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# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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THE INDUSTRIAL AND 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.  
Raleigh, N. C.  
Hickory, N. C.  
Whitakers, N. C.  
Beaver Dam, N. C.  
Lumberton, N. C.  
Charlotte, N. C.  
Concord, N. C.  
Wadesboro, N. C.  
Salisbury, N. C.  
Columbus, Ohio.

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 real cost of keeping sheep is comparatively much less than that of any other farm stock, for, to make pork, a great proportion of the food consumed is cash gain, and to make beef, butter or cheese, nearly everything used is that which would bring money in the market.

The Western Plowman gives the following sensible advice which North Carolina farmers will do well to heed. It says: "Secretary Wilson thinks that the hog cholera can be 'abolished' and will study the thing from A to Z. It has been studied already, but the more it is studied the worse it is. Feed less corn, breed from more mature stock and keep the hogs under healthful conditions are all the science there is to the subject."

An Indiana farmer who markets pigs keeps a mixture of a bushel each of charcoal and wood ashes and a peck each of salt and sulphur (all well pulverized) where the pigs can get it at will, and in sixteen years of experience he has never had a case of cholera. He never lets a pig intended for market grow to be a hog, and he sells his product at one or two cents above the market because he never lets his pigs become too fat to furnish a good proportion of lean meat.

This is North Carolina's haying season and every farmer should see that his hay mow is filled to overflowing. With the fine soils and seasons which the State possesses, it is a shame, and almost a disgrace, that so many of our farmers are compelled to spend their hard earned savings to buy hay during summer. The average farmer never thinks of using any but natural grass. If an old "bottom" gets almost worn out, he calls it a meadow, mows weeds, broomsage, and sprouts and calls that hay. Our farmers should try some of the best meadow grasses and note the increase of their pocket-book.

## CRIMSON CLOVER.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer.  
Crimson clover is a native of Italy and other parts of Southern Europe. It was first introduced in this country several years ago by the late Dr. Havardine, a florist of Delaware. Being a great lover of flowers, he was attracted to this plant by its beauty, which is hardly exceeded by the finest flower that adorns yard or garden. The beautiful deep green which may be seen all through the winter when not entirely covered with snow, grows deeper and brighter as spring advances until early in May, when the flowers appear and the field changes from a deep green to a brilliant crimson, making a sight to behold and to remember. At first its value as a forage plant was not understood, and as a soil restorer it was unknown, and the progress of the plant at first was rather slow. Every one admired its beauty and numerous plots were grown for ornamental purposes, but years elapsed before farmers awoke to its value as a regular rotation crop. Crimson clover is now successfully grown in all parts of the Union. It is good for hay; yields two to three tons per acre. It is valuable for seed, which it produces in large quantity; makes a good fall and winter pasture and is a good bee plant; the honey is very white and of excellent quality, but its greatest value lies in its ability to store up plant food, and at the same time sends down its deep feeding roots far in the subsoil to gather and bring to the surface elements of fertility that would be otherwise lost. Crimson clover is an annual, and must be sown in its proper season; this extends from the first of July until the last of September. One peck of seed are usually sown to the acre.

If any of the readers of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER would like to give this clover a trial, I will send them a trial package of seed free by mail if they will send me 10 cents in stamps to pay postage. I would recommend sowing the seed in July or August if ground is ready. Every flower garden should have a bed of crimson clover, as the plant is strikingly beautiful.

CARL B. CLINE

Columbus, Ohio.

## WHEN TO CUT HAY.

At a farmers' institute at Upper Sandusky, Ohio, L. W. Hull read a paper on hay which contains some points on hay making that should be remembered by every farmer. The writer knows that Mr. Hull understands how to make good hay, for he has worked side by side in the big meadows of his father's farm many a burning summer day.

"Hay has become one of the fixed marketable products of the farm. We depend upon it as a part of our income as much as upon any other product, or feeding and fattening stock. While hay has been marketed for a number of years, until it has been the surplus left over in the spring, and not made with the intention of selling. We must admit that, to a large extent, the hay has been handled in a haphazard way by both buyer and seller—not handled upon business principles the same as other products—no standard established or guide for the farmer to go by. All business will regulate itself. If the man does not regulate the business, the business will regulate the man. The time is not far distant when hay will be handled in the same business way as any other product we market. Because, in the past, you have been successful in getting as much for No. 2 hay as your neighbor got for No. 1, it will not always be wise to go on the principle that 'the fools are not all dead,' for while that may be true in many instances, they go out of business. The farmer has learned that it pays to get anything he may have to sell in as good marketable condition as possible. The same principle applies to hay. The shipper can no more get a first class price for No. 2 hay than he can secure a first class price for strong butter, smutty wheat, unsound corn, or half fat and crippled stock.

"The first thing to consider is the best time to cut hay. There is a general theory that when the seed has formed and the heads turned brown is the best time—that it has better feeding qualities, etc. Whatever argument can be produced to prove that theory, the fact that such hay will not bring in market within one or two dollars per ton as much hay as when cut greener will affect any argument that can be produced. When we deal with the public we have to give the people what

they want, and when we consider the fact that by the time this hay reaches the consumers in the New England States it costs them from fourteen to sixteen dollars per ton, we cannot blame them for requiring and exacting a good article. One argument produced by the farmer that ripe hay is better is it weighs more. You know that the farmer is great for weights. That theory does not hold good. If we thrash a ton of hay we get about three bushels of seed—135 pounds—but we must allow something for the weight of new formed seed, say 25 per cent. Allow 25 per cent. for loss of seed, shelled out in baling, and that leaves a gain to the seller of 56 1/2 pounds per ton. Hay at \$7 per ton would make a gain of 23 cents, and have a ton of hay worth \$2 less. Hay bought on its merits would make a loss to the farmer of \$1.77."

## BUYING BRAN.

A great many dairymen find themselves obliged to use mill products, and especially bran, during the winter and early spring. There is rarely a season when it does not pay, under such circumstances, to make the purchase in the late summer and fall. Bran running but 20 pounds to the bushel is a very bulky product, and its storage requires a great deal of space. The mills, in preparing for the season, are glad to get rid of the bran in order to save the space it occupies, and for that reason will generally sell it at a considerably lower price per ton than if they themselves are obliged to hold it over until early spring, and then sell it in the face of the brisk demand that usually springs up then. The rule is, and for a good many reasons has been, that when bran is needed it pays to buy it in the fall in bulk.—Western Plowman.

## A NEW CORN PRODUCT.

Prominent among recent discoveries is the fact that corn pith placed between the inner and outer shells of armored vessels will, if a shell pierces the vessel, swell so rapidly by absorbing water as to close any opening and prevent the vessel being flooded and perhaps sunk. In securing the pith, the blades and husks are removed and the stalks cut in small pieces. After extraction of the pith from the stalk the balance is ground into meal, which in general appearance resembles coarse bran, dried malt sprouts or brewers' grain. This ground material is called the new corn product and 100 pounds of it contains 11 pounds more total digestible matter and 2 pounds more digestible protein than whole fodder shredded; as much digestible matter as corn blades, and 3 pounds more total digestible matter and one-half more digestible protein than timothy hay. Animals fed with a fattening ration with the new corn product—base made more gain in live weight and upon less feed than with a fattening ration of the same grain and corn blades. Rations made up with the new corn product can be fed with less labor and less waste of feed than when hay and fodder are fed separately as ordinarily practiced. The keeping qualities of the new corn product are as good as lined meal, cotton seed meal or wheat bran.

This new corn product is in such a shape that it can be easily and uniformly mixed with any kind of ground grain or any of the by-product cattle foods so common on the market. By the use of this corn product as a base it is possible to mix a complete and normal ration for stock in one bulk and which can be fed at one feeding, so obviating the necessity of feeding grain and hay separately. This has not been heretofore possible with any class of food products on the market in the shape in which they existed. Rations mixed in this manner are as staple and possess as great keeping qualities as cotton seed meal or wheat bran. Cows and steers would lie down and chew their cud as naturally as when fed hay or in pasture.—Bulletin 43, Maryland Experiment Station.

Midsummer is the best season for thinning all the larger fruits. Just before the seed begins to form nature does a good deal of this thinning, and it is perhaps as well to wait until all the fruit that will naturally fall has fallen. Then pick off the surplus fruit wherever it seems to be superabundant. In most cases this thinning does not decrease the amount of fruit because it so largely increases the size of individual specimens. It is the best fruit that always pays best. That always means fruit that has been judiciously thinned.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

Some Things Upon Which the People of North Carolina Need to be Aroused.

In spite of his tendency to speak continually of war memories, Col. T. B. Kingsbury occasionally forgets himself and pens some sound sense about other than military matters. His journal, the Messenger, recently had this to say:

The North Carolina people need to learn the importance of raising everything consumed by them. They need to learn to make their home manures. They need to be taught how very important it is to have good roads. They need to understand that it does not pay to cultivate any but improved lands. They need to learn that only capable and honest men are properly qualified to be public servants. But probably the road building deserves very special attention. After education, it is perhaps the uppermost question for them to consider. The building of good roads is a positive necessity. A really good road law is what the State needs. A law is needed that will insure a general movement in all of the ninety six counties in behalf of road building—will set the machinery to work all over the State. The convicts of North Carolina should be utilized as the road builders. We notice that our able contemporary at Norfolk, Va., The Pilot, is urging the road question with its usual force and earnestness. It recently said of its State:

"We want no more mere road talk; we want more than mere legislative acts; and we must have laws that will direct and compel efficient action—actual work of improvement on the roads."

It urges the use of the convicts and the "jalbirds" as well. It insists that this, or an equally good system, "should be inflexibly imposed on every county, without exception, with full liberty, however, to supplement it as may seem best by the supervisors of every county."

## AUGUST ON THE FARM.

Dog days are at their height now and those who have neglected their haying will have to finish it at a time of year when hard work is most irksome, and when the grass is of decidedly inferior quality.

Seeding down of land to grass is now in order; it is the time when most of our grass seeds are ripening and consequently has the merit of being nature's seeding time; unfortunately, however, our artificial seedings must be made, not with the freshly ripened seed, but with seed at least one year old, and not unfrequently mixed to some extent with that is still older, and with the seeds of various foul weeds. To secure ourselves against the disappointment entailed by sowing inferior seed it is well to buy of seedsmen of well established reputation, who have an equal interest with the farmer in selling only satisfactory articles.

In seeding land regard should be had to the quality of the soil; thus sandy plains and gravelly land should be seeded with early ripening grasses such as June grass, orchard grass and red clover; red top also will thrive on sandy land, but as its time of ripening is considerably later than the above, it is better to sow it with some of the later grasses or alone. Red top will also thrive on very moist swale land. Strong clayey land is better suited to the growth of herds grass (timothy) and clover, though we are inclined to doubt the wisdom of sowing the two together on the same land as has been the common practice of New England farmers. The clover is in season for cutting nearly three weeks before the timothy is in best condition, and for this reason it would seem wise to sow some early ripening grass, such as orchard grass, with the clover, and some late grass, such as red top or fescue with the timothy.

The farmers near our seashore and mountains now find an excellent market close at hand in the crowded boarding houses and hotels. Fresh eggs, broilers, small fruits, fresh milk and cream, and good vegetables, such as lettuce and beans and sweet corn and early potatoes, find ready sale. Many farmers favorably situated find more profit in catering to the demands of the summer boarder than in sending their produce to a larger market.

The blueberry and huckleberry are now in their glory, and many jolly picnics will be organized during their season. In picking them, however, it is now necessary to take some care to find out whether the owners of the

land consent to have them picked; for in many places the berries have some value upon the bushes. The high bush blueberry is a fine fruit and worth cultivating.

The market gardener is now busy cleaning off his early peas, beans, beets, onions, etc., and sowing spinach and lettuce seed and planting celery upon the cleared land. Spinach seed sown this month is usually cut up in the fall for sale or storage.

During the comparative leisure of this season is a good time for an outing, and there are few people, we believe, who need the change and profit more by it than the farmers.—Massachusetts Plowman.

## POULTRY YARD

### A LADY'S OPINION OF POULTRY RAISING.

Though many women are awakening to the fact that poultry raising pays, there are thousands of others who, if they knew how well it paid, would surely engage in it. There is nothing, perhaps, which pays better, according to the amount invested, than poultry raising. Let every woman, who desires to engage in something that is interesting, that will not take her away from home, and which pays in dollars and cents, try raising chickens. For years I have been experimenting with chickens, adding more to my flock each year. Not by buying the chickens, but by raising them.

A few years since I tried purchasing eggs from pure bred Buff Cochins. They hatched well, and my hens were large beauties, and generally good mothers; but they are not extra good layers, and, as eggs are the great feature in this business, I determined to try the rose combed brown Leghorns. I found them to be just what I wanted. I had "lots and lots" of eggs from my Buff Cochins, white Leghorns and "descendants" of Plymouth Rocks. My hens were large, and a neighbor and I exchanged eggs—"six of one and half a dozen of the other."

Hens were almost full blooded, rose combed brown Leghorns. The eggs hatched well, and now the majority of my hens are brown Leghorns. A friend told me that they were hard to get to sit, but I do not find them so. On the contrary, mine have to be broken of sitting, just like other hens, and they make excellent mothers; they are so "gritty" that I fancy a hawk would have a difficult time getting a chicken from a brown Leghorn hen. She would fight for a chick where a Buff Cochin would simply ruffle her feathers and "squawk."

Perhaps one reason why my Leghorns are not wild is because I am with them daily, from the time they are hatched until they are old enough to "engage in business; and I really believe they look upon me as their "benefactor," when, in reality, they are mine.

If you want to raise chickens which are egg producers, raise the rose combed brown Leghorns; if you want to raise chickens to sell, or that will mature quickly and make early broilers, raise Plymouth rocks. As prices are now and have been for the past three or more years, there is more money made by selling eggs than chickens. There is no reason why you should not do both; it pays to keep two breeds of chickens. If you cannot keep but one, I would advise you to invest in brown Leghorns.

The best feed that I can give my hens in the morning is a hot mash, if the weather is cold, and when the weather is cold is when eggs are high. Use table scraps and any scraps of meat that have accumulated. If you had a boiled dinner yesterday, and found more liquid in the dinner-pot than you cared to use, do not throw it out, but heat it up, adding the table scraps, bits of meat, cooked potato parings until tender, and one dozen red peppers crumbled fine. Into this stir one part wheat bran and two parts corn meal until a stiff—not a sloppy—mixture is obtained. I use a patent chicken food and obtain the best results. Some of my neighbors have been amazed at the amount of eggs I have sold during the cold winter months when eggs were high. I attribute it to the patent food and good care. Of course I cannot name the article, as it would flavor of "free advertising," but don't be afraid of patent foods!

In this age when everything has to be proven and tested, it is only the best that will stand, and you can, by inquiry, soon find the best patent chicken

food; then follow printed directions and note results. In the evening, just before the chickens go to roost, feed plenty of corn, or corn and oats.

Of course one cannot expect good results if the business is neglected, or if the chickens are given a drink of water occasionally, and then made to "scratch for their living." Many a case of cholera (1) is only another name for neglect in regard to food and water. Keep the drinking vessels clean and filled with clean water; warm the water in the winter. In the summer, change the water as often as it becomes hot. Last year I had about eighty hens and I sold, according to my "account book," just twenty dollars and ten cents' worth of eggs, and twelve dollars and twenty five cents' worth of chickens; total, thirty-two dollars and thirty five cents. I did not "count" the chickens, and eggs for sitting, that I gave away to cyclone sufferers, either. I hatched about four hundred young chickens, used many dozens for the table, and had by the middle of January, late fall chickens—that were just right to fry. For several years I have had young chickens to fry all winter long, and they are very nice. Of course, they are hatched in the fall.

Some one may think that the sum realized from the sale of eggs last year is not very large in proportion to the number of hens kept. Remember that I hatched over four hundred chickens, and every egg was furnished by my biddies; besides, dozens upon dozens were used for table purposes. The dozens of eggs consumed at home far outnumbered those sold.

Poultry raising pays from another point of view. It takes one outdoors, into the fresh air and sunshine. If you are tired of doing fancy work and "this, that, and the other" fad has become monotonous, make up your mind to try poultry raising. Begin in a small way, if you must, but add to your flock each year, and see if it does not pay in more senses than one. It is not, necessarily, hard work, and yet the work will not bear neglect. In this business, as in all others, eternal vigilance is the price of success; and in whatever we undertake we always find that "there is no excellence without great labor."—Minerva R. Bond, in the Housekeeper.

## LIVE STOCK.

### HORSE MARKS AND TERMS.

A white spot in the forehead is a star.  
A white face from eye to eye is a bald face.  
A white stripe in the face is a blaze.  
A stripe between the nostrils is a snip.  
A white eye is a glass eye.

A horse has pasterns, not ankles and there is no such joint as a hind knee or fore shoulder.

White below the pastern joint is a white pastern. Above the pastern a white leg.

White around the top of the hoof is a white coronet.

A star, blaze or bald face can't be anywhere except on the face. A snip can't be anywhere except on the nose.

Amble, a gait like pacing, but slower, in which the two legs on the same side are moved together.

Appel, the gentle tug on the rein given by the horse at each step.

Croup, that part of the horse back of the saddle.

Bore, to bear on the bit.  
Bucking, leaping vertically into the air with all four feet, and coming together on the ground.

Elbow, joint of foreleg next above knee, lying next to horse's side.

Forearm, that part of the leg between the elbow and knee.

Forge, to strike the toe of the fore-foot with the toe of the hind one; very often the result of bad shoeing.

Frog, a triangular piece of spongy horn in the middle of the sole of the foot.  
Grinders, the back teeth.  
Hand, one-third of a foot—four inches.

## FOR CATTLE-MEN.

What seems to be a revolution in the beef cattle business is a new system of stalls which entirely obviates the necessity of dehorning the animals for feeding purposes. The stalls are said to be very simple and inexpensive. The Bovine Stall Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, will send a handsome book called "The Turning Point" describing the system, free, to any one requesting it.