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No. 26

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

POGRESSIVE

Vol. 12.

'RE NATIONAL FARMERS' ALLI-ANCE AND INDUSTRIAL UNION.

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WEEKLY DIGEST Of Experiment Station Bulletins. No 81.

SOME SPECIAL FRUIT BULLETINS. Bulletin 37, of Pennsylvania Station, treats of the peach industry in that State. The bulletin states that the modern peach industry of Pennsylvania is but 25 years old and is mainly confined to three districts, aggregating 11 000 acres, or about two million trees. The Juniata district contains 3,500 acres, of which 3 000 acres are in Juni ata county, the rest being in M ffl n. Perry, and Snyder counties.

The South Mountain district lies almost wholly within Franklin county and contains 2 500 acres. This belt ex tends some forty miles into Maryland, and will soon be all planted in peaches. ultimately containing 10,000 acres.

The third belt is scattered over York, Lancaster, Berks, Lehigh, Northamp ton, Schuylkill, Monroe, Montgomery, and Chester counties. Various other counties are planting young peach orchards experimentally.

Most of the commercial orchards embrace from 500 to 1,000 trees, though there is one orchard of 10,000 trees in Franklin county. It is noticed that those who cultivate thoroughly, spray systematically, and destroy diseased trees promptly, report the business Southern States, and embracing Newprofitable. Those who neglect their man, Lone Star, Caddo Chief, etc. 8th,

BALEIGH, N. C., AUGUST 3, 1897.

mies of the peach and the best treatment for these. Bulletin 131, of Ithaca, N. W., Sta

tion, is entitled "Notes Upon Plums." It opens with the statement that except in Western New York and on the Pa-States is yet in the experimental stage, ant fruits.

The bulletin classifies plums into 10 types, namely: 1st, the Domestica, or Europeans, embracing Green Gage, Damsons, etc. 21, Myrobalan, or Cherry Plum, native to Southern Europe and adjacent parts of Asia, embracing Golden Cherry, and probably used as stocks upon which to bud other varieties. 3d, Japanese types, many varietics of which are becoming popu jar in the Southern States, and a few throughout the country. 4th, the Apri cot, or Simon type, native to China-

in California. 5th, American, or wild plum common in all the United States east of the Rocky Mountains. 6th, Wild Goose type, which are hybrids,

embracing Wild Goose, Wayland, Moreman, Miner, and Golden Beauty. 7th, Chickasaw type, native to the

ash, and applying 1,000 pounds of the

mixture per acre, every two months. The soil must be prepared like a gar-20x30 inches, leaving a walk every ten feet, and fertilizer must be shoveled cific slope, plum culture in the United in under the plants from these walks, so none will fall into the buds or axils and there is less-literature upon the of the leaves. Set the largest plants plum than on any of our other import- obtainable. Plants for setting are suck ers from old plants.

For mealy bug and chaff scale, the only insect enemies thus far developed, spray with strong solution of tobacco, Lombard, Bradshaw, Yellow Egg, the or sprinkle with tobacco dust, which is a good fertilizer. For blight, or tangle root, prune off the lower leaves, and if titles of the nitrogen which has been the trouble remains, take up the plant, trim tops and roots, and reset. Long Mariana and DeCardene, and mostly leaf is caused by deep setting or poor drainage, and is easily avoided. Never use sulphur on pine apple plants; it rots them.

The varieties are valued in the following order, the best being named first: Smooth Gayenne, Abbaka, Gold but little grown in this country, except | en Queen, Enville City, Porto Rico, Black Jamaica, Prickley Cayenne, Red Spanish, Sugar Loaf. Black Jamaica is the best keeper.

The most successful plantations in Florida are partially shaded from sun and frost by setting posts 18 inches in ground and 6 feet 6 inches high above ground, 15 feet apart all over the field, and connect the tops by stringers now growing on land treated last fall orchards say there is no money in the the Sand plum, of Kansas, and Ne 2x6x16 feet, and laying over these in this way looks as if they had 25 braska, a bush like species little known strips 1x3x16, leaving 3 inches between wagon loads of stable manure to the PICKING AND MARKETING FRUIT the strips. This costs \$300 to \$500 per acre. I tried sowing the Unknown acre, but an income of \$3.0 to \$500 per pea in the drill and when the plants acre per year may be safely counted on were fully matured, sowed the acid proper stage of ripeness, and the least ety (Bassett's American) is cultivated from land thus prepared, and as long phosphate on them, ran a plow on one possible waste of time as well as fruit. for its fruit, though others are culti- as young plants bring such prices as side, barring them out, then coming is a matter of much importance to a they now command, even \$2,000 to \$3,-000 per acre may be realized. The new leaves, and acid plophate all up in least ought to have, a system by which plants produced now, each year, bring the bed, let the bed alone until last he may expedite the work, and it is a The average cost of land, cleared of [for corp; the result is tall, green, splenstumps and roots, and ready for the did corn, notwithstanding a long use is sightly different from any I have plants is about \$60 per acre, the cost drought, which at one time promised ever seen, and there may be some use-European plums, which are the chief of fertil zer and labor per year, \$100 per to ruin it all. acre; cost of plants for an acre-nine thousand at \$150 per thousand-\$1350; cost of shed, \$500. This shows a total of the question to get manure enough lot of boys and girls while they are cost of \$2,000 per acre, if set in the best plants, and this may be made back in wheat are reaped off, we open furrows fruit is all gathered and not mussed in These are less hardy than any other two years. The more common plants type except the Japanese, but they are set at \$8 to \$25 per thousand. Wild the Wonderful peas in the drill, culti practiced in filling the boxes, which I grubbing, ditching, and plowing. Pine till a new collection of hybrids is raised land, with yellow sub soil is considered best.

the vines and leaves which contain four fifths of the fertilizing elements of the whole plant were turned under. den bed, and the plants must be set After a twenty years' study, and annual experiments with the common pea as a fertilizer, I am more than ever convinced of its superior value, as being the quickest and most economical plant to use.

The pea; plant is a great lover of nitro gen and carbon, both of which it gathers from the atmosphere in large quantities, and the more of the foilage budding from bearing trees of unleft the better for land. But if turned doubted purity and health. under without the application of some sort of acid with it, it loses vast quanconverted into ammonia during the ing of spring till the first or middle of process of decay. I have used land plaster sowed broadcast over the plants and leaves when wet and then turned them under, with splendid results. As the plants underwent decay in the soil nitrogen. the sulphuric acid in the land plaster united with the escaping ammonia, converting into a fixed salt, or sulphate of ammonia, but not being satisfied with the application of the gypsum be cause it supplied no phosphoric acid, I began to use acid phosphate sowed 200 to 250 pounds to the acre, broadcast, on fected tree. the leaves and vines just as was done with the land plaster. The result is, that I had a heavy coat of manure in this method, and corn and cotton both

HORTICULTURE

PEACH-GROWERS TEN COM-MANDMENTS.

One of the largest Eastern peach growers offers the following for the guidance of peach growers:

1. High, dry, sandy or sand-loam soil.

2. Careful selection of varieties most hardy in fruit bud.

3. Vigorous, healthy seedling stocks,

4. Trees given entire possession of the land from the start.

5. Thorough culture from the open-August.

6. Liberal annual manuring, broadcast with commercial manures rich in potash and phosphoric acid, lacking in

7. Low heading and close annual pruning for the first five years.

8 Keep out borers with some suitable wash, and dig out all others.

9. Search for some traces of yellows every week of the growing season, and at first sign pull up and burn every in-

10. Thin the fruit so that there shall never be what is termed a full crop. And adds; "On these ten commandments hangs most of the law and all the profits."

ro, N. C. Trustee Business Agency Fund-W Graham, Machpelah, N. C.

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ach of the above-named papers are uested to keep the list standing on first page and add others, provided are duly elected. Any paper fail-to advocate the Ocala platform will ropped from the list promptly. Our ils can now see what papers are ished in their interest.

GRICULTURE.

te farmer who is making his land er every year is laying up the best c account possible. Robbing the for present profits is never pracby good farmers.

eep will injure themselves eating only when a carcless shepherd has ived them of it too long. Keep the where they can help themselves, they will take only so much as is red to satisfy their actual needs r winter feed you should cut the just as the seed begins to form · that the food properties in the go into the seed. This rule holds to a greater or less extent to all es, but is especially applicable in ase of timothy grass.

Wonderful pea his great manure heap. are the White Heaths, both free and spray for curculio. For fruit rot, both a large, coarse varieties of carrots lows: Oats and peas, \$63 11; oats alone, used for stock feeding are not so cling, Salway, Bilyeu's October, Levy's thin and spray. I have turned under the growing Fully half of this bulletin is devoted \$57 99; oats and barley, \$43 39; barley tious as is the shorthorn, which Late, Mountain Rose, the Crawfords, crop of vines when they would first to a description of varieties of the alone, \$31 99. a most of its bulk near the surface the Old Mixons, Stump, Reeves, Smock, signs of blooming, applying nothing Sorghum, teosinte, and Sacaline are ghtly above it. As the shorthorn Globe and Elberta. European type of plums, richly illuswith them, and the following season On soils already fertile, use nitrogen trated by cuts of the fruits, stones, etc. not adapted to New York. t can grow more thickly in the season was unable to trace the work my good pickers. For millet, prepare the land thorit is nearly as productive as the sparingly, and in all cases apply it Those recommended are Field, Lomso little good did the young vines do. oughly, being particular to crush clods early in the season, if at all, and use bard, Bradshaw, Coe's Golden Drop, ir setting varieties, and it is also It will be found yet that the most of clay soils, and in feeding green mileasily harvested. Five to six economical way to use the commercial potash and phosphoric acid liberally Hudson River Purple Egg, Italian Prune, Empire, Grand Duke, Arch let, begin gradually and guard against fertilizers is to use them to produce a red bushels of the shorthorn carevery year. Always thin the fruit, lay be grown per acre. This is a both by pruning away bud bearing tips bloat. Duke, Monarch, Reine Claude, Copper, heavy crop of pea vines to turn under Wood, in Farm and Fireside. Crimson clover proved very valuable French Damson, and Farleigh. Of the with acid phosphate the season before ig crop at the usual price of this and afterwards by hand picking the ----for late fall pasture and as a cover crop Japanese, Red June, Abundance, Buryoung fruit when the size of an aver--Home and Farm. using the land for a main crop, upless to be turned under in spring It made a communication in the Rural age sized marble. bank, and Chase are recommended, it is for wheat or winter oats. a much heavier fall growth than either The greatest care and segacity are Red June promising to be the best of By using the pea and acid phosphate Yorker J. J. H. Gregory empha red clover or mammoth clover, and all early plums for New York. in this way the fertility of the soil may required in gathering, sorting, packing, the importance of soil and climate analyses and weighing on November and marketing peaches. The package Bulletin 37, of Florida Station, treats be doubled every year and a crop of 318 of new varieties. He thinks 2d, showed that while crimson clover most generally used is the seven eights of experiments in growing pine apples; oats reaped at the same time. the experiment stations in report and while this industry is confined to had gathered 156 pounds nitrogen per bushel crate divided in the middle; but D. C. MEACHAM. Bults should give information as acre, red clover had gathered but 103 those who have tried the Florida tenthe ex reme southern portions of Flor-Raleigh, N. C., July 25, 1897. 36 particulars. He also adds: As pound basket find that buey find most ida and Texas, it possesses wide spread pounds and mammoth 146. ties that do first rate on one kind A good grove is a "thing of beauty ready sale. Many people will buy interest, especially for amateurs, many THE COW PEA AS A FERTILIZER. I fail to give satisfaction on anand a joy forever," or something very when they can simply pay their money of whom have a few potted pines under 0' a different character, doubtless Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer. much like that. Time spent in improvfor a small package all ready to pick glass. or less of this great number 12 Toere is hardly any plant about up and carry nome, who would not buy The soil used for pine apples at the ademned varieties would have which there exists such a diversity of new ones, is not lost. a larger quantity nor stop to have a Florida station is very poor, being 95 "1 themselves to be acquisions on opinion as to its value as a fertilizer for per cent. sand underlaid by a hard pan smaller quantity packed. These bas-Boile. Would not, therefore, the improving poor lands. Some have "Take no thought for the morrow" at a depth of 18 to 30 inches. For ferkets have no handles and pack six to ution of a system of interchange gone so far as to contend that if the does not mean that we must not plan tilizing this soil, the best results have edlings between stations where the crate. vines were cut off, and removed from for the future. There is too much do The bulletin discusses the yellows, been obtained by mixing 1,000 pounds tre different be a step in progress root gall, brown rot, and other diseases of blood and bone, 600 pounds ground the land and the roots allowed to re- ing of that which is convenient, withthe lines of a wise economy, and to result to the advantage of the borers, curculio, and other insect ene- sode, and 200 pounds sulphate of pot- fertility of the land as much as if all thing most needed to be done. ing fame. public?

business. The failures of this class preserve the markets for the wide awake fellows. The average price for first-class fruit is about \$1 per crate, netting \$75 to \$1 50 per acre.

The greatest drawbacks to the peach industry in Pennsylvania are winter of the blossoms by spring frosts. It has been found that trees on hill and mountain tops are less liable to these plum.

disasters than those in valleys. Such injuries are more likely to occur after a dry summer or fall, and are less likely to happen to trees that have thoroughly matured the previous sea son's growth before winter sets in.

Chestnut soils-a slaty, sandy, grav elly loam-are best for peaches, and where such soils are found on mountain tops or slopes, they are planted to peaches, even though they be 6 to 12 miles from a railroad, though the nearer one gets to a shipping point the better.

The trees are generally planted a rod up to surpass them. apart each way, but on strong soils 20 feet would be better. Of late there is much advocacy of wider distance between rows and closer planting in the row, always running the rows north and south, and having no two trees of the same variety stand next to each other in the row, a mixture of pollen of different varieties making a healthier fruit, just as infusing new blood into a flock or herd of animals making a more rebust offspring. All varieties in the row should bloom at about the same time. This is a good practice for all fruits, and is considered especially necessary with plums.

Trees should be gotten from the nearest nursery that offers good healthy trees of the desired varieties at a reason able price, and each tree should be closely inspected through a magnify ing glass for evidences of scale, borers, black aphis, root gall, root knot, etc., before it is planted.

to cultivation. 9th, the Beach plum, native to the Atlantic coast from Vir ginia to New Brunswick, but one vari

vated as ornamentals. 10th, the Pacific killing of the fruit buds and blasting | Coast plum, native to Oregon and California, also chiefly known in cultiva tion by a single variety-the Sisson much more than the fruit.

> This bulletin is confined to the first type mentioned, the Domestica, or kinds grown from Lake Michigan eastward and north of the Onio river They are treated under four classes-Damsons, Green Gages, Large Yellow, and Large Red, or purple plum.

so superior in size and quality that land sells at \$1 50 to \$20 per acre. The they will continue to be more largely | first cost of land is mainly in clearing, grown in New York than any others,

As a market fruit, the plum is of secondary importance, classing after apples, pears, and peaches, and even after cherrics and berries. While it thrives on a variety of soils, it prefers a clay loam. As a stock, the Myro balan is most largely used in the Northern States. In the South, the peach green. and the Mariana are preferred as stocks upon which to bud plums. A few such varieties as Reine Claude, German Prune, and Copper grow so crooked, that it is best to graft them into the tops of some straighter growing kind, garian of the millets. rather than to bud them.

Plant plums when two years old from the bud, in north and south rows, 12 feet apart in rows 20 feet apart, put ting no two trees of the same variety proaches maturity. next to each other in the row.

The only pruning necessary is to

FORAGE CROPS.

Bulletin 135, of Ithaca, N. Y., Station, treats of forage crops. For some time the correspondence of the station has shown the keenest interest in the relative merits of various forage crops, particularly for soiling, for feeding

satisfaction at the station are, 1st, corn; 2d, a mixture of oats and peas; 21, oats; 4th, a mixture of oats and barley; 5th, rye; 6th, barley; 7th, hun

Corn for soiling, should be planted in succession, and none should be cut till nearing maturity, as it increases in nutritive value very greatly as it ap-

If a mixture of oats and peas is grown, plow the peas in, then harrow the ground, drill in the oats and roll. Use one bushel peas and a bushel and a half of oats per acre.

three and one half feet apart and sow phosphate right on the leaves and vines, each person. bar the rows off, and with turning bed made as rich in ammonia and phos with common manure.

potash salts to sell, nor am I an agent check book will show to whom it is for any of these chemicals. I make dud; and likewise when inspecting the Those which have green greatest the corn and cotton. The reason the crates of berries, for as fast as a picker pea has shown so little benefit or light fills a crate, an empty one is assigned land where turned under is because the him and the filled one examined. If land is too open to hold the ammonia, and it being very volatile, and having a great efficity for water, it escapes in a moment's notice to discover the culmoisture evaporated. The addition of prit. the acid phosphate is of two-fold bene fit, for it furnishes phosphate of lime, and the sulphuric acid in it unites with the ammonia forming a sulphate which is taken from the soil in only two ways. viz: leaching out, cropping out by one time in the way described above.

To secure fruit for market at the with the wing and wrapping the vines. fruit grower. Each grower has, or at spring, when this land was rebedded question to many whether their system is the best or not. The method I ful suggestions in it to some.

So I have adopted a new method of I find the most trying part of the fertilizing my land, seeing that it is out fruit harvest is to properly manage a to enrich the soil. When cats and gathering the fruit; to see that the ripe picking; that there is no deception vate once with a plowing, and just be- am sorry to say often happens, and to fore frost is expected, sow the acid tally and check the quarts picked by

To begin with, I have each row of plow following, turn the vines down in berries numbered, and also each crate: the furrow, bedding on them. In the then when a row and crate is assigned following spring re-bed it and I have a to a picker, each is entered into the check book opposite that picker's name. phate of lime as if I had filled the drill When inspecting the vines where the pickers have passed over, should any I am not making acid phosphate nor carelessness be noticed, a glance at the the barries should be crushed, boxes not filled or any other fault, it is only

> The failings, or errors, if such they may be called, are charged against the guilty person, and by this record I am able to cull out the undesirable pickers, should they persist in their misdemeanors when subsequently cautioned.

I manage as much as possible to engrowing plants. Let him who doubts keep the top in shape, cut out dead it, try the use of a good acid phosphate gage my pickers for the whole season, branches, and keep down black knot. and so I give tickets at the end of each Give good tillage, spray for black knot, picking, to be cashed at the end of the The relative value per acre of the Among the most profitable varieties and he will find the cow pea or the also using the knife, and both jar and feed grown at the station was as folfruiting season, or at the end of the week if demanded. By paying a small premium at the end of the season to those who remain through the "poor pickings," which often occur at the last. I am able to retain the most of A record is kept in the check book of the number of quarts picked by each person, so there can be no mistake made when settling with them -B A. A professional showman who has eaten a lamp chimney nearly every day for 17 years, ate a Barlow knife (in which the tariff duties were incorrect) recently and shift doff this mortal coil. He died in Kansas City last month, and a small hardware store, consisting of glassware, creckery, wire, nails of all kinds were found in him. We don't know whether or not he intended keeping them until Congress ing their appearance, or in starting put a high tariff on these articles, but if this modern Jonah had generously swallowed a few of our Congressmen and members of our last legislature. we would willingly have contributed to build a monument to him. The old gent is dead now, and he'll never again and the remedies therefor, as well as tobacco stems, 200 pounds nitrate of main on the soil, it would improve the out a thought as to whether it is the have such an opportunity to win last-