

★ FRUIT, TRUCK AND VEGETABLES ★

WINTER LETTUCE.

It Can Be Grown in Cold Frames as Well as in a Greenhouse.

I want to raise more lettuce on a larger scale. I have been raising some very fine of the Big Boston variety in hot beds. I was thinking of building a hothouse 60 feet long, with a flue to go up one side and come down the other, side and enter the chimney about where it entered to go into the house, so that the smoke and draft go up together. Or would it be better for me to build a furnace on a hill side and have hot bed with frames over with a line of tiles to pass through under the center to furnish heat instead of using manure? C. F. Y.

Rowan Co., N. C.

(Answer by Prof. W. F. Massey)

I fear that you will not succeed in growing good lettuce in a hothouse in your climate heated with a smoke flue. A very skillful man might manage it on benches, but it would take constant care to prevent too much heat to make good head lettuce, and the smoke flue for heating greenhouses is a poor and troublesome contrivance, and is out of date altogether. I know all about heating greenhouses from long experience, and have years ago used the flues, and know that they are a troublesome contrivance. The only proper way to heat a greenhouse is with a boiler and hot water pipes, or with a very large house, with steam. Of course this costs more in the first place.

The difficulty in growing lettuce in greenhouses in the South is the difficulty in keeping the house cool enough after a cold night followed by bright sun. But you do not need a greenhouse nor a hot bed to grow lettuce. All you need is good glass sashes and a rich soil in frames in a sheltered place, and some straw mats to cover the glass in cold nights. Then by attention to airing by slipping down the sashes according to the weather, you can grow the finest lettuce. I have grown lettuce in cold frames on a large scale years ago in northern Maryland, where it is much colder than with you.

Fertilizing Pecans—Winter Cover Crop.

Will you please answer the following questions: (1) What is the best fertilizer for pecans, and how and when to apply? (2) What is the best hay crop to sow in fall after peavine hay, which will come off in plenty time to be followed by corn? W. C. S.

(Answer by Prof. W. F. Massey.)

The best thing for pecans is stable

GROW A FRUIT ORCHARD

At a Small Cost.

Whether a small home orchard or on a commercial scale, our free catalogue will assist you.

ARCADIA NURSERIES, MONTICELLO, Fla.

PECAN

TREES. BEST VARIETIES. SPECIAL LOW PRICES

BEAR'S NURSERIES, PALATKA, FLA.

manure and acid phosphate. In the absence of manure use any high-grade fertilizer mixture, spreading it where the limbs reach, for the feeding roots are out where the limbs extend.

Sow crimson clover at rate of 15 pounds of seed per acre on the pea stubble after a light disking. If clover has never been grown on the land, get soil from a field where it has been grown successfully and scatter a barrel per acre before sowing the seed and harrow it in. This will inoculate the soil. Cut the clover for hay as soon as in bloom in April, or you can let it die on the land and turn all under for corn and make a fine crop planted in May. You have plenty of time to make a crop of corn planted in June, and the best use of the clover is to improve the land. Oats sown with the clover will make an improvement for hay and make it more easily cured.

Picking and Keeping Winter Apples.

Messrs. Editors: This is our "off year" for apples. We have a few, however, and these we have to store up rather early. For a while we had a very wet season, and then later we have extremely dry weather, and these extremes are not good for the fruit.

About a week ago, I was up at the Blue Ridge and noticed that some of the best late fruit is falling a little too early. Some that are engaged in handling late fruit do not seem to know that we are obliged to take better care about handling our fall apples during September than when handling the winter apples after cold weather comes on. Of late we have had very warm weather, and since the fall apples are about all falling from the trees we try to save them, out in handling the slightest bruises cause them to rot.

Fruit stored up before frost should be handled with especial care. Of course, the late winter apples should all be handled so as to not get bruised, but in a few days we can expect cold or frosty weather, and then where apples get a little bruised, but are kept cold, the bruises are apt to get dry and the apples still keep, if kept cold.

This morning, September 25th, we have cold weather and slight frost near the streams—and we are glad for the frost on account of the needed cold to preserve the fruit at hand.

It is fashionable to have shelves in cellars and storage houses to spread out apples and such like things, but I have learned that drawers, or boxes arranged like drawers, do much better. Put these shallow boxes up in frames or tiers at the sides or ends of the storage rooms, and by their use they will prove up for themselves. We can, by such a contrivance, put twice as much fruit, spread out, in a cellar or storage room as if the shelves are used. Slender crates are good to use as drawers. I have both.

W. F. GRABS.

Stokes Co., N. C.

Keeping Manure in Heaps.

I am truck farming, and have purchased a lot of manure from the livery stables in town, and as my land is all in growing crops am obliged to pile manure in heap until crop is harvested, which will be a month or more yet. How can I keep it from heating? I bought this manure for \$1 per two-horse load, delivered. It is as good quality

as the average livery manure. Have I made a good investment? E. C. M.

(Answer by Prof. W. F. Massey.)

You are fortunate in getting the manure for \$1 delivered, for our truckers pay \$2.75 for New York manure delivered at railroad station. Pile it in a broad flat pile, and let the teams drive over the pile. Make the pile not over three feet high and broad and flat. Then by throwing water on it, and having a basin of soil around the heap you can keep the drainage thrown back on it and rot the manure very nicely, though there will be some loss always, but in truck crops you can afford this better than in general farming.

Farm Values and Good Roads.

It is said that in Jackson County, Ala., the price of farm land has risen from \$6 to \$15 an acre, and in Bradley County, Tennessee, it has doubled since the building of good roads in those localities. Men seeking farms prefer those that are located on good roads and will pay higher prices for them. With the progress that is being made in the establishment of good roads and in the knowledge of their advantage to the owners of farms, the time will soon come when it will be difficult to find purchasers, at any decent price, for farms which are not so located.—Charlotte Observer.

Our advertisers are guaranteed.

WINCHESTER
Repeating Shotguns

ENDORSED by the U. S. Ordnance Board. The choice of over 450,000 Sportsmen. Used by Charles G. Spencer, who led all other trap shooters in 1908 with the unprecedented record of 96.77% for 11,175 targets; and by five out of the first eight men for the year. Winchester Shotguns are safe, sure, strong and simple; they are

THE REPEATERS THAT OUTSHOOT ALL OTHERS.



PAINT TALKS No. 12
Painting for Winter Protection

Buildings needing protection should be painted in the fall, when surfaces are dry and in ideal condition for painting. Farm implements, too, should be painted at this time.

It is the frequent moistening and drying-out which takes place in winter and spring that is the greatest cause of decay in wood.

Rusting of unpainted metal parts is too well known to dwell on.

Add years of life to your buildings and implements by giving them a coat or two of Pure White Lead and Linseed Oil (tinted as desired). And do it this fall.

Pure White Lead paint does not scale off, but wears down gradually.



Your Guarantee of White Lead Purity is the Dutch Boy Painter Trade Mark. Buy of your local dealer if possible. If he hasn't it—do not accept something else—write our nearest office.

Read about our Houseowner's Painting Outfit in NATIONAL LEAD COMPANY

An office in each of the following cities: New York Boston Buffalo Cincinnati Chicago Cleveland St. Louis (John T. Lewis & Bros. Co. Philadelphia) (Nat'l Lead & Oil Co. Pittsburgh)

Painting Outfit Free

We have prepared a little package of things bearing on the subject of painting which we call House-owners' Painting Outfit No. 13. It includes:

- 1—Book of color schemes (state whether you wish interior or exterior schemes).
- 2—Specifications for all kinds of painting.
- 3—Instrument for detecting adulteration in paint material, with directions for using it.

Free on request to any reader who asks for House-owners' Painting Outfit No.