

The Progressive Farmer is a good paper—far above the average—and possibly the best advertising medium in N. C. Printers' Ink.

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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

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## PAPERS.

Progressive Farmer, State Organ, Raleigh, N. C.  
 The People's Paper, Hillsboro, N. C.  
 The Vestibule, Concord, N. C.  
 The Plover, Salisbury, N. C.  
 Carolina Watchman, Seaboard, N. C.

Each of the above-named papers are requested to keep the list standing on the first page and add others, provided they are duly elected. Any paper failing to advocate the Ocala platform will be dropped from the list promptly. Our people can now see what papers are published in their interest.

## AGRICULTURE.

The great needs of the farmer's garden are more fruit and vegetables, and choice kinds.

Health, a happy home, independence, character—these are among the prizes which the farm offers.

Your farm will owe you a living when you have brought it into a productive condition, and not before.

The 300 pounds a year butter cow is what the dairy business needs. If a pedigree comes with her, so much the better.

Yes; successful irrigation can be done with a windmill, a well and a reservoir, but the well must be a very good one. All depends upon the well.

After haying is the time to mow the weeds and briars around the yard. A little later, and they will go to seed and make trouble for next year.

Take some pride in the front yard. Call it a lawn, clear off the bushes and rubbish, seed the bare places, mow it often and you will be surprised at the change.

If the past season has taught you anything about farming we should be glad to hear about it. Write us the main points, if only a few lines, and we will do the rest.

The prospect of low prices can be offset by increasing the output from the farm, in the particular direction in which you and your farm can produce to best advantage.

The largest market is not always the best one. For an average grade of produce the consumers in a small town will often pay better prices than can be obtained in city markets. But unusual products, or those of fancy quality find a paying demand only in large places.

When trying to ornament the front yard, do not seek for odd effects. Nature hates loud colors and lack of harmony. Do not plant the rocks, nor edge the walks with shells, nor hang up red kettles on blue poles. The time expended in preparing such freaks as these would be better spent in making and keeping a good lawn and neat walks.

## WEEKLY WEATHER CROP BULLETIN.

For the Week Ending Saturday, July 18, 1896.

CENTRAL OFFICE, Raleigh, N. C.  
 The reports of correspondents of the Weekly Crop Bulletin, issued by the North Carolina Climate and Crop Service, for the week ending Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1896, indicate a more favorable week and fairly satisfactory progress in the growth of crops. The temperature was above the normal from Sunday to Thursday, with several very warm days, but dropped below the normal with northeast winds Friday and Saturday. Rains were frequent, but generally small in amount, and generally not needed. There was more sunshine the first portion and farmers had some chance to clean crops. On the whole, though the damage to low land crops last week by overflow was very great, they have recovered to some extent. General prospects still excellent.

EASTERN DISTRICT.—The first part of the week was generally fair and quite warm, but the temperature dropped rapidly Thursday night, and Friday and Saturday were quite cool, with northeast winds. The rain fall, though moderate this week, was not needed and generally injurious in east and north portions. In central and south portions conditions were more favorable. Farm work made some progress early in the week, but was stopped again Thursday. Cotton is growing too rapidly; is large but apparently fruiting well. Much shedding reported, but majority of crop very fine. Some cotton is badly in grass, and in north portion much was completely drowned out by rains last week. Corn is still a fair crop. Large quantities of lowland corn, especially along Roanoke and Cape Fear rivers, found to have been destroyed by froshets. Curing tobacco progressing; much damage by excessive rain, which is causing second growth. Sweet potatoes large enough for family use; peanuts spreading nicely; melons very plentiful; grapes ripening rapidly with large crop; some rotting.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.—Much better weather has prevailed this week; early part was fair with abundant sunshine and some very warm days; was favorable for farm work, but it was too cool Friday and Saturday. The rain fall this week was smaller in amount but not needed. Heavy local rain and wind storm on the 16<sup>th</sup> in Johnston county damaged crops. Upland corn looks well, but lowland so drowned out that it is inclined to droop with poor color; still it will make something of a crop. Cotton is growing too much to weed, but is fruiting well, with favorable season will make a large crop. Tobacco has improved this week; curing progressing slowly; was apparently much injured by last week's rains, which caused leaves to rot off; flea bugs have appeared. Spring oats were badly damaged. Tomatoes are ripening. Some Irish potatoes, cabbage, tomatoes and collars rotting. Rain caused blackberries to drop off, shortening crop.

WESTERN DISTRICT.—The weather was warm the first portion of the week, followed by cloudy and cooler weather Friday and Saturday. Rains were frequent, though not large in amount, and were not needed; still crops made rapid growth and have recovered to some extent from evil effects of flooding last week. Cotton in general is growing and blooming well; has very large weed; some cotton is damaged by wet, and squares and young bolls are falling off; a large yield may still be expected. Corn on bottom lands suffered most last week, but still there is prospect for a good corn crop if weather will give farmers chance to plow it; much of it is straightening up. Corn on upland is excellent. Small grains, especially spring oats, were badly damaged, suffered again by rains this week. A period of fair weather is needed to enable farmers to give their crops the last cleaning up.

## APPLYING TOBACCO DUST.

Tobacco dust is a most excellent insecticide, and, as often stated, we use it freely and with most satisfactory effect for many of our insect enemies. For some of these, for instance, the yellow cucumber beetle, it proves fully effective only when used in large doses. A mere sprinkling may help to keep bugs off when they are not very hungry; but when there are a good many of them, and only a few cucumber hills, we have to almost hide the plants from view by covering them with

## POULTRY YARD FEEDING FOR EGGS.

Hens should not be fed at all seasons alike, neither will the same methods answer equally well for all breeds. Some of the smaller breeds are nervous and excitable, easily frightened and naturally wild, while others are easily made pets of, are social in their habits, and so naturally sluggish and easily disposed to take on fat. It is apparent the two natures are to be differently managed. It is beneficial at some seasons to feed stimulating food to poultry; this applies to all the laying breeds alike. But these foods should be used with caution. Such stimulating and warming foods as onions, red pepper and mustard may be fed occasionally to advantage, especially in cold weather. The principal value of such foods is to quicken the blood and thereby warm up the entire system, and they also serve as an appetizer.

Overfeeding should be guarded against, especially with the Asiatics and all the large breeds. The novice in poultry keeping is liable to do this. Hens too fat make poor layers and poor mothers. Those hens the eggs of which are to be used for hatching should not be overfed. When the hens begin to lay large eggs, containing double yolks, it is an unfavorable indication—the hens are too fat. Double yolked eggs, very small eggs and a wholesale desire to sit means that the hens have been fed too liberally and that fewer eggs will be the result in a short time. Reduce the feed when such indications are presented, change the feed to a less fattening kind and manage to compel the hens to work to procure their food and secure more exercise. Bear in mind that in feeding hens for eggs their food must be rich in nitrogen and the phosphates. Wheat, oats, meat, a little allowance of corn, and when possible clover and cabbage for green food, supply the needed elements. Skimmilk is very beneficial fed to poultry at any season of the year, and that it is sour forms no objection. Ground bone supplies the phosphates.—Farm and Home

FARM HINTS.  
 Deep soils are best.  
 Weeds find mischief for idle land.  
 Pear blight, quince blight and apple twig blight is best remedied by cutting eight or ten inches below the affected part and burning.

Weeds and flowers make a very bad combination in the flower bed. If you must grow weeds, better grow them in the potato patch.  
 The cauliflower deserves more attention than it gets on the farm. Enough for use can be easily grown and the quality is away ahead of the cabbage.  
 Salsify has no destructive enemies, it is as easily raised as most root crops, while the consumption of it has so steadily increased that acres are raised and marketed to day where only a few rows could be profitably grown a few years ago.  
 To grow good onions from sets, plant them in good soil, in rows seven inches apart and three inches in the drill, and then cover them with one to 1½ inches of well rotted cow manure. You may have to pull out a few weeds, but beyond that they need no attention.

## CRIMSON CLOVER.

If red clover had been on trial the last two years, when severe drought has been so general, the verdict of a majority of farmers would have been that it was not adapted to fill a place in our crop rotations. Failure of red clover has been very general over large areas, due to the lack of moisture in the soil. But we know that red clover is most valuable, and that the cause of failure is not attributable to the plant, but to the soil. Crimson clover has been on trial during this droughty period, and there seems to be nine failures to one success, but some of these failures are directly attributable to the lack of moisture. I am sure that another general trial of this new clover should be made, and now that the deficiency in rain fall is being rapidly made up, it is probable that a seeding this summer will give a fair test of the value of this plant. Droughts have prevented fall growth, and the plants have not gotten well rooted. With plenty of rain, all this will be changed. The plants can make good growth before winter, and then the question of hardness can be determined.

The telegraph monopoly must find an advantage in giving free telegraphing to every Senator and member of Congress who will accept such favors. If these gifts did not pay the monopolies, would they not have been discontinued long since? The same can be said of the railroad passes showered on Congressmen and members of the legislature—for a purpose.

## TAXES ON NOTES AND MORTGAGES.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer.  
 I herewith hand you a copy of a bill which the Cumberland County Alliance has endorsed and desire to see enacted into law. They have instructed their delegate to the State meeting in August, Mr. W. R. King, Jr., to present the matter before the coming State meeting and ask the endorsement of the State Alliance, and the personal effort of the brethren through out the State, to secure the passage of this, or a more perfect bill of the same nature by the next General Assembly.

I was instructed by the County Alliance, to forward you a copy of the bill, to request its publication in our organ, so that all Alliancemen and reformers might see the bill, and we suggest to those who favor the same to cut it out and at the proper time present it to the candidates for the next legislature, and secure their promise of assistance, if elected, to support the passage of this law.

There has been a great injustice permitted in North Carolina for many years in the unjust distribution of taxes, which this bill will, in a great measure, remedy, in that conscienceless usurers will no longer be able to dodge their proportionate share of the taxes.  
 As the law now stands, the poor farmer, mechanic and householder must give in his little home, farm and shop, tools, stock and other appurtenances which he uses to eke out a scanty existence, and pay taxes upon them—no matter if he owes a part, or even all their value, without being allowed to deduct one cent of his indebtedness from the value of the property—while on the other hand the trading and usurious or banking classes, whose estates largely consist in debts against their fellowman are permitted to deduct their liabilities from this class of their assets, which is entirely unjust and unfair and should be no longer permitted in North Carolina.

The Republicans of this State, in the last paragraph of their this year's State platform, propose to remedy this matter by granting to the poorer classes, the same privileges of deducting their liabilities from their assets. This without remedial legislation, enacted at once, would be most disastrous: bankrupting the State Treasury, closing our public schools, and emptying our public charities.  
 An interesting feature of the enclosed bill is that it will collect vast revenue from parties outside of our State who hold debts against or extend credit to our people.  
 I beg leave to suggest to those of our friends who feel favorable to this bill, that if they ever expect to see it enacted into law, they must give it their most strenuous and united support, be cause plutocracy will use every effort to defeat it.  
 JOHN MCDUFFIE.

## RAISING CELERY FOR MARKET.

The methods of growing celery, like many other things, have been greatly simplified during recent years. Varieties have also changed, and instead of celery being raised merely for autumn and winter use, it is now frequently met with in the public markets as early as July—hence can be had nearly the entire year. At least two crops are taken in one season in celery districts. For early celery seed is sown in hotbeds and set in the open ground at the same time as other early crops. Outdoor sowing is early enough for getting the crop in by September; and such may be put out as soon as the plants are large enough. Generally, this will not be until July 1. The same sowing should give plants to set out to

## THE DAIRY.

MILK AND BUTTER RESULTS.  
 Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer.  
 The possibilities of butter production in matter of yield per cow per season is one of great interest. Other things being equal the smaller the herd the easier great results can be obtained. Some of the best results are shown when but one cow is kept. Yet no one will deny such results can be approximated when a greater number of cows are kept, but in such cases the cows to start with must be equally good and each must have the same attention given to the one cow. But, says some reader, "that would not pay." If results such as are given below could be obtained it would pay.  
 Mr. John Pritchard, Castleton, Rutland county, Vermont, has a cow with a record worthy of emulation. In reply to an inquiry made by the writer last spring, some facts were given and are quoted as follows:  
 "Our cow is six years old, is three-fourths Jersey and is of good size. She calved the 25<sup>th</sup> of February, went dry six weeks, had no grain while dry, but plenty of hay and corn fodder and a good warm stable. After she calved we began to feed her and gradually increased it to two quarts gluten meal and two quarts of middlings in the morning and the same at evening, with a peck of cut potatoes per day and a good ration of hay—all she would eat clean.  
 She has made three pounds three ounces of butter per day some weeks, and we use all the milk and cream needed for our family of two, and some visitors. We do not claim to use a great deal, but just all we want. We raise our cream in a portable creamery, the O-cident.  
 Last year our cow made 378 pounds of butter and we had a family of five for over two months, a grandchild taking three pints of new milk every day during that time."  
 It will be seen that as the cow had gone dry six weeks of the year and that 378 pounds of butter was made, the yield per week (46 weeks) was nearly 8 1/2 pounds per week. Had none of the milk or cream been taken for other uses, the butter product would have been considerably greater. That it would have been more than four hundred pounds for the year, no one can doubt, but call it just that and you have a standard worth working to reach. No one can deny—even at present low price for butter—there is a good profit in keeping a 400 pound cow.  
 E. R. TOWLE.  
 Franklin Co., Vt.

## ALAMANCE COUNTY MEETING.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer.  
 "Great nature spoke; obedient men obey'd; Cities were built, societies were made; Here rose a little State, another year Grew by like means, and join'd through love or fear."  
 So it has been with the Alliance. A few years ago, in the language of Pope, "Great nature spoke," whispering in the ears of the farmers, "Band ye yourselves together; a crisis in your career is coming." How well we have obeyed, one needs only to attend one of the County Alliance meetings, such as was that of Alamance on the second Thursday in July.

Although for the last few days before the meeting, the greatest rains that we have had for years fell, several bridges were washed away, roads were very muddy and streams swollen, yet we had one of the most enthusiastic meetings that was ever held in Graham. Even from the remote bounds of the county the sanguine, eager farmers assembled at the court house.  
 The same county officers were elected as last year.  
 All are quite enthusiastic about the shoe factory. We believe the time has come to throw off the yoke of Shylock tyranny, to arouse ourselves to the dangers which confront us; and unless we do, we can but degenerate to the level of the narrow-minded, selfish, ignorant, beggarly pauper over the sea, who lives under the rules of some European tyrant.  
 Let us be up and doing, and instead of trusts and combines being a disadvantage to us, let them be a means to assert our independence of them, and in no better way can we begin than we have—by the manufacture of our own shoes, and other articles.  
 They who wrestle with us only make us stronger, so let us be aided by opposition, and let us be encouraged by what we have already achieved, and not be content until we manufacture every article which the farmer needs.  
 H. M. CATES.