

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

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A FARM AND HOME WEEKLY FOR THE CAROLINAS, VIRGINIA, TENNESSEE, AND GEORGIA.

Vol. XXIV. No. 2.

RALEIGH, N. C., FEBRUARY 18, 1909.

Weekly: \$1 a Year.

## A BETTER GARDEN AS A GUIDE POST TO "\$500 MORE A YEAR."



[Courtesy S. L. Allen & Co.]

**D** ID YOU ever think that it is the farmer, above all other men, who should have the finest products of the soil for his own use, who is most entitled to live upon the fat of the land?

Every month in the year, and almost every day in the month, there should be on the farmer's table fruit or vegetables of his own raising—the freshest and choicest fruit and vegetables, too, because they were raised at home and gathered for immediate use or put up in the most wholesome and appetizing style.

Yet there are thousands of farmers' families who live almost from year's end to year's end on pork or bacon, corn-bread and molasses, with potatoes, collards, dried beans, and maybe blackberries in season to furnish the variety to their food. Now all these things just mentioned are good; but they should be only the beginning of the farmer's list of garden products. More fruit and vegetables not only mean smaller store bills, but better digestion and better general health, which always means greater happiness as well.

We had something to say last week about the tools which would help you to make a better garden; and our illustration shows gardening that is done in the most up-to-date manner. Good tools are a great help to good gardening, as are also good seed and good books; but the first essential, we believe, is a

good plot of ground enclosed by a good fence so that chickens, pigs and other marauders cannot get into it. If you have not such a garden, get to work right now and fix one. It will be one of the most profitable investments you have made in a long time. Then when you have made it, consult your wife and children about what you shall plant, read Professor Massey's directions for having something fresh EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR—and go to work to have it.

If you raise more than you can eat, there is likely to be a good market for it right at your door, and if there isn't here are instructions on page 5 for canning the surplus so that you can have tomatoes and beans and corn and peas and beets and fruits all next winter. If there should, by a lucky chance, be more of these than you can consume at home, there is a market waiting in every town in the land for really first-class canned products.

A farm is scarcely worthy of the name without a good garden; and the modern garden combines the old-fashioned variety of things good—vegetables and fruits, and herbs and flowers—with long, straight and easily-worked rows and improved labor-saving machinery.

Such a garden will not only help toward that "\$500 More a Year," but will mean, as we have suggested, better meals, better health, and an increased satisfaction in farm life.

HAVE SOMETHING FROM THE GARDEN EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR—make that your motto. With orchard and garden properly looked after, every farmer ought to live like a king, and it is his own fault if he doesn't. Resolve now on more fruits and vegetables for 1909, and then "eat all you can, and can all you can't."

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### Get Ready to Farm Right this Year.

**W**E SAID a few weeks ago that if you meant to make that "\$500 More" this year—and of course you do mean to make it—it is time for you to be about it. You can't wait until the year is half gone and then start it and do it. It will require, not a spasmodic effort or two, but a well thought-out plan for better farming. That is why we keep urging you to begin right to lay out a crop rotation, to get better seed, to learn how to purchase fertilizers, to get better implements, to make a good garden, and so on.

And as this is our "Fruit and Vegetable Special," we wish to call your attention this week to some of the things you need to make more money out of your garden and orchard along with the rest of your farm.

You can't grow a good garden from poor seeds. "The best are the cheapest" here, as surely as anywhere else in the world. You need seeds of improved varieties, no doubt, and of a good many vegetables that you have been neglecting. Of course, too, you need some improved cotton seed and some carefully selected corn. These are the big things and must not be forgotten; although

of almost, if not quite, equal importance are the legumes, cowpeas, soy beans, etc. You simply cannot make that \$500 more this year if you neglect the legumes. They are the very cornerstone of a prosperous agriculture.

Coming back to the garden, you should all the while be setting out some cabbage plants; and every year it should be a rule on the farm to put out a few fruit trees. You will need some strawberry plants, too, unless you have a supply at home specially raised to set out; and some grapes, and dewberries—in fact, a supply of all the small fruits.

When you have read what Mr. Woodham says on page 19 about hedges you may want one; at any rate, you will want some bulbs and flower seeds and shrubbery for planting about the house and along the walks. Then, as you are going to have a better garden this year, there is likely to be a surplus of products which may be canned for next winter, in which case it will pay you handsomely to investigate the canning outfits advertised in this issue.

Better farming demands better equipment, and we must have the equipment, "because," like Br'er Rabbit, we are "jist obleeged" to have that \$500 more.