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tarth Carolina Reform Press Association. Officers-J. L. Ramsey, President arion Butler, Vice-President; W. S. graes, Secretary,

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such of the above-named papers are suested to keep the list standing on e first page and add others, provided bey are duly elected. Any paper failng to advocate the Ocala platform will dropped from the list promptly. Our wie can now see what papers are wished in their interest.

AGRICULTURE.

The article on "How to Pick Apples." by the famous seed grower, J. J. H. Gregory, is a very timely one. This is the season of year at which most North Carolina apples are gathered, and we think no farmer that raises apples will regret time spent in reading the article and in carrying out its instructions.

Wet weather seems to have been as mat a trouble to Northern farmers as dry weather has been to those of the South this season. We learn that c. ops of all kinds through the Northern States are generally late, owing to fre quent rains. The effect of rainfall in making soil cooler, by the evaporation from the surface which goes on when soil is wet, is not appreciated as it bould be. This has, undoubtedly, infired both the corn and potato crops. The small grains were too far advanced late crop is generally a poor crop, and More liable to injuries of all sorts than Ban early crop.

"What to do with a balky horse" is Gave solved. It gays: When a horse alks, no mutter how badly he sulks, or how ugly he is, do not beat him. repe on his front legs or even burn the bulk will be evenly cured. traw under him; quietly go out and pathim on the head a moment, take a dammer, or even pick up a stone out of the street, tell the driver to sit still, take his lines, hold them quietly while You lift up either front foot, give each on the frog. Drop his foot quickly, and then chirp for him to go. In ninety

OPPOSE THE USE OF GUANO.

Correspondence of the Progressive Farmer. The following resolutions were unani mously adopted by Smith Creek Alli ance, No. 351, of Warren Co, N. C., on the 18th of September, 1897.

WHEREAS, Another year has more thoroughly developed the fact that the use of fertilizers are deceptive and the drain upon the crops to pay for the same is alarming. And whereas, it is all important that the farmers should make known some of the evils existing in the manipulation as well as in the use of fertilizers. Therefore be it

Resolved. That we, as farmers, are disgusted with the shrinkage in the grade of fertilizers from year to year, causing the use of from five hundred to one thousand pounds per acre, thereby adding double freight to the cost, without value in comparison with the grade ten years ago, when half the quantity would make better crops.

2. That the price has not lowered in proportion to the grade leaving out the additional freight and expense of haul

3 That the entire cost of fertilizers when the seasons are bad, is a total loss to the farmer while under favor able seasons the profits will not justify the risk.

4. That the next legislature should enact that no fertilizers shall be sold in the State at a commercial value of less than thirty dollars per ton.

5 That we will commence now to think and make plans to dispense with the use of fertilizers at present prices and grade as much as possible and im prove our lands by other methods more permanent and profitable, for we bave failed to real ze either by the use of fer til zers. But on the other hand its use as a market crop food, we are impov erishing our land trying to pay for it

6 That these resolutions be published in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER and News Reporter.

W. F. BISH P. Sec'v. TO KEEP SWEET POTATOES.

Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer. Three points are essential.

1. The potatoes should be ripe when 2. They should be put away at the

right time. 3 They should be put away in the

If the above three points be properly

good condition through two winters (1) To ascertain when ripe, remove a few potatoes, break in two pieces and throw down on the ridge. If ripe, the

milk that runs out, when dy, will be white; if notripe it will be dark. In the former case the potatoes may be relied on to keep; in the latter case there is doubt, but with care may keep well.

Potatoes should be planted sufficient ly early to ripen before they are dug. WHEN TO DIG

Potatoes should be dug soon after the frost kills the vines. Some, how ever, advise that they be left until the weather turns cool. But when thus left, if the weather be warm, they are apt to sprout in the ground. The farmer must decide between the two plans according to his own experience. It may be well to try some by each plan until he is convinced. I prefer early digging-soon after the vines are killed.

AIRING THE POTATOES.

This may be done in several ways. If aired in the patch, poles or rails proper spaces intervening. The pota toes should be placed thereon and covered with straw or other litter to pro tect from frost, in case there be any. when rains began to be injured, except | Let the potatoes remain thus for about | employing either sand or road dust the by wet weather in harvest time. A nine days, or until the first white frost potatoes by the following spring appear thereafter; they will then be in proper to undergo but little or no change. condition to put away.

If preferable, the poles or rails may be placed on a floor and the potatoes the problem the Horse World claims to piled thereon in the way described. This plan will cause the air to get under the potatoes and, as it ascends, (the potatoes will be warmed sufficiently by En't throw sand in his ears, don't use bulking to cause this) all portions of

PUTTING THE POTATOES AWAY

After the potatoes have been properly cured there is only one safe way to put them away, and especially if it be desirable to keep them a long time is apt to be produced and when once tail a light tap and a good smart tap the air, dry sand or road dust must be potatoes. Curing the potatoes is there employed. The potatoes may be placed fore of two fold importance: in a potato house, a cellar, a large box tine cases out a hundred the horse will or a hill, and dry sand then powdered go right along about his business, but over them, which will flow and fill the driver must keep his lines taut and every crevice. If dust be used, it will let jerk or pull him back. The secret be necessary to place alternately a after they are put away, we need not barren looking in the winter. It is too opportunity to test the merits of this at our expense.—J. J. H. Gregory, in

AGRICULTURE BUILDING.

At Trans Mississippi and International Exposition to be Held at Omaha, June 1st



abled to give its readers a splendid er" of Millet. next year's great Exposition, as it will hundred feet long by about one hunappear when completed. This building dred and fifty wide, and averages fifty 000. Agriculture and live stock will bemicyole in plan, surmounted by a position.

Mines and Mining, Manufactures and above the cornice, except where broken ment of these odd corners: Liberal Arts and Spectatorium.

building stands "Mines" and "Agricul groups of statuary, appropriately rep ture," twins in size and general form, resenting the seasons, with Prosperity | trees and shrubs, looked better this | reled, while those carefully hand picked and the largest of the Exposition's supported by Labor and Integrity year than ever before. As the trees ing is located just west of the Twen- entrance there will be a statute of landscape becomes more beautiful; the lot of these sorted windfalls averaged tieth Street axis of the Kountze tract, Abundance, flanked by lesser figures effects, also, of the grouping are more about half-sound to the barrel, while and faces south on the lagoon. Its and the arms of State and Nation. The details conventional in proportion and representing the signs of the Zodiac, arrangement but natural in subject the favorable winds and the seasons; building. There will be capitals of bear the names of patrons of agriculcorn and wheat, festoons and cornu ture, its celebrated inventors, and ap copias of vegetables, fruits and flow propriate inscriptions. most important friezes.

observed potatoes can easily be kept in | red of apples and green of foliage will had of the scale of the coming display. predominate. The effect will be en nanced by focussing. Thus the cen position may be found in THE PRO

from touching.

Through the courtesy of the man here on either side of the doorway will agers. THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER is en be paintings, the "Sower" and "Rap-

south facade. Smaller doors pierce Architects who stand pre eminent in the sylobate at intervals along the by central and corner pavilions. The On either side of the Administration | monotony of the sky line is relieved by

spreading tail very successfully re- yet given its agricultural show as beauplaces the anthemion in one of the tiful and elaborate a setting as this will be. When one realizes that seen The fitness which marks the choice from across the lagoon, Agriculture areas seeded down. The trees and of motives throughout will extend to and Mines with the Administration, color decoration. The mass will con arch and connecting colonrades will form to the general old ivory tint of present an unbroken front one thou all the buildings, while in the ornament sand feet long, and that the effect will the colors of nature will be adhered to be doubled by reflection in the water The yellow of corn, purple of grapes, at his feet, a very good idea may be A fuller description of this great Ex

tral niche will blaz with color and GRESSIVE FARMER of July 6th. be better to employ the same method

If a potato house is used it is prefer ably constructed of stone, with two y ary. walls, an inner and outer wall, the space between being filled with earth

or dry sand. If a cellar be used it should be lined with a stone wall. In either case a stone wall will reduce the temperature in summer from 7 to 10 degrees, and will be sufficiently warm in winter.

If a cellar or a potato house be em ployed the same sand or dust, as the case may be, can be used for an indefi nite time. One party, who used road dust, constructed a large box and placed it in an out house. The same dust was used here for about 20 years and answered as good a purpose as could be desired. The box, to prevent should be placed on the ground with freezing, should be constructed with two walls about six inches apart and properly filled between with dust or

When the air is thus excluded by

One season I placed sand among the potatoes immediately after digging There was a heavy frost the night pre vious. The potatoes not only kept well, but the following spring the milk would flow from a freshly broken po tato the same as if freshly dug, having seemingly undergone no change what ever. While the potatoes kept re markably well on this occasion, I after wards learned from actual tests that it is very unsafe to thus exclude the air from them while in a green state. Heat the air must be excluded. To exclude generated it is impossible to save the

1. To sweeten the potatoes. 2 To prevent heating.

If the potatoes are sufficiently cured to prevent generating heat for a week

as the latter will not flow; and it wou'd summer. But it is important that the sanding or dusting be done of a cold for sand, thus preventing the potatoes morning, and that the sand or dust be first exposed to the air so as to become as cold as possible. The sand or dust, as the case may be, should be thorough.

HILLS.

If hills be employed, the potatoes may be piled direct from the patch, putting not more than 25 or 30 bushels in a circular pile. But by making the hill long any desirable quantity can be placed, being cheaper than round hills Place two plank at right angles suffi ciently raised for the air to pass beneath, then pile the potatoes thereon and finish by hilling in the usual way, leaving the top open.

bottom to admit air. At the end of by flowers, to the æ thetic delight and I could not afford to employ him; annine days close these places, and when the weather is sufficiently cool finish by pouring sand in at the top until full. If this plan be adopted it will be necessary to provide new sand every

COTTON SEED. Cotton seed is one of the most convenient methods known for putting away potatoes and should be employed for at least a portion of the crop. They may be put away in a barn or any room that is not over a room in which fire is used. Place on the floor about six inches of cotton seed, then the potatoes the depth of about three feet and cover lightly with seed. As the weather becomes colder the depth of cotton seed on top may be increased to six inches. This method is convenient for using purposes and appears to have no superior as a keeper. Old seed thought to be better than new. BRYAN TYSON.

Long Leaf, N. C. TO MAKE FARMS BEAUTIFUL.

Many farms and homesteads have a desolate appearance because the odd corners and bits of ground are left un

land are unsuitable for cultivation be cause of their smallness, or because inconveniently situated, are left in this wild condition, and mar the effect of an otherwise well kept farm or beautiful home.

In a recent report on "Experimental Farms," issued by the Canandian Government. W. T. Macoun, foreman of foresty, makes many suggestions as to how these unsightly spots may be made attractive and productive. Mr. Macoun says: "No matter how small the plot of ground or how situated, there is no reason why it should be an eve sore. It is this utilization of every nook, corner and cranny, and the making of two blades of grass to grow rels, headed and transferred to the where a weed grew before, that has made rural England so beautiful to the the crop was hand picked as carefully eye and so pleasing to the æ thetic as I could get it done by my regular sense. The agricultural and pastoral farm hands, all under careful superlandscapes in England, where the little picture of the Agriculture Building at The structure is something over four farms are 'green to the very door, have been described as 'jawel scenery.' There seems to be no good reason why will cost, we understand, about \$100, feet high. The main entrance is a the rural districts of New Jersey, New York and of other States could not be be made prominent features of the Ex- circular niche, and is central in the made equally attractive and fruitful."

Mr. Macoun has utilized all of the waste places about the offices and their profession are now perfecting the whole front. The ends have triple buildings of the Forestry Department plans of the main buildings-Agricul doors with loggias above. The roofs at Central Experimental Farm. In his results, which I copy from note book: ture, Art, Electricity and Machinery, are low, showing only balustrades report he thus writes of the improve

"The land adjacent to the office and other buildings, which has been devoted to the cultivation of ornamental months from the time they were barmain buildings. The Agricultural build dominating the whole. Over the main increase in size from year to year, the fourth. On February 10th, another apparent, and show pleasing combina architecture is free Renaissance, with sculptured subjects include groups tions and contrasts of color and form. A number of the species are also be ginning to bear freely their white, yel cannas, gladioli and asters being par shrubs planted during the last two tractiveness of this section of the farm."

> large number of the trees and shrubs as to make it decently presentable. suitable for hedges and ornamental purposes. He now has hedges of sev enty five different species. Among the ornamental trees. Mr. Macoun men tions several beautiful varieties from had recently occasion to examine two Japan and China, such as the syringa, the katsura tree, the Japanese quince, and the exquisitely beautiful maiden hair tree, or gingko biloba.

> this utilizing of all small plots, says: at this date (February 22), a rotten "The number of specimens which have apple; indeed, on looking carefully been planted along the roads from the over a surface that would make several entrance gates to and about the build ing is 2,742, and the number of species fruit, while on the lot picked by dropand varieties among these is about 4'0. ping process, from one fifth to one-With so many different types of beauty | quarter of the fruit was unsound. In spread out on every hand the visitor the first instance, the owner had gathfleds objects of interest to claim his at tention at every point."

In many places on the farm the fruit | boys employed. trees could be used so that they would be at once objects of beauty and profit. You will thus have four places at the the weeds and stones could be replaced picked twenty barrels a day; I felt that mental improvement of those who pass other could pick with care from eight their lives on the farm -New York to ten barrels per day. Apples picked

HORTICULTURE HOW TO PICK APPLES.

There are three ways of securing the apple crop-by shaking the fruit from the trees, by gathering it by hand and then dropping the apples into the bas ket, which may be hanging on the lad der two or three feet below our reach. and the third way of gathering the fruit by hand and carefully laying gathered one fortieth, then the loss on each apple in the basket. The tremendous crop of last season here in eastern Massachusettes affords the opportunity to test the comparative merits of each of these three plans when carried out on a large scale.

The argument of those who practice | cents. the first named plan was that the apples were so plenty and consequently cheap, that it would not pay to hand pick them, and the shaking of them off on the second crop of grass growing beneath the trees would bruise but a small per cent. of the fruit. An Atlan tic cyclone, which descended on us these careless fast pickers. We would tilled and grow up in unsightly weeds soon after we had begun apple-picking. in summer and become dreary and gave me, to my exceeding regret, an this little trick is simply diversion. layer of potatoes and a layer of dust, fear the warm falls known as Indian often the case that whatever plots of system of apple-gathering. All the the Farmers' Guide.

fruit lying on the grass under the trees was carefully gathered up and piled before we began hand picking.

I gave the gathering up my personal supervision, to see to it that the fruit was carefully laid in baskets, and that these were carefully emptied on the piles. At convenient intervals these piles were sorted over, the small and bruised fruit being carried to the cider mill and the apparently sound put in barrels. These barrels were protected from rain and carried from time to time to the shed, where the fruit was again carefully examined under my supervision, and only such as appeared to be perfectly sound were put in bardark, cool cellar. The remainder of

As these men were not hired to pick by the barrel, they had no motive to slight their work. These, apples also were headed up in barrels and put in the cellar, side by side with the first lot. Two months later I took from the two lots about forty barrels to market. and, unheading, picked them over, and made the following memoranda of the I find that windfall apples, taken from the grass ground, and apparently all sound, at the time of packing, have rotted nearly a third within two from the trees have rotted about onethe hand picked of the same variety (Red Russets) gave about a couple of quarts of unsound ones to the barrel

The dollar and cent inference from and all indicative of the purpose of the and everywhere panels and friezes will low, red, scarlet, purple and black this investigation is that the best sorted fruits, which still further heighten of windfalls are a pretty ticklish sort the effect. The flower borders and of an investment, and that in seasons beds were a mass of bloom from early when apples are cheap and labor high ers. The strutting turkey cock with It is doubtful if any exposition has in the summer to late in the autumn, as of average years, it is decidedly cheaper to send all this quality of fruit ticularly fine. More hedges have been directly to the cider mill rather than planted, and some small additional be at the care of gathering it together, and making two careful sortings of it, to have a third rot on your hands beseasons now add very much to the at- fore marketing; for the rotting is not only so much direct loss, but also the loss of much time in overhauling and The foreman also calls attenti n to a | wiping the sound fruit that remains, so

> Now, a remark or two on the practice quite general of hand picking the fruit and then dropping it into instead of carefully laying it in the basket. I large lots of apples which had been gathered by the two different methods. Each lot was kept the same way, in large bins and in oellars. In one, the The director, writing of the result of | carefully handed, I could hardly find barrels, I saw but a single decayed ered his apples with his own hands, and in the other three there had been

Consider now the loss which is the result of careless bandling of the fruit. Even in the smallest plots and corners | One man boasted to me that he had by the first man would have cost me directly about ten cents a barrel; those by the second about seventeen cents. a difference of seven cents on a barrel for picking.

Now let us consider the indirect, and yet just as real cost. At this season of the year Baldwins are usually worth from \$2 upward per barrel. Assuming that the carelessly picked fruit loses one fifth by rotting, and the carefully the fruit of the first is thirty five cents per barrel more than on that picked by the careful man; and adding this indirect to the direct cost of his work, his fruit picking has really cost me fortyfive cents a barrel, while the work of the careful man has cost but seventeen

The remark of the wise man made last fall, that the profits of the apple crop in the season of unprecedented plenty would ultimately be found in the pockets of the careful picker, is abundantly demonstrated by the comparative condition of the fruit in the cellars of hundreds of farmers at this date. We cannot afford to employ make more money in the end by hiring them at \$5 a day to let the apples alone and eat roast turkey and plum pudding