

small shovel plow and heel scrape, trying to avoid making much of a ridge. The last two or three times I use a long heel scrape, going one time to middle—on one side one time and on the other side next time, keeping up cultivation until about the first of August.

I cultivate about ten acres in cotton, five or six in corn, some in peas, potato patch, etc., making six and seven bales of cotton, 25 or 30 bushels of corn to the acre, using about 200 pounds of 16 per cent phosphate, 25 pounds of muriate potash and 100 pounds of cottonseed meal to the acre.

My land has gradually, but slowly improved. Until three years ago, as a rule, I have been alternately planting cotton and corn, sowing peas at last plowing of corn. My plan now is to adopt the three year rotation—small grain, cotton, corn.

No, I have not got rich, and yet, as you see, I have made above the average, and I hope in the future to do a little better. I have, by being economical, saved enough to pay for a piece of land, which cost me \$1,700 and would have some left had it not been for the hail last August, which almost completely destroyed my cotton and corn.

You think strange that I have remained in the one-horse class so long. Well, until three years ago, when I purchased more land, I did not have enough land cleared for two horses. I didn't want to cut all the wood off my place. I didn't have much hauling to do, and did not feel physically able (my weight is about 106 pounds) to hire to do other people's work, and did not want to be bothered with a hired hand, (sometimes I hire a day hand), and as my first six children are girls, and as it would take more feed, more attention, and extra tools, and—well, I just remained a one-horse farmer.

If I could start again under the same circumstances, and know what I do now, I think I would try to be better than a one-horse farmer.

J. L. ALLEN.

Shelby, N. C.

**Editorial Comment:**—It would undoubtedly take more feed for two horses than for one, and a little more time and labor to care for them but just think of the labor Mr. Allen would save in the cultivation of his crops, if he used two horses instead of one. And if he had two mares and raised one or two colts a year, what a nice addition to his income it would be. We believe that with the farm he has he, and many other farmers, could both reduce the hard work of the farm and increase its profits by raising colts or calves or pigs as a part, at least, of the "money crop."

**Seven Years of Progress.**

**YES,** I have been a one-horse farmer. When I started to farm I was 18 years old, and started in the woods. I did not have a foot of cleared land to start with. I began with a mattock and hired my plowing done, and then I got a stump puller after the first year and then the bushes came out easier.

I used my father's horse to cultivate my corn with, and then I built a tobacco barn, and started to raise tobacco; and in the meantime I bought 102 acres of land, which was all in brush, and had never been under cultivation. After the first tobacco crop, I made enough money on it to buy a horse, and with my father's horse I have a good team. Then I bought a disk-riding harrow. I have an Acme and a riding cultivator and two single cultivators, a gasoline engine and feed cutter.

I have about 18 acres cleared now, and it will produce 50 bushels of corn or more to the acre. I grew 396 pounds tobacco on two acres last year, that net me \$155 per acre, and the same ground was sowed to wheat, and they threshed 52 bushels of nice clean wheat, which was sold for

\$1.25 per bushel. This ground now has a fine sod of clover on it. I have three acres of alfalfa that is doing well. I have six head of cattle and 25 head of sheep. The cows are kept for home use, and manure, which is saved very carefully, and spread as fast as made. I have concrete cow stables, which doubled my manure pile.

I always follow corn with crimson clover or peas, and the same with tobacco, when I don't follow with wheat. I am convinced that my land is getting better every year, and I always expect to keep it so.

I feel very much in debt to The Progressive Farmer, and other farm papers, as they have put me where I am. I am now 25 years old, and I hope in five more years to have a farm that will rank with any for its size. I find sheep pay very well, and I am very proud of my flock.

H. J. WOODWARD.

Clayville, Va.

**Editorial Comment:**—We doubt if Mr. Woodward is as much of a one-horse farmer as he thinks. Judging from the implements he uses, most of his farming is done with two horses. It isn't the number of horses one owns that counts, but the number he uses in his work. As Mr. McNair points out on another page, there are big estates on which most of the farming done is one-horse farming.

**Borrows a Neighbor's Horse in Breaking Land.**

**HOW CAN** one scratch sustenance from a farm with one mule? I have planned to buy a second, but could not match my big one. As I go by The Progressive Farmer program, I insist on deep plowing, and a carefully prepared seed-bed. So I yoke my big fellow with a neighbor's team and plow deep and disk until the land is mellow.

I find that the weeder and clod crusher do efficient work directly after plowing. After the land is plowed deep and disked carefully, one horse can put a prosperity smile on a goodly harvest. I note that many plant crops into any sort of a seed-bed, and pulverize it after.

I check my corn in so as to cultivate it both ways. I use an adjustable seven-tooth cultivator, which is better than the primitive two-shovel abomination. I keep my land filled with humus so it is easy to work. Often I use a 14-tooth cultivator, which is 33 inches wide. This keeps a mulch, but does not cut off big weeds.

My crops are corn, alfalfa, soy beans, potatoes, fruit and poultry, on a large farm of rich soil.

IRA M. HAWKINS.

Yadkin Valley, N. C.

**Interesting Experience and Good Advice.**

**ABOUT** 20 years ago, I started off with one horse to farming. I did not have anything else, but my brother gave me 60 acres of land, and from that day to this, my motto has been, "More land, better implements, more and better stock."

The first few years I farmed, I did like so many farmers are doing today—just made enough to support myself, family and stock. Then I began to learn that there was more profitable ways. I began to take experienced farmers' advice. After moving about a few years, I decided there was not any use in that, so I bought a place, moved to it and went to work.

The land was worn out, and the first thing I did was to plant it in velvet beans and things to build it up.

The next thing was to see to the neatness of my farm; set out shade trees and fruit trees, tear down old rail fences, put wire ones instead, clear more land.

Next to that was to buy more good



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stock, plows, etc., and here I want to say one word to young farmers, that is to raise more than one money crop. (1) raise plenty of produce for home use, and (2) make everything for the market you can. Then get the best price you can for it. For instance, I have always tried to make cotton my main market crop, and have just this year found out that there is something better. I planted 40 acres of cotton and, it being a bad crop season, just cleared a little over fertilizer bill. I also planted cane, potatoes and garden vegetables, and sold them at the market for more than I made on the cotton. Last year I bought four good brood sows, and this year I sold over \$100 worth of meat hogs, besides plenty for home use. I also bought me a mowing machine, hay rake, and saved all the good hay I could house. Bought me some beef cattle, fattened them, and sold them for double the amount I paid for them.

I am a reader of The Progressive Farmer, and it is the most valuable paper to Southern farmers ever printed, and if more Southern farmers were reading it, the South would be brighter and wealthier than it is today.

T. J. ANDREWS.

Lake Butler, Fla.

**The Tobacco Farmer's Big Profits.**

**ALMOST** every day we hear some story of almost astonishing profits made by tobacco farmers this year. Here's one little illustration: Mr. J. H. Smith, who is one of the livest agents The Progressive Farmer has ever had, joined with his brother in cultivating eight acres in tobacco this year, with the result that for 100 days' work they received \$1,800 for the tobacco crop on the eight acres, netting \$1,600 for their own labor, the fertilizer costing \$145, and extra labor \$22.

**Consolidation in Anson County.**

Very few people knew, until The Ansonian told them last week, that children are being hauled to school in this county. Gum Springs district voted the first special tax and was the first to agitate the question of compulsory attendance. Peru is the first to consolidate and haul the children to the school. The plan is succeeding just as it has done in other progressive sections.—Wadeboro Ansonian.

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