

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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THE SORT OF WORK HORSES WESTERN FARMERS USE.

As a part of our campaign for larger work horses on Southern farms, we are glad to present herewith a picture of an Iowa farmer's team, "ready for the disc harrow," as he says. Wouldn't any farmer anywhere feel prouder and step faster to have a quartet of such splendid looking animals?

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Why Southern Farmers Should Raise Their Own Work Stock.

We want our readers to think again over the interesting observations of Mr. Lutts, of Norwalk, Ohio, published two weeks ago. His entire letter contrasting farming conditions North and South is full of stimulating suggestions, but especially do we ask our readers to mark again his striking words about raising colts in the South:

The absence of horses and the excessive number of mules in the South was another noticeable feature to me and one which could not possibly accrue to the best interests of the farmers of the South, if the conditions are anything like they are at the North. In making a comparison an exaggerated statement sometimes serves to bring out a point that would otherwise be lost, and if the following is an exaggeration it makes a strong point in favor of the horse on the Southern farm: A fairly good pair of four-year-old mules is worth \$500 and with good care they should be worth \$500 at the end of five years. A fairly good pair of four-year-old mares is worth \$500, but at the end of five years these mares and their

colts should have a cash value about as follows:

One pair work mares, still worth.....	\$500.00
One pair four-year-old colts.....	500.00
One pair three-year-old colts.....	300.00
One pair two-year-old colts.....	200.00
One pair one-year-old colts.....	100.00

Total value at end of five years...\$1,600.00

This is not necessarily an argument for the exclusion of mules, for mule colts may be substituted in the table above without material change in the figures, but it is a tremendously convincing argument in favor of raising work-stock on the farms of the South. Professor Massey states the case effectively on his page this week:

Mules are probably as good work animals as can be had on the Southern farms, but keeping mules only means that they must be bought out of the cotton crop, and there is no reason why the Southern farmer should not keep mares and raise his own mules.