

PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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

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DIRECTORY OF FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS.

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THE SOUTH THE HOME OF GRASS AND CLOVER.

(From the Fall Seed Catalogue of T. W. Wood & Sons.)

Our seeds, especially Grass and Clover Seeds, are carefully selected and grown for us with special reference to their purity, cleanliness from weeds, and germination. In addition to this, we carefully test all seeds before sending out, so farmers procuring their supplies from us can rely on their yielding them the most satisfactory results, with proper preparation of the soil and favorable seasons. The best time in the fall for seeding grass and clovers is in the month of September, although the grasses can be safely sown up to the middle of October, but it will be better, as late as that, to defer sowing clover until early in the spring, which, if desired to be sown with the grass, can be sown on the top without covering, and will easily take root. The grasses of course, succeed equally well sown in the spring as in the fall. The best mode of preparation is as follows: The ground should be made fine, firm and smooth by plowing and harrowing as many times as is necessary, and if the soil is loose, it should be rolled. After it is properly prepared, mark off in lands of such width as can be conveniently sown, and divide the seed for such portion. It is best to sow half the seed in going one way over that portion of land, and returning over the same ground sow the other half of the seed, so that it gets evenly spread, and so on throughout the field. The seed should then be lightly covered, either with a brush or light harrow; and if the soil is dry enough, it is best to run a roller over it, which gives the tender sprouts a firm hold on the soil.

ORCHARD GRASS.—The demand for this grass is increasing to an enormous extent all over the South; and wherever it is given a trial it speedily proves itself one of the most valuable hay and pasture grasses in cultivation. It withstands the heat and drought of midsummer and cold of winter better than any other of the cultivated grasses; starts early in the spring, and continues to give good grazing until late in the fall. For hay it can be cut twice in a season, and will yield nearly double as much as Timothy, and is not nearly so hard on the soil. Its nutritive qualities are first-class; by analysis it contains more flesh and muscle-forming materials than Timothy, but is not quite so fattening as that grass. It ripens at the same time as Orchard, and gives very best results with it and Red Clover. For hay it should be cut while in bloom. For poor, dry and sandy soils this grass has no equal. Sow either in fall or spring at the rate of two to three bushels per acre. Per bushel of 11 pounds, about \$1.50. Special prices in large quantities.

ORCHARD GRASS.—(*Dactylis Glomerata*).—This is a well known and val-

uable grass, either for hay or pasture. It succeeds well on most soils, but prefers a moderately stiff and not wet. It comes early in the spring, and continues well into winter. It is of quick growth, and relished by stock, especially when young, and bears close grazing. It makes excellent hay, and does well mixed and grown with Tall Meadow Oat Grass and Red Clover, which ripen at the same time. It should be cut when in blossom, as the hay is injured if the seed ripens. It can be sown in the spring or fall, either with grain or alone. Sow two bushels per acre if by itself, or three pecks Orchard Grass, three pecks Tall Meadow Oat, and five pounds Clover make a fine mixture. Price about \$1.25 per bushel of 14 pounds.

TIMOTHY.—(*Phleum Pratense*).—One of the most valuable hay grasses; succeeds well on stiff low grounds, but not so well on light or upland soils. Yields large crops of the very best quality hay, but is not so good a pasture grass, as it will not bear close cropping. It is best sown early in the fall, as it will then make a full crop the following season. Sow at the rate of one peck to the acre. Price about \$2.00 per bushel. Special prices for large quantities.

RED TOP, OR HERD GRASS.—(*Agrostis Vulgaris*).—An excellent grass, succeeding in any soil. It grows well on light sandy, medium or stiff bottom land. It is one of the best for wet soils, and is not injured by overflows; is good for grazing or hay, and succeeds well sown with Timothy, as they manure together and produce an excellent hay. When sown with Timothy, sow one bushel Herd's and six pounds Timothy per acre. Sow in September or October, or in the spring, two bushels per acre, if sown by itself. Price, about 60 cts. per bushel of 10 pounds. Special prices for large quantities.

KENTUCKY BLUE GRASS.—(*Poa Pratensis*).—A fine grass which does well in mixtures for grazing or lawns, and generally succeeds well on moist soils. Sow two bushels per acre. Price about \$1.50 per bushel of 14 pounds.

MEADOW FESCUE, OR RANDALL.—(*Festuca Pratensis*).—A highly valuable perennial grass for permanent pasture. The roots penetrate the soil twelve or fifteen inches, and it is well fortified against drought. It makes a fine winter pasture, and overflows do not decrease its vigorous vitality. If sown for hay, it, like other grasses, should be cut when in bloom. Sow two bushels per acre during September or October, or in the spring. Price, about \$1.25 per bushel of 14 pounds.

ITALIAN RYE GRASS.—(*Lolium Italicum*).—This is a quick growing grass, and is admirably adapted to a variety of soils and conditions. On rich, moist soils it yields probably more mowings than any other grass. Sow thirty pounds of seed per acre. Price, about \$1.10 per bushel of 14 pounds.

PERENNIAL RYE GRASS.—(*Lolium Perene*).—This, like the preceding, is a very quick growing grass; furnishes good grazing and hay, which matures early; but as it does not root deeply, is often killed out during a drought in summer. Sow thirty pounds per acre. Price, about \$1.00 per bushel of 14 pounds.

JOHNSON GRASS.—(*Sorghum Halapense*).—This is not properly a grass, but is really a species of sugar cane. It grows rather coarse, but makes a large yield of forage, which when young and tender is relished by stock. It has not given uniform satisfaction in this State, but seems to do very well further South. Sow at the rate of one bushel per acre. Price, \$2.50 per bushel.

TEXAS BLUE GRASS.—A grass which from all reports is one of the most valuable pasture grasses in existence. It endures the winters and resists drought perfectly, making three or four times as much pasture or hay as its near relative, Kentucky Blue Grass. The great drawback to the general cultivation of this grass is the difficulty with which the seed is obtained, making it very high in price. Price of seed is 25 cts. per pkt.; \$3.50 per pound.

MESQUIT, OR SOFT MEADOW GRASS.—(*Holcus Lamatus*).—One of the most attractive-looking grasses grown, and making a large yield of either pasture or hay, but of rather poor nutritive qualities. It does better on poor or sandy soils than any other grasses, and for this its chief value lies. Sow about twenty pounds per acre. Price, 15 cts. per pound.

FOWL MEADOW GRASS.—A valuable grass for low wet lands, thriving best when sown with other grasses, such as Red Top or Meadow Fescue. It is slender in growth, with large seed

heads, and require the support and protection of other grasses to prevent it from lodging and falling down. It makes fine, soft hay of excellent quality, and cattle and sheep are very fond of it. Price, \$2.50 per bushel.

Clovers.
LUCERNE, OR ALFALFA.—(*Medicago Sativa*).—This is perhaps the most valuable clover for the South, as on suitable land it can be mown five or six times a year. It likes, dry, melow ground, with a deep subsoil which the roots can penetrate, and they will run down twenty feet or more in search of moisture; hence it withstands drought better than other grasses. It is best used for feeding green or a little wilted, and cutting should commence before any blooms appear, and by the time it is cut over, the part first cut will be ready again. For hay it should be cut as the blooms appear. Sow ten pounds per acre in drills twelve inches apart, and cultivate to keep down the weeds, and when it is established it will keep them down. It will succeed well sown broadcast on ground free from weeds, when fifteen to twenty pounds should be sown, so as to cover the ground thickly and keep down weeds. If it is top-dressed every winter, it will last for twenty years or more. It should not be grazed. Sow late in spring or early in the fall, either in drills or broadcast. It is rather tender until it is established, when it will stand severe cold and produce large crops for several years. Can be sown alone or with a very light seeding of barley, oats or rye, which should be cut off before ripening. Price, 18 cts. per pound; \$9.50 per bushel of 60 pounds.

GERMAN OR CRIMSON CLOVER.—This is one of the most valuable crops for all farmers. It comes three weeks earlier than the Red Clover in the spring, makes very nutritious green food, and also excellent hay, at the same time improving the soil to a greater extent than any other crop which is cut from the land. This clover is adapted to all soils, but seems especially so to light lands, and is considered by some superior, both for hay and as an improver to the Red Clover, on this class of soils. After the crop is cut, the land is in fine condition for corn or the succeeding crop. The stubble plowed under, even after the crop is cut off, makes a fine improver. Sow in August and September, at the rate of ten or twelve pounds to the acre. Per pound, 15 cts.; bushel of 60 pounds, \$7.50.

RED CLOVER.—(*Trifolium Pratense*).—This is one of the most valuable farm crops, and is largely used for pasturage, hay, and as an improver of the soil. The soils best adapted to it are tenacious or stiff loams, containing more or less lime or clay. It will grow on poor land if the subsoil is clay; but if very poor it should be helped a little at first with plaster and kanit, when large crops can be raised. Cut for hay when in full bloom. Sow ten pounds per acre in the spring or fall. Price, about \$5.40 per bushel of 60 pounds. Special prices for large quantities.

SAPLINS, OR MAMMOTH CLOVER.—(*Trifolium Pratense*).—Similar to the preceding, except that it grows much larger and coarser, and is later in maturing. It is much superior as an improver on account of the extra growth. This is a good variety for thin soils, or to seed with Timothy, as it matures at the same time. Price, about \$5.75 per bushel of 60 pounds.

WHITE CLOVER.—(*Trifolium Repens*).—For lawn and pasture mixtures this is a valuable clover to sow in the fall and spring. Price, 25 cts. per pound. Special prices for large quantities.

SWEEDISH OR ALSIKE CLOVER.—A hardy, rich clover, succeeding best on moist lands containing clay. It resists extreme drought and wet, and is not easily winter killed. It does not attain its full growth for two or three years, and is best adapted for pasture when sown with other grasses. It has long, fibrous roots, and is well adapted for sowing on land liable to wash or gully. Bees extract a great deal of honey from its fragrant flowers, and it is on this account a favorite with beekeepers. Price, 15 cts. per pound; about \$8.50 per bushel.

SAINFOIN OR ESPARLETTE.—An old and favorably known plant in Europe, but has not been tried to any great extent in this country as yet. It is principally recommended for light, sandy, gravelly and limestone soils, and succeeds well during long droughts. It is used largely in Europe as an improver, and also makes a good forage plant. It is well worth a trial, and may prove a valuable plant for the South. Price, 20

cts. per pound; ten pounds and over at 15 cts. per pound. Special prices for large quantities.

JAPAN CLOVER.—This is a most valuable grazing crop, but is only recommended to be seeded in the spring. Sow eight or ten pounds per acre. Per pkt. 10 cts.; pound 35 cts.; bushel (20 pounds) \$6.00.

BURN CLOVER.—Considered a valuable winter grazing plant in the Gulf States, furnishing good grazing from January until April or May. It is not hardy north of South Carolina. From what we have heard and read of the plant, we believe that its value has been very much overrated, even in the Gulf States, and that when Lucerne, Tall Meadow Oat and German, or Crimson Clover, become more generally known in that section, that they, together with Winter Rye, Barley and Oats, will supercede and drive it out of cultivation. Price, 35 cts. per pound.

The above varieties of Clover are the only sorts of any general agricultural value, but if any other varieties are required for any special uses or experiment we can supply them at prices as follows:

WHITE BOKHARA (*Medicago Alba*), per pound, 40 cts.
YELLOW TREFOIL (*Hop Clover, Non-such or Black Medico*), per pound, 30 cts.

FROM THE GASTON COUNTY BRETHREN.
CATAWBA CREEK ALLIANCE, No. 636.
 MR. EDITOR:—After quite a long absence from your columns, we knock again for admission to the organ of the Alliance of the good Old North State. Since we last wrote you, our order has grown rapidly in numbers, having then only thirty-six members and now numbering sixty. I trust, brethren, that our growth has not been alone in numbers, that we have been progressing in the way of a more thorough knowledge of the principles of our grand order is apparent on all sides. Our Sub Alliance stands ever ready to maintain the principles of the Alliance and to uphold every good and noble work instituted in the interest of the laboring man, be he a tiller of the soil, mechanic or a worker in any honorable avocation. We are standing as a unit against the proposed exactions of the jute bagging trust. Not one yard of their bagging will be used by our Alliance to wrap this crop of cotton. Let all the brethren be as firm, and down goes the ungodly combination. The farmers of this section are now more hopeful than ever. Bright prospects await them in the future. Their fields give promise of an abundant yield of the fleecy staple and an unusual harvest of corn.

We have perfected arrangements for the establishment of a trade and cotton exchange in Gastonia, which is one of the best markets, as well as one of the most thriving towns in western Carolina. The prospects of the town are bright because the farmers surrounding it are prospering.

We have had, during the past month, quite a revival of the Alliance through the inspiration of Bros. Tracy, Alexander and Graham, each having delivered addresses to large audiences in the county.

I feel that our members are beginning to appreciate the other principles of the order as well as the financial. Let our members be trained morally and educated thoroughly in the principles of political economy, that they may be able to intelligently render a verdict on all questions affecting their interest, morally, socially, politically, or financially. We want no partisan politics in the Alliance, but we do want the citizens of this Commonwealth to become so familiar with the great questions of the day as to be able to secure the needed reform in State and National legislation. Intelligent citizenship means an intelligent exercise of the rights of suffrage and the enactment of wise, pure and patriotic legislation. An intelligent people, an unprejudiced press; then just laws and equal rights and privileges to all classes. Then prosperity will dawn upon us and discord and strife will vanish. To secure these ends are some of the objects of the Alliance. Then, brethren, let us strive to educate ourselves in the grand principles of our order; act in accordance with them, spurn the name of failure, stand united man to man, and then will we march on to victory, to the accomplishment of the grand aims of our order. Be true to your obligation, to yourself and the principles of the Alliance.

WM. H. WILSON, Sec'y.

MAKE AN EXHIBIT.
Breeders of Sheep Exhorted to Rouse Up and Attend the State Fair, October 14th to 19th.

There is nothing that can do so much toward imparting an education as object teaching, says the *Western Rural*. We may teach principles for five years and not effect so much as we can by making a practice of principles for a few months; so many of us teach, or try to teach, the importance of sheep husbandry, and yet never accomplish so much through the usual modes of teaching as we can by bringing our sheep where the public may look at them. This is a subject, that in one shape or another, we have gone over many times, and yet we do not secure the adoption of our method as fully as we would like it. In times of depression the promoters of any farm enterprise that is particularly affected, are pretty apt to fold their arms and let the enterprise sink out of sight. If times are very dull the live stock breeder thinks it will not pay to advertise in any direction. He withdraws his advertisement from the columns of the paper, and perhaps does not show an animal at the fair. The city merchant does not do things that way.

He is bound to tempt people to part with what money they have; the temptation consists of steady and extensive advertising. Stores advertise just as much in dull times as they do in good times, and it must pay them to do so or they would not do it. It will pay our live stock breeders to do likewise, pay them every time and pay them handsomely.

North Carolina farmers want to know where they can buy improved breeds of sheep, and if those persons who raise them will only exhibit at the coming State Fair, October 14th to 19th, they will find many persons to buy and give them good prices. Stock is transported free of charge over the railroads to and from the fair, so that if they are sold the farmer cannot lose any money in making a trial to sell improved sheep. More of our farmers must be breeders of fine sheep and sell to those wishing to purchase and not let our people have to send money of the State and pay high prices for what we can raise with profit.

Every flock-master should feel that it would be to his benefit to make as large and fine an exhibit at the fairs as it was possible for him to make. Of all our domestic animals the sheep is least understood by the public at large. The animal is neglected by the government and little thought of by the general public; and sheep-breeders cannot expect that the great mass of consumers will ever know much about their industry unless they push the sheep directly under their noses. They do not read the class of journals that discuss the sheep interests and the only way to make them think of the animal from whose back so large a portion of their raiment comes, is to show the back with the wool on it. At some of our fairs the sheep exhibit is so insignificant that it does no good in the direction of which we are speaking. A few pens of sheep make no impression, but when there are many pens, the beholder feels precisely as he does when he goes to the Union Stock Yards and exclaims upon looking over the yards: "Why, here are scores of stock; I never before knew how extensive an interest the stock interest of this country is."

FROM CHATHAM COUNTY.
 RICHMOND, N. C., Sept. 9, '89.
 MR. EDITOR:—As I have not had the pleasure of reading anything in your most interesting and instructive paper from our Alliance, I thought perhaps a few lines would be acceptable.

I will say Womble Alliance, No. 495, does not rank in number with many other Alliances, but we are a true and live band of workers, united and working for the same cause as one to accomplish the design of the order, which purpose is, to protect and guard our rights, to ask nothing but what is justly ours, and to yield to nothing wrong.

At our last meeting jute bagging was fully discussed. The following resolution passed unanimously with the exception of one:

Resolved, That we, the members of Womble Alliance, will not use any more jute bagging for cotton covering, nor patronize any ginners that buys and sells it.

We have contributed some to the business agency fund and will contribute more in the near future. We

feel the need of its establishment, but like many other Alliances, I fear, we feel so poor that we do not reach deep enough in our pockets.

Owing to the great rain fall we will not be able to gather a full crop, though much better than last year. Corn on hill land is very fair. A great deal on bottoms that didn't wash away was drowned out. The crop of cotton will depend upon the fall, as the most of cotton is backward and destitute of many bolls.

If this does not find its way to the waste basket perhaps I can pluck up enough courage to write again. Success to you and THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

Fraternally,
 J. L. G., Sec'y.

FROM CATAWBA COUNTY.
 CATAWBA ALLIANCE, No. 1,310, Sept. 7, '89.
 MR. EDITOR:—This is to say that Catawba Alliance is still alive and doing the best we can, and although we live along the western banks of the grand old Catawba river whose fertile bottoms waive with golden corn at present. We are poor in means and weak in numbers, yet strong and firm Alliance men. We do not pass many resolutions but do endorse a good many passed by other Alliances. We have endorsed the consolidation of the Alliance and also the action of the Birmingham Convention in regard to the bagging trust and mean to fight it to the bitter end. We have as yet paid nothing to the business agency fund but about all the members have pledged themselves to pay something this fall and will pay to the best of their ability. Our election in June for officers for Catawba Alliance resulted as follows:

President, E. M. Howard; Vice-President, J. A. Howard; Secretary, R. G. Proctor; Treasurer, H. D. Howard; Doorkeeper, J. A. Lineberger; Assistant Doorkeeper, J. H. McConnell; Chaplain, H. G. Regans; Lecturer, A. M. Little; Assistant Lecturer, E. M. Howard; Business Agent, J. A. King; Sergeant-at-Arms, W. W. McAllister; Investigation Committee, J. A. King, A. M. Howard and W. A. Cashion; Committee on Good of the Order, John Brotherton, J. M. Cashion and E. Womac.

We organized last November with eleven members and now number 25 in all, 22 males and 3 females. We have limited one and granted one withdrawal. We are at present taking eleven copies of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and hope to double that number in the near future. With good wishes for the Alliance, PROGRESSIVE FARMER and its editor, I am

Fraternally yours,
 R. G. PROCTOR, Sec'y.

SHIPPING LIVE POULTRY.

There are a few points in shipping live poultry to which we wish to call attention. It is important from a money point of view, that the coops be light in weight, and from a sanitary point of view they should be airy, yet care should be used that they are strongly built and that they are in good condition before used, so that they will not come apart while in transit, for they are sometimes roughly handled while on the road. All coops should be high enough to allow the poultry, for which they are made, to stand up. Do not use coops for turkeys that were made for hens, nor coops for hens that were made for young spring chicks or pigeons. To use low coops is not only cruel, but often occasions loss through suffocation.

When shipping hens and roosters, use separate coops. Nothing depreciates a coop of fine hens more than to find a number of old cocks among them. Often shippers wonder why they do not get the highest market price for their hens. Sometimes it is because they are mixed lots. Good straight lots always command the best prices, and find the most ready sale. For Chicago, poultry should be shipped so as to reach market from Tuesday to Friday. Receipts generally increase toward the end of the week, and there is usually enough carried over stock on hand Saturday to supply the demand. Merchants rather than carry stock over Sunday will sell at a sacrifice, as the stock, when kept in coops, loses considerable in weight, and does not appear fresh and bright; besides Monday is usually a poor day to sell poultry. It is to the shipper's interest as well as to the interest of the commission man, to have the poultry in market in good shape and upon good days. Think of this when you send.—*Chicago Stockman.*