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THIS IS THE SEASON FOR DEEP PLOWING

FALL plowing should, as a rule, be deep plowing. By this we mean that in practically all cases where the turning plow is used between now and next spring it should be put in just a little deeper than the land has usually been plowed before. Where subsoiling is done, this is the time to do it.

We believe in deep plowing and have scant sympathy with the advocates of three-or-four-inch breaking, but "deep" plowing is a very elastic term, and the depth that is sufficient on one soil may be sadly insufficient on another. Take the red-clay hill lands of the South, for example. Passing through these regions one will see slope after slope gullied or galled, long lines or glaring splotches of absolutely barren soil, the results of a system of soil scratching and humus depletion. These lands need deeper plowing. Instead of three or four inches, seven or eight should be the usual depth for the turning plow to run; and if when the subsoil is dry, a subsoil plow can follow the turning plow, so much the better. By such plowing, the growing of cover crops in winter and the filling of the soil with vegetable matter, the necessity for terracing these lands can be greatly reduced, and washing largely prevented.

soil plow would be entirely out of place. If the soil is very sandy, five or six inches is probably deep enough for any breaking. On than they have been running, and next year, and the next, do the clay hillside there is a hard layer which should be broken up the same until they get a loose, friable soil eight or ten inches so that the water may soak down through it instead of rushing deep. When they get such a depth of soil there will be tess off and carrying the top soil with it; many of the sandy lands washing, less damage from drouth, less drowning out, and larwould be better if there was a compact stratum at the depth of a ger crops. few inches. Thus it will be seen that the need for deep plowing may vary greatly with differing conditions.

As a general rule, however, our soils are not broken deeply enough. We need deeper seed beds, and a larger water-holding ordinarily, whether deep plowing alone will add enough to the capacity in our soils. The little one-horse plows, scratching two or three inches deep, have helped to impoverish thousands of acres of land and to keep poor thousands of famers. We need table matter, and thus made porous, retentive of moisture and to double the depth of our plowing, on the average, and to get rid rife with bacterial activity, there will inevitably be a decided of the little makeshift plows and teams that are incapable of doing really good plowing. Of course, most farmers can't throw away heir plows or let their work stock go and get others all at land between now and next spring to do deeper plowing onc neither can they double the depth of their cultivated soils than has been his custom, to get down and work a little on "the all tonce. They can, however, gradually get better implements farm that lies below the one he has been working;" but we would



On a level sandy soil, on the other hand, a man with a sub- and better teams, and they can, when they go to break their land this fall or winter, put their plows down an inch or so deeper

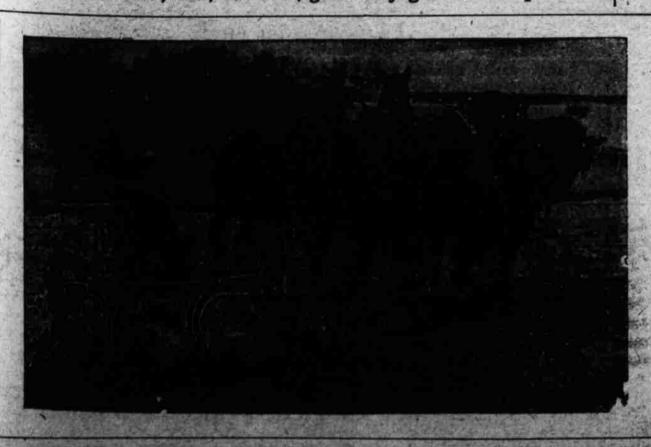
> There is one thing to remember always, however: Deeper plowing alone may give better crops for a year or two, but it cannot permanently improve the land. In fact, it is doubtful, crops to pay for the extra expense. But when the soil is gradually deepened and at the same time gradually filled with vegeincrease in the crops it produces, and the profits it yields.

So we would urge every reader who expects to break any

also ask him to remember that if he would get the most from this deeper plowing, he must see to it that as he makes his soil deeper he also makes it better by the addition to it of larger quantities of vegetable matter. Deeper plowing is in most cases a necessity in soil improvement, but more humus is equally necessary, often more so.

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