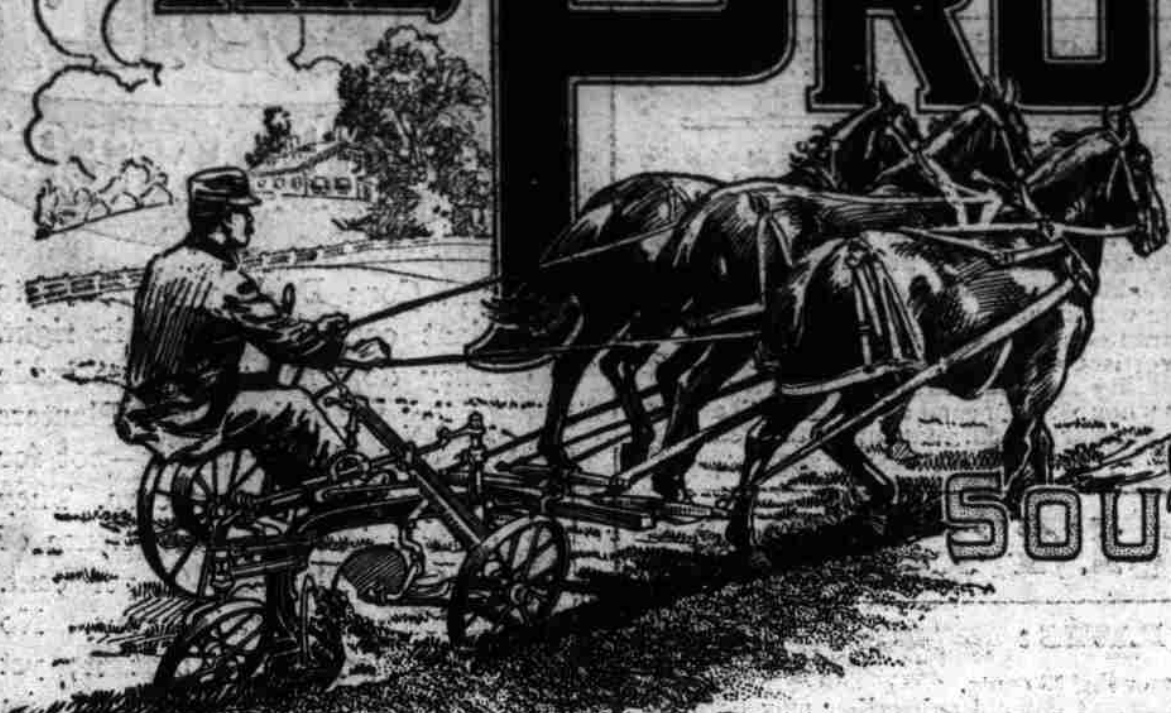


THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

AND
SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE



A Farm and Home Weekly for the Carolinas, Virginia, Georgia and Tennessee.

FOUNDED, 1886, AT RALEIGH, N. C.

Vol. XXVII. No. 7.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1912.

Weekly: \$1 a Year.

Add to Your Efficiency by Using More Power.

If we could only induce all the readers of The Progressive Farmer to turn over to page 4 and read that boxed piece in the upper right-hand corner, we would feel that we had done a fine piece of work. If we could induce them to read it, and re-read it and study over it until they had thoroughly fixed in their minds its big lesson—that the more horse-power a man directs and controls in his farm work, the more efficient he becomes and the more he can make his own labor, time and thought worth,—we would be doing Southern farming a tremendous service.

We print herewith a picture of a traction engine at work plowing, and we ask every reader—especially every reader who is farming with only one horse, or with two very light horses—to take a good long look at it and ask himself how it compares with his plowing outfit. Of course, we do not say that every reader, or that any certain reader needs such an outfit; but we do say that every man who is farming for a living needs to think seriously of his efficiency as a plowman.

You, especially, Mr. One-Horse Farmer, how can you, walking round and round your field every time a six-inch furrow is turned, hope to be as well paid for your work as is the man who gets on his tractor and turns five, ten- or twelve-inch furrows at a through?

You will not, that's all. The man who has the twelve or twenty horse-power under his control has every advantage, and will inevitably be able to tend more land, to produce larger crops, to make more money, to secure for himself and his family more of the comforts and luxuries of life than you can. Between 1850 and 1900 the power per worker on the farms of the country doubled and so did the production per worker. It has been so in the past; it is so today; it will be so in the future. The man who works the most horses, or drives the most efficient machine gets the most for his labor.

"But," you ask, "what is this to me? I can't buy a tractor, and I don't need it on my farm."

Probably not. We don't advise you to buy one—though there are lots of readers who could do so with great profit—but we do advise you to begin working toward the place where you will need one and be able to own it. If you are working now with one horse, set your stakes for two. If your team is not heavy enough to handle a heavy disk harrow or a binder, set out to get a heavier team. If you have a large farm to tend and heavy work to do, investigate the tractor and see if it will not pay you to buy one.

Whether you do this or not, the great mass of farmers will. More horses and larger ones are going to be used on the farm. More engines of all kinds, especially more traction engines, are going to be used, and the men who use them are going to do more and better work and make more money. The farm tractor has come to stay, and in numbers and usefulness it is bound to increase with a rapidity of which most of us have little idea. Before you decide that you don't need one on your farm, you had best look carefully into the subject and see if it will not be a paying proposition.

We say this, not to boost tractors, but to emphasize the fact that the farmer must do what other men are doing—increase his efficiency by adding to the forces under his control, and that he must constantly be on the alert to make his labor and time count just as much as possible by finding and using the cheapest and most efficient sources of power available.

Always and everywhere the farmer with the greatest horse-power and the most efficient implements gets the most pay for his work. This is why we continually urge our readers to use more and larger horses; to get more and better farm equipment; to get rid of stumps, ditches and other obstructions in their fields so they can use the more modern machinery; and to be constantly on the lookout for any new means of increasing their ability to do good work.



A MODERN PLOWING OUTFIT.

FEATURES OF THIS ISSUE.

BEST VARIETIES OF CORN AND COTTON—What Experiment Station Tests Show.....	3
DAIRY TALKS—How to Test Cows, How to Feed, How to Go Into the Business.....	20
ESSENTIALS OF SOIL FERTILITY—Why Humus is so Important.....	26
GOOD TOOLS AND HOW THEY HELP—Letters Left Over From Last Week.....	10
HOW TO CONTROL WATER—Letters on Under-Ground and Surface Drainage.....	8
HOW TO LAY OUT THE HOME GROUNDS—Advice by a Landscape Gardener.....	14
LET US MAKE THE FARM BEAUTIFUL—We Can Make Country Life Almost What We Choose.....	33
THE BOY QUESTION—What Some Mothers Think About It.....	15
THE RAILWAY AND THE FARMER—By President W. W. Finley of the Southern Railway Company.....	5
WHERE TO BUY FARM IMPLEMENTS—A Directory of Our Advertisers Which You Should Preserve.....	6