

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

AND SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

A Farm and Home Journal for  
The Carolinas, Virginia, Georgia, and Florida.

FOUNDED 1886, AT RALEIGH, N. C.



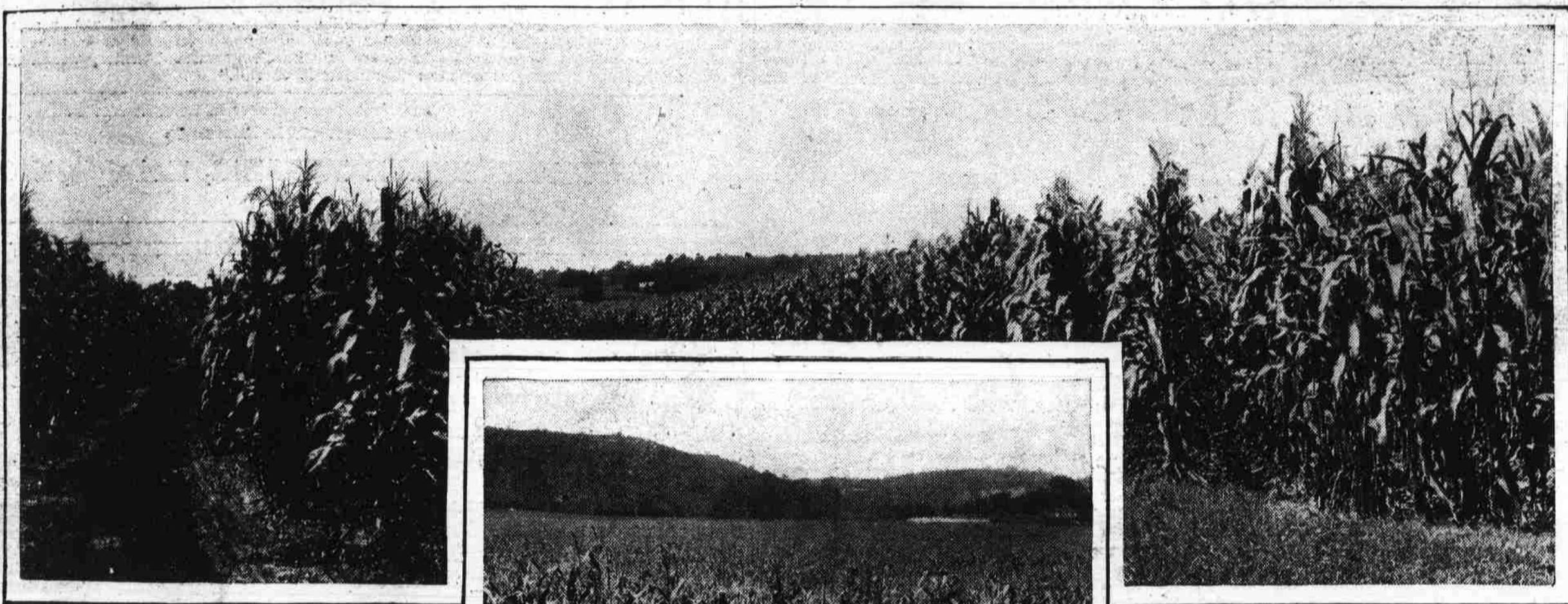
Reg'd U.S. Pat Office

Vol. XXX. No. 2.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1915.

\$1 a Year; 5c. a Copy

## ARE YOU STILL FARMING POOR LAND?



The larger picture is of a South Carolina field of 100 acres that made 100 bushels of corn per acre; the smaller, a North Carolina field of 29 acres that made 2400 bushels. Such extremely large yields may not be practicable, but we must practically double our present average if we are to make our farm operations pay.

WE just can't resist whenever an opportunity affords to impress the overwhelming importance of rich land to Southern farmers, and farmers everywhere, for that matter. The problem of bringing the rural South into its own is a big, many-sided one—a problem requiring plenty of straight thinking and hard work; of education and training for the coming generation; of better methods of buying and selling; of a more adequate system of rural credits.

But after all has been said, we doubt if any phase of the problem is of more vital importance than that of applying generally over the South the knowledge that will make our lands rich and enable us to double and treble present yields. We have said before, and we believe it is worth repeating, that "no country with a rich soil, if owned by the men who till it, is ever in danger of serious financial loss or business calamity." On the other hand, a land of gullied fields and impoverished soils is always a land of low yields, of tumble-down, inadequate farm buildings, poor schools, bad roads, and a generally down-at-the-heel attitude toward community betterment and progress of every kind.

This problem of getting and keeping rich land is a fundamental one—a problem upon the intelligent solution of which rests in very large measure the individual success and well being of every man dependent upon the soil for a living. Until we tackle this problem with a determination to win, with the intelligently applied information that will enable us to double our present average yields, we need expect no great and permanent advance in Southern agriculture.

How shall we make our lands rich and keep them so? What are the steps we can and must take to do this most quickly and

economically? Largely the problem is necessarily a local and individual one, and the methods and practices applied must be adjusted to fit each farm; but, as is brought out in our "Diversification and Independence" article this week, the farmer who would have rich land quickest and at least expense must at once adopt the plan of at least one soil-improving crop for each non-soil-improving crop grown and sold. When this has been done, and not be-

fore, the foundation will have been laid for an enduring system of agriculture.

What does this mean? Simply that we, each and every one, must see to it, beginning this year, that every possible acre is kept busy winter and summer growing soil-building crops. If all your 1914 cotton fields that are to be in cultivated crops this year are now covered with crimson clover, bur clover or vetch; if all your lands now in oats or other small grain are to grow peas, beans or clover following the grain; and if peas, beans or peanuts are to be planted in all your corn middles this summer, then you're on the highroad to rich lands, big yields, and maximum profits. If not,—well, frankly, you're falling short of your opportunities.

With the coming of the New Year, think over these things, Mr. Progressive Farmer. Has not the time come when you can no longer afford to be a poor-land farmer—when you can no longer afford to work an acre of land for fifteen bushels of oats or corn or one-half bale of cotton? If you agree, then we suggest that never again will there be a better time than right now for beginning the changed system which will make such yields a thing of the past.

DON'T FAIL TO READ—		Page
Begin Dragging the Roads Now . . . . .		4
Have a Farmers' Club in Every Community . . . . .		11
How Mecklenburg County Got Full Value for Its Cotton Seed . . . . .		16
North Carolina Stock Breeders Meet . . . . .		9
Silos a Necessity . . . . .		8
Some Papers We Recommend . . . . .		11
Ten Health Commandments for the New Year . . . . .		12
The Negro and Southern Farm Life . . . . .		6
The Soil-Building Farmer Is the Man Who Wins . . . . .		7
What Is Selected Seed Corn Worth? . . . . .		3
What Is Your Income? . . . . .		10