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DON'T FORGET THE HAY CROP



A GOOD LOAD
Hay is One of Our Most Profitable Crops

IN THE rush of getting the corn, cotton and tobacco crops under way it is important that we not forget what should be a crop of first importance on all Southern farms—the hay crop. Nature has given us such a splendid climate and such a monopoly in cotton production that we have signally failed to avail ourselves of our excellent opportunities along lines other than cotton growing.

Just a few weeks ago we had an account of what Mr. Nixon's farming showed, and it will be remembered that of all the crops grown the hay crop paid best. We believe that on the average cotton or tobacco farm anywhere in the South, similar results will be obtained.

The Progressive Farmer has consistently and persistently held to the idea that cotton should be made strictly a surplus cash crop—a crop, in other words, the proceeds of which will about

represent the net cash income from the farm operations. This, of course, will never be true so long as we use Western grain and hay to the enormous extent that we now do.

FEATURES OF THIS ISSUE

Absentee Landlordism the South's Greatest Menace . . .	14
Avoiding Onion-flavored Milk . . .	12
Cultivating the Crop	17
Farm Work for May	6
Fertilizers for Cotton and Corn . . .	3
Household Economics	8
Insect Questions and Answers . . .	15
Making Money in Georgia	12
The Boy's Chance on the Farm . . .	7

We have every natural advantage for making of the South a great hay and forage section. Where the soil is suited five or six crops of alfalfa may be harvested; crimson clover and oats planted in the fall come off in ample time for another crop to follow; lespedeza sown on oats in March makes one of the finest of hays without any further attention; and cowpeas and soy beans after oats may be sown as late as July and make excellent hay before frost.

It is well to make a good cotton crop; but it is better still to keep the proceeds of it at home. A legume hay crop, planted now or later, will help materially in this direction, and will aid in making rich land at the same time.