



# THE



# PROGRESSIVE



# FARMER.

THE INDUSTRIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE PARAMOUNT TO ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OF STATE POLICY.

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## Agricultural.

### CORN FOR ENSILAGE.

For the Progressive Farmer.

[Replying to an inquiry from a correspondent, addressed to THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, as to Dr. Benbow's method of cultivating corn for ensilage, the Dr. answers as follows:]

In reply as to kind of corn I use for ensilage, plan of seeding and cultivation, I fear your intelligent farmers will laugh at my rough manner. First: I own a small country mill where I take toll from all sorts of corn, and it is out of that mixture I get my seed—no science in that, you see.

I plant in drills, about three and a half feet apart and try to get one stalk in a place, about eight inches from each other—each stalk ought upon good ground (and no other kind of land is fit to plant corn on for ensilage) to weigh three pounds, when the shoot begins to silk, at which time I think the best to cut, but as some of such a vast variety of seed will be much further advanced than other stalks, a part will have well-matured roasting ears, which suit a hotel wonderfully well. The corn is good at all times, from the time it gets up to where we would cut it for soiling, up to the time Mr. Garrett, of Halifax, uses his, which is after the corn is hard enough to save. It is good for ensilage all along and will make food the cow relishes.

[Most scientific men I have read after tell me that there is more real nourishment in any vegetable when in bloom than at any other time, the same thing I think applies to the animal kingdom as well as the vegetable, though you did not ask me about that matter, and being so full of prohibition I had better stop after answering your inquiry, for fear I may advise all good citizens and especially those professing to be Christians to back up their prayers for the abolition of the liquor traffic by their votes for a party pledged to the cause and against the two old parties who have fostered the traffic since their organization.]

The corn when put into the silo should be cut up into lengths to suit the views of the owner,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to as long as he wants it. It can be kept whole though that system is very inconvenient as it is so much harder to feed out than when cut fine.

Respectfully,  
D. W. C. BENBOW.

### A PROLIFIC HILL OF BEANS.

Mr. J. A. Foote reports to the *Indiana Farmer* that he last year offered a prize of one cent per bean for the plant that should contain the largest number of beans grown from the branching tree bean, a small, white, pea bean, well known to many of our farmers. Not being a very good season for beans Mr. Foote was quite astounded when a plant was brought him containing 450 pods, which contained 2,220 beans, which measured just one pint, and of course cost the prize giver \$22, or at the rate of \$1,408 per bushel.—*Farmer*.

### A FARMERS' CLUB.

"The Farmers' Club of Harnett," is an organization of her citizens for the purpose of mutual advantages and pleasure. The constitution and by-laws of this club are wise and strict. They tolerate no immoral conduct on the part of any one. A full corps of marshals, generally headed by the sheriff of the county, are in attendance to preserve order. No intoxicating liquors are allowed on the grounds, and all political speeches, and everything that would tend to stir up strife or divide feeling, are strictly excluded.—*Pittsboro Home*.

—Twenty Northern citizens of Asheville have formed a "Northern Citizens' Immigration Association."

## HOW TO MAKE HENS LAY.

How I make fowls lay. Take eight quarts of water and two teaspoonfuls of red pepper, and put in a kettle; when the water boils stir in enough bran and corn meal to thicken it, and take some horse-radish, chop it up fine, and put in with the root and let it boil an hour. We hear a good deal of complaint from other people about not getting eggs, so I ask them to try this and feed once a day; about one handful of this feed to one hen, and they will get plenty of eggs. Charcoal is good for poultry, so is corn burned or charred on the ear, so as to keep its shape, is excellent. It must be mixed up in soft feed, and to get a yellow yolk I will tell you, young and old breeders, take red beets, cook them for your fowls and feed them, and in two days you can see the change; the yolk will be as yellow as gold. One of the most important things in feeding poultry, yet too often neglected, is a supply of good, pure drinking water, and a fowl drinks every ten or fifteen minutes, especially in hot weather. Impure water is one of the worst sources of disease. Cholera, for instance, is in all probability often due to the drinking of water that is not pure. Snow water will reduce flesh as rapidly as a sharp attack of diarrhoea. The best thing is to have a stream of running water. A few rusty nails in water is good, or a few drops of the tincture of iron every other day. The vessels must be kept clean, and water should be warmed in winter for fowls, as it is better, as it does not chill them. This I have tried and found it is far the best, and your hens will do better. Fowls should be kept dry in winter.

## PROGRESSIVE FARMERS.

A correspondent of the *Southwestern Agriculturist*, published at Montgomery, Ala., evidently a man of observation and of good sense, contributes the following suggestive remarks to that Journal:

"Progressive farmers are those that have diversified crops, and are always posted in the literature of the day, that touches upon their products. They are not complaining of hard times, their barns and granaries are filled, smoke houses and larders are laden with necessaries of life, they have long since abandoned the one idea of farming, that is raising cotton for an income. They raise it as a surplus, and I notice they are the only class of farmers who are thriving in any degree.

Farmers, make note of this. You say you are compelled to raise cotton to get out of debt. Are you sure of this? How long must you try the experiment? Are you getting out of debt? Is it not true that each year you raise cotton you become deeper involved. Will not the hard labor of twenty years convince you that you are working in vain? Try another remedy; if you want any references, look at the prospering farmers in your section, and can you find one that depends entirely upon cotton? There are none in this section of Alabama, and I consider it an average.

On the other hand, are they not all prospering? then why the difference? I leave the answer with your own good judgment. 'Tis food for thought, 'tis for action.

I am for the farmers first, last, and all the time. As a class they are the honor of a country, their interest and progression is the interest of all, and I think it is time that other branches be made to feel their dependence in some degree. Let us arouse and quit the cry of hard times."

—A Swain county walnut tree was sold last week for \$500 as it stood. It was cut down and shipped North.

## State Items.

—The outlook for the wheat crop in this section is good, and farmers are hopeful and cheerful.

—Mad dogs are plentiful. M. G. Lovelace killed four in one day and J. W. King two more near the market last Friday.—*Reidsville Times*.

—Through sleepers now run from Chattanooga directly to Asheville, without change, and also from Asheville to Chattanooga.—*Lenoir Press*.

—Two Wilkes county public school teachers named Howell, brothers, now 14 or 15 years of age, respectively, have been teaching two years. Both hold certificates from three counties.

—Col. T. M. Holt has given the contract for another large cotton factory on Haw River, which will run half a million spindles. Thus the industries of North Carolina continue to increase.

—Corn and flour are more plentiful on the Albemarle market now, than we have seen for years at this time of year. The flour supply may get scant before harvest, but the corn will hold out.—*Stanly Observer*.

—Mr. N. L. Mast, of Watauga county, who was in town a week ago, told us that in places where the snow drifted into the mountain roads, the ice is about six feet thick, and wagons have to pass over it.—*Piedmont Press*.

—The court house at Troy, Montgomery county, was burned on the 12th inst., but work is progressing so rapidly on the new court house, the *Vidette* says, that it will be in readiness for the coming term of court on the 29th inst. It is a temporary structure.

—The *Newton Enterprise* says that Mr. Jas. Murry, of this county, raised \$423.00 worth of tobacco last year on five acres. He kept no horse and only hired the breaking up and running off of the land. He did the balance of the work himself.

—Large quantities of Western meat and hay are being received in this city by the car loads. When will our farmers raise their own supplies of hog, hominy and forage? This tide of money going to the far West to pay for the above articles is the secret of our dull times. And that money never returns.—*Goldsboro Argus*.

—Mr. Ransom Burns, after twelve years experience selling stock to the farmers of this section, of which he has made a very considerable business, says that the farmers are in better condition and that the outlook for prosperous times is better than in seven or eight years.—*Fayetteville News*.

—We look forward for a good wheat crop and of a good quality, because we have never known a failure to follow so favorable a seeding season as we had last fall.—The Revenue officers made a raid last week near Law's store. They cut up one still, but failed to have an interview with the gentleman what made the corn juice.—*Person County Courier*.

—Elwood Cox has received more new machinery for his factory.—Mr. J. P. Sneider killed a hawk a few days since that measured four feet and four inches from tip to tip.

—Z. Groome will plant 100 acres in tobacco on his farm which he recently purchased of the Freeman estate.—Elwood Cox has shipped over 200,000 spokes and shuttle blocks and 100,000 hobbin heads in the last thirty days. He has 600 cords of rough timber to convert into the above named articles as fast as possible, and is running his mill here ten hours a day and three hours at night.—*High Point Enterprise*.

—The Rocky Mount *Talker* says: Capt. J. D. Harden, the Contractor, is pushing his force on towards completion of grading the road as far as Nashville, and it may safely be predicted that a locomotive will get to Nashville in time to have a railroad celebration in connection with the usual fourth day of July jollification.

—The Woman's Christian Temperance Union, at its meeting yesterday, took decisive steps looking to an early election in this place on the question of local option.—Mr. R. D. Ervin, of Concord township, has brought us the foot of a hog which he killed during the winter. Just above it there projects from the leg another perfectly formed but small foot, cloven hoof and all.—*Statesville Landmark*.

—Apples are a drug on this market at 50 to 75 cents per bushel. Even Northern apples sell at above rates. A gentleman in the Western part of the State told us that in many localities twenty cents per bushel for good apples was all that could be obtained. Corn 48 and 50 cents per bushel.—Mrs. Margaret Rudisill, of Gaston county, died on the 4th inst., at the age of ninety-four years. She was the mother of 6 children, 39 grand children, and 55 great-grand children.—*Charlotte Democrat*.

—Last year, Dr. J. A. Leslie, of Winder, this county, planted five acres in cotton and one acre in tobacco, in the same field and the same soil. The five acres of cotton netted him \$140.00, and the one acre of tobacco netted him \$140.10. He sold his tobacco at from 10 cents to \$1.30 per pound, averaging 21 cents. While this is above the average yield, one acre in tobacco beats five in cotton. Yet there are many of our farmers who say that they are afraid of tobacco.—*Moore Gazette*.

—Lenoir expects to have a telegraph line by the first of June.—Mrs. David Setzer, of this county, now past 86 years of age, has lived to see five generations of her children. About a month ago a son was born to Franklin Hoyle, who lives near Ripeto, who is her great-great-grandchild.—The Granite Falls Manufacturing Company has been running day and night for several weeks and from Monday morning till Saturday night there is a continual hum of machinery. About 70 hands are employed inside of the factory and the weekly work amounts to 12,000 pounds of yarn.

—Mr. Thomas Setzer, who lives on Little Mulberry, has been keeping house for 40 years, say, and has within that time procured from other persons seed oats but once. The crop which he will harvest this summer is the lineal descendant—for forty "generations" of spring oats—of the seed he sowed when he first "set up for himself."—*Lenoir Topic*.

—Messrs. F. & H. Fries are boring an artesian well at their cotton factory.—Messrs. F. & H. Fries have a heavy order for cotton cloth to be shipped to China.—There will be great crop of watermelons raised for market this year. We hear of some who will have several acres in melons.—A man tells us that he has discovered that chicken hawks do more good than harm. He says they destroy a large number of field mice which would do much damage to crops if allowed to go unmolested by the hawks.—There have been some large prices paid for land in Vienna township, this winter. Mr. T. M. Hunter at a late sale of land, paid at the rate of \$260 per acre; but then this is not so high when he receives very near that much for the tobacco he raises on one acre.—One woman who is generally successful in raising chickens says that she does not try to raise the first young chickens, but had rather her neighbors would have the earliest broods, for she says the hawks find the early broods

and continue their depredations in the poultry yards which furnish them the first prey in the spring.—*Salem Press*.

—Too MUCH LAND.—One of the most common mistakes in farming is the attempt to cultivate too much land. Too much work is laid out on a little done. The ground is imperfectly prepared and poorly seeded. The whole work is rushed, and though the labor is performed late and early, the work is never overtaken. There is always more to do than can be done. The result is a hard year's work and no profit, with sometimes the conclusion that farming does not pay.—*Farmer & Trucker*.

—THE FIRST BATTLE OF THE REVOLUTION.—A simple yet appropriate monument of granite has been erected on the field in Alamance where was fought May 16, 1771, the first battle between the British authorities and the "Regulators." Yesterday Mr. J. A. Turrentine, of Company Shops, sent Gov. Scales a large photograph of this monument, which will be framed and will adorn the executive office. The monument bears the following inscription: "Here was fought the first battle between the British and the Regulators, May 16, 1771."—*Raleigh News and Observer*.

—THE ROANOKE RAILROAD.—A new railroad is projected across the State, we see, the terminal points of which are to be Roanoke, Va., and Spartanburg, S. C. We hope it will be built, since we are in favor of as many railroads as possible on general principals, but it is east and west lines that we are most anxious to see built and short lines to act as feeders of the lines already in existence. The region which the new line is to traverse is certainly an inviting one to railroad enterprise. It already blossoms as the rose. Ample railroad facilities would make it doubly productive of corn and wine if not of oil also. There is no finer country in the world than the Piedmont section of North Carolina.—*Raleigh News and Observer*.

—NORTH CAROLINA STILL IN THE LEAD.—One of our exchanges recently stated that the first cotton looms ever manufactured in the South were made in Atlanta, Ga., a year or two ago.

This is a mistake. The first looms ever built in the South were put up at John Hoke's Machine Shops at Lincolnton in 1843 or '44. Mr. Hoke manufactured forty looms and used them in his cotton mills. In addition to these looms, the Hoke shops made all the wool-carding machines, axes and mill irons used in Western North Carolina. The Mr. Hoke alluded to, was the father of Col. Jno. F. Hoke, of Lincolnton, from whom we learned these facts.—*Newton Enterprise*.

## A PLAINTIFF APPEAL TO SENATOR JONES.

A Florida girl makes a plaintive appeal to Senator Jones to give up the hard-hearted Detroit girl even if she has a million of dollars, and return to the land of flowers, where, if it is intimated, he may find hearts less obdurate in forms equally as attractive. She pathetically and poeticaly inquires: "Why should the Senator seek the cold, sterile and forbidding wilds of Michigan when the mocking bird is singing thus early in Florida, the lemon trees load the soft odors, and the orange flowers scent the passing gales?" And, then, with irresistible tenderness she makes the appeal: "Oh, Jones, you old fool, come back." If Jones can resist that, we think he will not only deserve the title she gives him, but will also justify the still harsher verdict of some of his friends, that he is cracked.