

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

## and The Cotton Plant.

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THE COTTON PLANT—VOL. XXII. NO. 1.

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### Tobacco: Varieties, Preparation and Fertilizing.

Messrs. Editors:—I see an excellent article in last week's Progressive Farmer on tobacco culture, by Mr. Geo. T. Bullock, of the Rocky Mount Test Farm, and I have some questions I wish him to answer.

My land will make ten bushels of wheat to the acre or more; soil 6 to 8 inches deep; subsoil yellowish red; some clay in top soil, but not much. Holds moisture 10 to 15 per cent. I can only make red and dark red tobacco. Land in wheat last year. I am going to plow as soon as land is in order. Some rag weeds on land; raise 700 to 800 pounds to acre; I want to go to 1,000 or 1,200 to acre. I averaged \$10 per 100 for last three years. I want to make more pounds and hold same average. I have ten tons horse, cow and hog manure. I want to mix and use rich dirt and compost it as you think best. I want to put ton to acre or more. I want to use good guano. What's best? My land makes good working tobacco. Good common wrappers bring from \$10 to \$20. You see I want to make more pounds. Some land in rye I want to plant in tobacco in spring. When would I turn it? How old must I let it get? We plant from 15th to 20th May.

J. G. P.

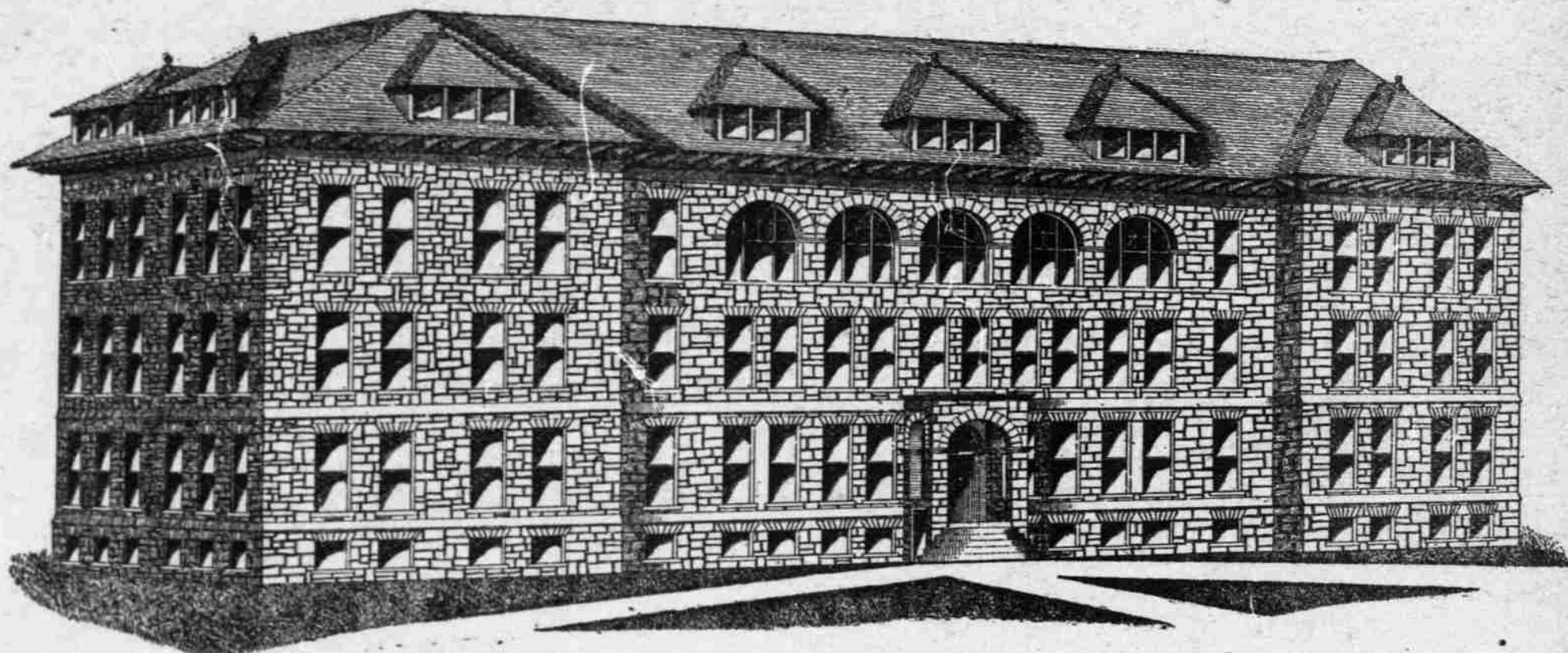
Guilford Co., N. C.

(Answer by Geo. T. Bullock, Department of Agriculture Test Farm, Rocky Mount, N. C.)

In answer to your letter, I would advise leaving all manure under shelter until ready to apply to land. To compost makes more cost and adds no value except in mechanical way; that is, makes it easier to distribute. The way I would work your land would be to break as early now as possible, then some thirty days before planting, run off rows and bed out the land. Drill your manure in the furrow and cover lightly. A week before planting drill your fertilizer on this and run one or two sweep furrows to mix the fertilizer and manure. On this make a list with two furrows of a turning plow and leave until ready to plant.

The time to turn under rye for tobacco depends upon how much growth the rye has made. It could be left until say thirty days before planting, when the rows could be run off, the land be bedded out, and treated as above. If the rye has made

### THE NEW BUILDING FOR THE VIRGINIA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.



Plans have recently been completed and the work of construction commenced on the new Agricultural Hall for the Virginia College of Agriculture and Agricultural Experiment Station located at Blacksburg, Va. By way of explanation, it is proper to state that the College of Agriculture and Experiment Station constitute together one of the principal departments of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, which now occupies a leading position among Southern schools of technology, thanks to the able and efficient direction of its affairs by President J. M. McBryde.

The erection of this fine and commodious building was made possible through the liberal appropriation made by the last State Assembly of Virginia. The elevation of the building as shown by the accompanying half tone, while attractive, is not showy, though it will be substantial in appearance and of sufficient size to house the various departments of

instruction it is destined to accommodate. It will be exceptionally well lighted, and sufficient funds are available to thoroughly equip it for both instruction and research work. This building will stand for new ideals in agricultural education in Virginia, and when it is completed will provide as fine facilities for agricultural training and investigation as the most exacting could wish. Then with such a man as Prof. A. M. Soule in charge the outlook for the agricultural department of the College will be all that could be desired.

As the elevation indicates, the new building will be practically five stories high, 170 feet in length, and 70 feet wide. The general construction will be of the natural limestone rock obtained in quarries adjacent to the College, while the trimmings will be made of Brush Mountain sandstone. The building will thus be a product of Virginia soils and ingenuity from beginning

to end, the plans and specifications having been prepared by the Engineering Department of the Institute. The size of the building will be better appreciated by the fact that it contains fifty-five thousand feet of floor space.

In the rear of the building a battery of five green-houses will be constructed providing facilities for work in horticulture, entomology, bacteriology and mycology. The heating and cold storage plant will also be situated in the rear, though there will be a battery of butter and cheese curing rooms in the basement of the central building. A barn for stock judging and for veterinary clinics will also be erected, and if the College grows rapidly and the legislature will provide the means, it is contemplated in the future to erect two large wings in the rear of the present structure for the accommodation of additional instructors in animal husbandry, veterinary science, and farm mechanics.

such growth as to endanger your land by turning, it may be advisable to cut with a mower and leave to dry some or cut over with disc harrow, which would also tend to cut the rye turfs.

In regard to fertilizer, you will find the subject and formulas discussed in The Bulletin of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture for October, 1903.

The little Orinoco is a very good variety. As for there being better, I am unable to say, as there has been no test of varieties made as far as I know.

Do you wish to buy anything? See if it is not advertised in our columns. If not, write to the Editor.

### The Statesville Shorthorn Sale.

Statesville, Feb. 17.—Considering the weather, which was exceedingly cold and disagreeable, a fairly good crowd attended the sale of cattle at the State test farm Wednesday. Of the 30 head of registered Shorthorn cattle that Mr. Frank G. Hogan shipped here from Kentucky, 22 were sold, at an average of \$69 each. Eight were left on the farm, and some of these have already been disposed of. The highest price paid, \$150, was for a fine bull bought for the State farm by Dr. Tait Butler and Mr. Meacham. Several cows and heifers were also bought for the farm.

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