

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

AND SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE



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## HOW TO FEED COTTON SEED

SO much interest has been excited by an article on feeding cotton seed that we are again asked to summarize the proper policies for feeding to horses, cattle and hogs.

Up to the amount which can be satisfactorily fed, cotton seed are fully equal to corn, pound for pound, for feeding cattle, but owing to the large amount of oil they contain, probably not more than one-half pound of seed should be given for every 100 pounds of the animal's weight. The oil in the seed has a feeding value, up to the needs of the animal and the extent to which it can be digested. As compared with cottonseed meal, three pounds of cotton seed are equal to about two pounds of cottonseed meal, or a little less.

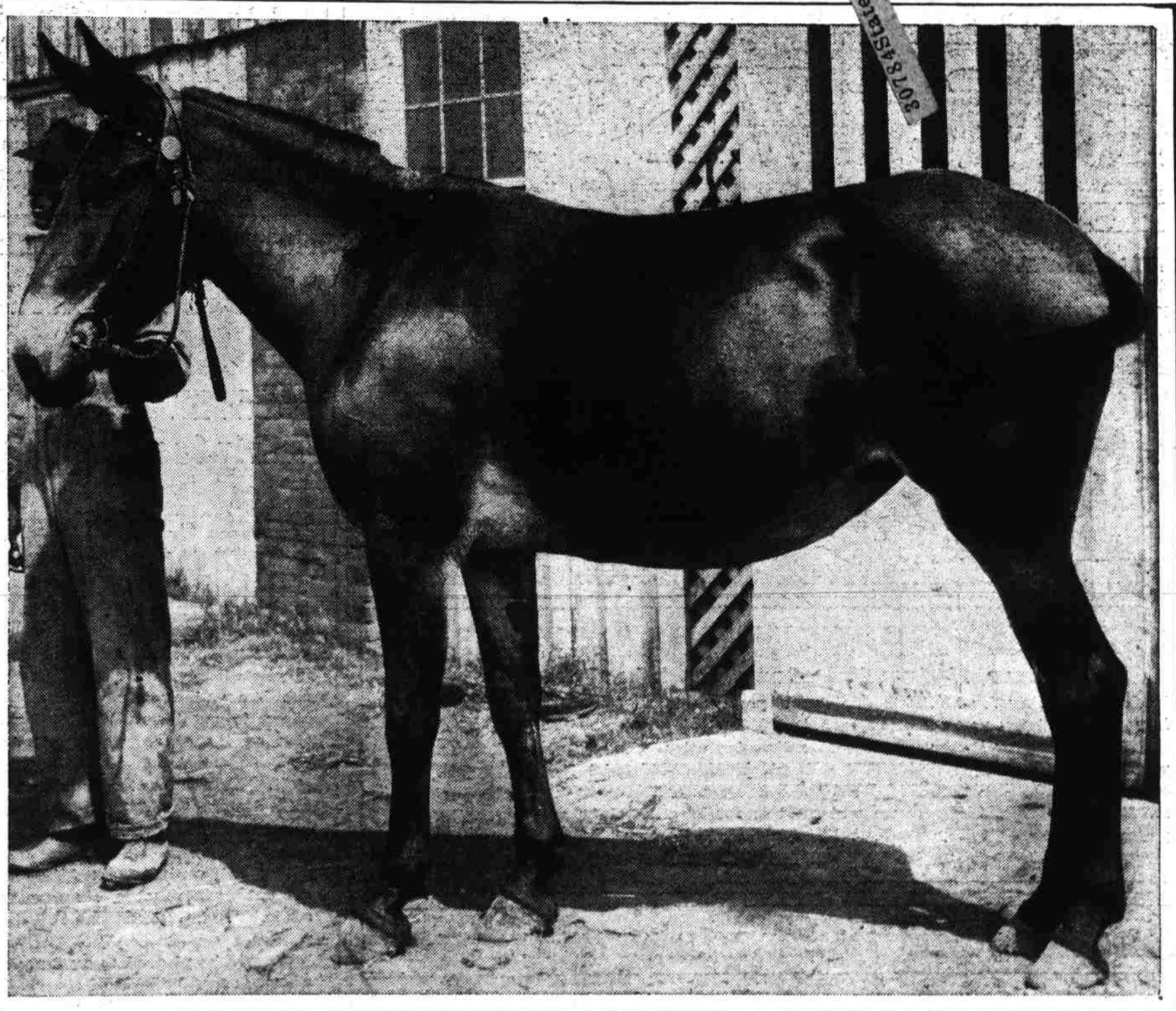
Cotton seed have not been used for feeding horses and mules, but a few pounds a day—two or three—would probably be of value, especially for idle, mature animals or those doing slow work, and might take the place of as many pounds of corn.

Cotton seed, like cottonseed meal, is not a suitable feed for hogs, except for a short period—three or four weeks. If the cotton seed are cooked they are probably made more palatable for most animals, and possibly may be fed in slightly larger quantities than raw seed without causing scouring or other disturbances of the digestive functions.

Since the seed are large and soft, it is not probable that they are increased in feeding value by grinding or crushing.

When three pounds of cotton seed can be exchanged for as much as two pounds of cottonseed meal we advise making the trade, unless the expense of hauling the seed and meal is considerable. Unless enough meal in excess of this proportion can be obtained to pay for the hauling, we advise feeding cattle as much as one-half pound of cotton seed for every 100 pounds of the animal's weight. It is not best to feed much cottonseed meal in addition to the amount of seed suggested; but a little may be added, especially to mature dry or beef cattle.

Some believe that cooking, soaking and souring cotton seed make them harmless for hogs; but this is not entirely correct. As stated, such treatment may make it possible to feed a little larger quantity for a longer period, but it is doubtful if cotton seed, no matter how



MORE EVIDENCE THAT THE SOUTH CAN GROW GOOD LIVESTOCK  
Four-year-old mule out of a Clyde mare, raised at Mississippi A. & M. College. This mule weighed 1250 lbs. at four years, and sold for \$250

treated, should form more than one-third the ration of a hog, or be fed for more than four weeks.

While the oil in the seed has a feed value, to the extent that oil can be used in the ration, it has no fertilizer value and, therefore, the best use to which the large amount of oil in cotton seed can be put is to extract it and use as human food. The meal contains more oil than is needed in a ration for livestock, even after the oil mills have taken out all that is practicable under present milling processes. If, therefore, the mills will give enough meal, over 1350 pounds, for a ton of seed, to pay for hauling the seed to market and the meal back to the farm, we advise the farmer to exchange his seed for meal and feed meal instead of seed.

Dry cattle may be well wintered on cotton seed and roughage; especially if the roughage be half silage and the other half legume hay, or if the roughage be half legume hay and the other half corn stover or some grass hay.

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