

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER

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PLANT A BIG PATCH OF WATERMELONS



"KING BY THE GRACE OF GOD"

Courtesy North and South Magazine.

LAST summer a city woman was talking of her visit to the country; "And the wonderful things we had to eat," she said, "Great, red-hearted, luscious watermelons, with a crisp freshness we had never found in melons bought in town; cantaloupes that melted in your mouth; and bushels of peaches, figs and grapes. I simply didn't know it was possible to have so many good things to eat as our friends in the country have."

While it is easily possible for practically every Southern farm family to enjoy all these good things and many others besides, how many of us as a matter of fact *do* enjoy them? How many farms have two or three plantings of watermelons and cantaloupes furnishing a succession of delicious melons from July until October? How many have peaches ripening from May until fall, or grapes of different varieties, strawberries, dewberries, plums, apples, pears, figs and a host of other delici-

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ous fruits that help make farm life worth living?

We would have the rural South famous not only for its flowers and pretty homes, but for its good things to eat as well. If all the good things we have mentioned, along with many others as well, are not contributing to the joys of living on our farms, let's plan now not to let another year pass without them. Above all, let's plan for an abundance of watermelons, the king of all fruits, of which Mark Twain has happily said:

"The true Southern watermelon is a boon apart, not to be mentioned with commoner things. It is chief of this world's luxuries, king by grace of God over all the fruits of the earth. When one has tasted it, he knows what the angels eat. It was not a Southern watermelon that Eve took; we know it because she repented."