our territory, sowing too early is also a frequent cause of failure.

Many want to sow it in corn when laying-by this crop, but in the Cotton Belt we advise against this as a general practice, for even in the northern part of the Cotton Belt we do not think it should be sowed before the latter part of August and further south September 1 to October 1 is better. Neither do we advise sowing it at the last working of cotton, except possibly in the extreme northern part of the Cotton Belt. As a general rule, however, it may be sowed immediately after the first picking of cotton, or possibly after the second picking in some localities.

It is not suitable for growing on land to be followed by cotton, for it does not mature sufficiently early to permit of a proper preparation of cotton lands; but there is no better preparation for a corn crop. Whether it is cut for hay or plowed under, the corn will be benefited, but, of course, much more benefit is received by the corn crop if the crimson clover is plowed under. If a crop of crimson clover is plowed under, late planting and the resulting danger of the corn suffering for lack of moisture need not be seriously feared an ordinary year.

We advise every farmer to try at least a small area of crimson clover this year. If the crop has not been grown successfully on the farm, plow, say one acre, now, disk and harrow immediately, and harrow once every ten days or two weeks until the latter part of August or September, according to the location, and then inoculate the acre with 500 to 1,000 pounds of soil from a field where crimson, small white or red clover has grown successfully or with the commercial cultures of the bacteria which may be purchased from our advertisers, and sow the seed and brush them in lightly with a harrow. If a good crop is obtained, this soil will inoculate the whole

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farm and more crimson clover will surely be grown; but if only a little of it grows, do not become discouraged, but repeat the same operations on the same acre next year and success is almost certain to follow.—Progressive Farmer.

How One Woman Went About It.

I know women who are helping to pay for the farm by selling butter and buttermilk. One woman encouraged her husband to build a better house than he had intended and said that if he would put in a windmill, bathroom, hot and cold water and other conveniences she would pay for them. She asked the dairyman from the State Department of Agriculture to go to her, tell her what was the matter with her dairy and her knowledge of butter-making, and today she gets the highest market price for her products. She sells butter, cheese and buttermilk. She has sausage put up in little oil-paper cartoons like butter. Her eggs are clean, large and uniform. She has one breed of hens and for the same reason the poultry she takes to town are fleshy and clean skinned. Her vegetables are fresh picked and attractive. So excellent are wares that she has for years had regular customers and awaiting list. Also sets her own prices.—Mrs. W. N. Hutt, in The Progressive Farmer.

Make the House-keepers Work Easy.

Woman must have leisure if she is to be a successful homemaker. She who runs a continual race from the wash tub to the cook-stove and back again has no time, strength, nor thought for culture, companionship, nor motherhood in its most beautiful sense. Neither has time to install system without which her work must necessarily be one endless clutter; nor the tact and time to educate her husband in helping her to help herself. She must have his co-operation.

Water should be in the house if possible, at least near, either in the well or in pipes. So also should the milkhouse, smoke-house and vegetable garden be near. There should be as few steps as possible and those board and easy of ascent.

The kitchen is the most important room of the house. Is it not so? Have you not been in many houses in which the parlor showed great signs of expense and care, but where the kitchen showed evidences of neither money nor thought? In these homes it is sometimes a matter of surprise to the parents that the girl would rather be clerk or stenographer or teacher

or anything other than the assistant cook to stay at home and work in that kitchen from which every instinct of beauty, and brightness and refinement bids her revolt. There is something wrong with the girl who is willing to stay in such a kitchen and be content; also there is something lacking in the woman who is content to wait and wait, hoping a darkey, however shiftless, will turn up soon to do her work, instead of taking matters into her own hands and seeing how easily and cheerfully she can do it herself. No, I take back that last sentence. I was too hasty in my judgment. The lack may not be in the woman herself but in the inspiration and environment.—Mrs. W. Hutt, in The Progressive Farmer.

Paint or Whitewash Your House.

All outbuildings should be painted now, but if you can't afford paint, whitewash is cheap and will go a long way toward giving your farm a clean, fresh, prosperous look in keeping with the springtime season—will do a lot to let passers-by know that "a man who cares" owns your place. If you really can't afford the beauty and attractiveness of a painted residence, you can at least use plenty of whitewash and make the yard glarious with plenty of flowers. Whitewash and flower seed are cheap.—The Progressive Farmer.

The Maintenance of Roads.

The question of supervision of maintenance is just as important as the question of money to work the roads with. If the United States should issue the billion dollars of roads bonds proposed by some enthusiasts, the indifferent neighborhood and the one with an incompetent man in charge of the roads would still have poor roads. Every State must have a State Engineer or a Highway Commission, every county a competent Road Commissioner, and every mile of road an overseer directly responsible for its upkeep, before we have any general system of good roads. The labor tax and the annual "road-working" will not make good roads, or keep them good; nor will any appropriation, however great, without provision for continual supervision by a competent man whose business shall be to keep the roads good.—The Progressive Farmer

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