

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

and The Cotton Plant.

PROGRESSIVE FARMER—VOL. XIX. NO. 51.
THE COTTON PLANT—VOL. XXI. NO. 50.

RALEIGH, N. C., FEBRUARY 7, 1905.

Weekly—\$1 a Year.

A POULTRY DEPARTMENT.

Some Progressive Farmer readers grow cotton; some, tobacco; some, truck; some wheat; some, corn—and so on and so on. But whatever else he may raise or not raise, every subscriber raises hens. And the hen's universality makes her a very commanding figure in agricultural finance. Thus it is a fact that the poultry and eggs raised in the one State of Missouri last year were worth more than the purchase price of all the Louisiana Territory from which a dozen States and Territories have now been carved. Or to come nearer home, statistics show that the poultry and eggs raised in North Carolina any year are worth more than our wheat and oat crops combined; worth more than our hay and forage crops; worth more than one-third our cotton crop or two-thirds our tobacco crop.

In view of these too little appreciated facts, there is probably just ground for the criticism that The Progressive Farmer until now has given too little attention to poultry subjects. But this shall not be true any more. We have now made arrangements with one of the most successful poultrymen of the State, a man with fifteen years' experience in managing hens, to conduct a poultry department for us, and this will appear regularly, beginning next week.

We hope that our readers will co-operate with the editor by writing their experiences and sending him such questions as they may wish answered.

Proper Cultivation of Tobacco.

Messrs. Editors:—Tobacco is like most other crops, the best time to cultivate is before planting. Land well broken is half cultivated. However, don't let the plant suffer for plowing or hoeing. The time to break the land depends on what growth is on the land. If there is a growth of broom sedge, plow in late summer or early fall. If hog weed or other annual plants, early winter will be time enough. The next plowing should be in February or March, when the rows are run off three and one-half feet, and manure applied when it is to be used. When only two tons or less of farm-yard manure are used, better results are obtained by drilling; when more, it is desirable to broadcast; when manure is drilled, bed the land, drill the manure in the water furrow and cover lightly. About the 1st of April run a furrow with a sweep in the water furrow, mixing the manure with the soil, drill the commercial fertilizers in this furrow, cover with two furrows of a turning plow, and leave until ready to put out plants. When the plants are large enough to transfer to the field, run a log over the list, thus leaving the land nearly level and a fresh place to set the plant. Give each plant thirty inches in the drill. The first cultivation should be given as soon as the plant has taken root. Great care should be taken to break the crust around the young plant. This has to be done with hoes. Then cultivate after every rain as soon as the nature of land will permit, giving deep cultivation at first and shallower as the plants get larger. After

the tobacco has begun to spread, the land should be stirred very shallow, one inch or two inches, as the lateral roots are then reaching out for food and moisture. Often the firing of tobacco is charged to the fertilizer when the cutting of the roots by improper cultivation is to blame.

GEO. T. BULLOCK,

Department of Agriculture Test Farm, Rocky Mount, N. C.

Profits in Canning Fruits.

Messrs Editors:—Farmers are now looking for something to take the place of a part of their cotton crop, and with your consent, I desire to call attention to what can be done in the way of canning fruits and vegetables. The farmer raises the fruits and vegetables and can allow them to remain on the tree or vine until thoroughly ripe and thereby acquire their most delicious flavor. He can gather and can them same day without bruising or injuring them. This cannot be done in the large factory, therefore they cannot compete with the farmer in quality. He does most of the work, with the aid of his own family, and it is done during summer months when other work is over, which gives him another large advantage in way of profits. His goods are the very best and a finished product, therefore he can have a voice in pricing them—a luxury which is denied him in raising cotton, but which he might bring about by diversifying. The profits on an acre of canned tomatoes or string beans will run up to several hundred dollars when rightly managed, and all the work is done on the farm, and the amount that can be saved by canning and marketing the peaches, apples, berries, etc., that are usually wasted, will surprise any one who has not duly considered it. I think this subject worthy of investigation by all our progressive farmers.

T. H. RANEY.

Orange Co., N. C.

INDEX TO THIS NUMBER.

10—2—10, I. C. Wade.....	9
Canning for Farmers, T. H. Raney.....	1
Cultivation of Tobacco, Geo. T. Bullock....	1
Current Events: Editorial Review	8, 9
Dr. Freeman's Health Talk	6
Fertilizers for Cotton, B. W. Kilgore.....	2
Improving Country Schools, W. T. Cutchin..	10
In Robeson and Johnston Counties, H. M. Cates	11
Nature Study Literature, F. L. Stevens.....	5
New Orleans Cotton Convention, T. B. Parker	4, 5
Onions and Bunch Crops	3
Opposes Ransom Movement, J. D. Yates....	5
Peanut Growing, H. N. Clark.....	1
School Law Hard on Teachers, E. G. Johnson	10
Some Things to Plan For Now, C. W. Burkett	9
South Carolina Alliance News, A Farmer....	5
Terracing Again, Wake	3
Thoughts for Farmers, Charles Petty.....	3
Valuable Stock Book Free, Stockman.....	3
Warren Alliancemen, J. H. White.....	11

Departments: Markets, 5; Home Circle, 6; Social Chat, 7; State News, 12; General News, 12; Teachers' Reading Course, 14; Sunshine, 16.

Notice to Cotton Growers.

The New Orleans Cotton Growers' Convention recommended that township meeting of cotton growers be held February 11th, and county meetings February 16th. I trust that these dates will be followed by our North Carolina farmers. The date of our State meeting will be announced next week, when the Editor has asked me to write at greater length for Progressive Farmer readers.

JOHN S. CUNNINGHAM,

President North Carolina Cotton Growers' and Business Men's Association.

GROWING PEANUTS.

The Best and Cheapest Way to Cultivate and Cure the Crop.

Messrs. Editors:—To make good peanuts, break or furrow the land good in May. Run your rows two and one-half feet apart. Put in 200 pounds of acid phosphate in the drill. Make a list on same with a small wing or B. D. plow without splitting the middle. Plant with the Cole planter, eight inches apart, Spanish peanuts. When the peas begin to come up, run a weeder cross-wise the beds or rows. Then wait until all peas are up good, and then run cultivator (with small or narrow teeth on) as close to peas as you can without covering up. Do not let them get grassy.

Cultivate the balance of season with cotton plow, and the last plowing ridge up the dirt good around the vines. Let them remain until the vines begin to show signs of being ripe. Then take B. D. plow, with only point on, and run furrow to the row directly under the vines to cut the top root. Let the hands follow with pitch forks and turn the roots up to the sun. Then let remain until vines wilt enough to make good hay (about two days), then with horse hay rake, rake in windrows as you would hay while there is no dew or water on the vines. Then haul to the barn and pack away.

If they get a little hot, it will not hurt either the vines or nuts, unless you disturb them while in that condition. When you go to thrash several months after, you will find nice, clean white nuts and beautiful hay or vines.

This is my experience for the past two years. I give it to the public to benefit some poor farmer who does not see any crop to plant except six-cent cotton.

The vines will pay all the expense of the crop and leave the nuts for profit; and the vines thus treated is the best feed I can get for old stock. My mules kept fat for four months without any corn, fed on peanut vines alone. I have nothing to sell or gain, only the good-will of my fellow-man.

HENRY N. CLARK,

Proprietor Hazel Dell Farm.

Halifax Co., N. C.

Reckon the days in which you have not been angry. I used to be angry every day; now every other day; then every third and fourth day, and if you miss it so long as thirty days, offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to God.—Epictetus.