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# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

and The Cotton Plant.

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## The Progressive Farmer

AND THE COTTON PLANT.  
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### A LITTLE LETTER TO THE SAMPLE COPY READER.

My dear Sir: This number of The Progressive Farmer and Cotton Plant has come to you marked "Sample Copy." That means that you are one of a number of wide-awake farmers and truckers in the Carolinas and Virginia who ought to read The Progressive Farmer, but don't.

And this copy is sent you solely to give you the opportunity to reform.

It's not fashionable nor profitable to try to farm here without The Progressive Farmer.

And it's not fashionable because it doesn't pay. Every week the most successful and enterprising farmers and truckers of our territory write our paper of methods and ideas which help them make money—and which will help you make money.

There are some papers you can't afford to take, and there are some you can't afford not to take. The Progressive Farmer is one you can't afford not to take.

It is not an expenditure, but an investment, and pays for itself every issue.

"Most money pays only 6 per cent a year," says Mr. Ashley Horne, "but the money I pay for The Progressive Farmer pays me 6 per cent a week."

"The Progressive Farmer," says Mr. J. M. Paris, "has given me \$100 profit in improved land, crops and stock for every \$1 I have paid for it."

But there's no use to argue. Here's the paper—let it speak for itself. We know you are going to subscribe, because we are going to get every wide-awake farmer in North Carolina and adjoining States before we quit.

But what we want is to get you on our list at once, and in order to induce you to do this we are making a remarkable offer:

The Progressive Farmer every week from now till January 1, 1906 for only 50 cents!

This is a special cut price open only to those not now subscribers—no profit in it for us—and made only to insure 1,000 new readers before June.

We count on you as one of the lucky thousand.

And the quicker you respond, the more you get for your money.

Order to-day.

Two farmers live "side by side." One farms forty acres of corn, but makes each acre produce eighty bushels per acre. The other farmer farms eighty acres with a yield of forty bushels per acre. It is needless for us to say which one of the twain will have the larger estate to be settled in the Probate Court.—Farmers' Guide.



STRAWBERRIES FRESH FROM A NORTH CAROLINA FIELD.

The strawberry season is now at its height, but the weevil is doing great damage. On page 2 Entomologist Sherman describes the best methods of combating the pest.

### THOUGHTS FOR FARMERS.

#### Give Corn Distance.

There was an old-fashioned, honest, sensible man who lived and died in Union County. He was thrifty. He had plenty of stuff around him for man and beast. He always had time to go to church, and the bigger the meetings and the better the preaching the more he enjoyed it.

One day a thriftless neighbor said to him: "Uncle Si, how is it you keep making money every year and always have plenty around you?" His characteristic reply was: "By giving my corn plenty of distance and minding my own business."

Either characteristic of Josiah Foster, of Pea Ridge, Union County, would furnish a good text for an exhortation. Take the distance that he gave his corn. A few years ago the writer was passing through this county in August after corn had done its best. Hundreds of acres were hastily inspected. It was evident that less than a half crop was made. The shortage in yield resulted from too many stalks to the acre and too little work. Cotton will wait on you. Corn is very exacting. It must have frequent workings to do the best. On good upland each hill should have about 16 square feet; or the hills should be 4 by 4. That would give 2,700 hills, and the average crop on upland falls below that number of ears. On thinner land 5 by 4 is about right, and that gives 2,178 hills and three-fourths of the upland of this Piedmont region makes less than that number of good ears to the acre. Give good distance, cultivate frequently and the result will be satisfactory.

#### Reducing Cotton Acreage.

Last fall farmers were advised and urged to sow wheat and oats. When a personal appeal was made to them they would say they wanted to sow but had no land ready. The cotton was not out of the way and they had no pea stubble. So March found them with all their land to be planted in cotton with a big C, and corn with the smallest c possible. Fall will find them with six-cent cotton, no land ready for sowing, and best seed wheat \$1.75 a bushel. They will never re-

duce the cotton acreage enough until they get to raising corn, peas, hay, small grain and cattle. Any little chunk of a milch cow will bring as much as a 6-cent bale of cotton. It may be best in the long run for the farmers of the two Carolinas to have about two years of 5-cent cotton. That would tend to place them on a self-supporting basis.

#### Sow Peas.

Let farmers who have set aside 12 to 15 acres to the horse for cotton, just figure a little. In this section it will cost 5 to 6 cents a pound to make the cotton. Let these cotton men take about 4 or 5 acres of their cotton land, although prepared and ready to plant, and sow a bushel of clay or Unknown peas to the acre. If the land would make 700 pounds of seed cotton to the acre, it would make a ton and a half of pea vine hay. At 8 cents a pound the cotton and seed would bring \$20.90. Pea vine hay sells from the wagon at 90 cents a hundred. The ton and a half of hay would bring \$27.00 and the cost would not be half as much as making the cotton crop. The land would be ready for early seeding to wheat or oats. That is the only way to reduce the cotton acreage, so as to make a more profitable crop and improve the land at the same time. Then when forage, corn, wheat and oats were abundant the fowls, hogs and cattle would soon be added and farmers would be able "to live at home and board at the same place."

CHAS. PETTY.

Spartanburg Co., S. C.

Please find enclosed money order for one dollar to renew subscription to The Progressive Farmer. I take a number of agricultural papers of high class, but I find The Progressive Farmer the most valuable and helpful of all to me as a farmer. I believe every farmer in North Carolina would be much benefited by reading the valuable information every number contains.—R. W. Wharton, Washington, N. C.

The earlier you accept our 50-cent offer the more you get for your money. Order to-day.