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The South Should Double Its Fall Grain Acreage

WITH a practical certainty that wheat next year will sell for \$2 a bushel or better, and with prices of other grain crops almost certain to be correspondingly high, we believe the South may very profitably double its small grain acreage this fall.

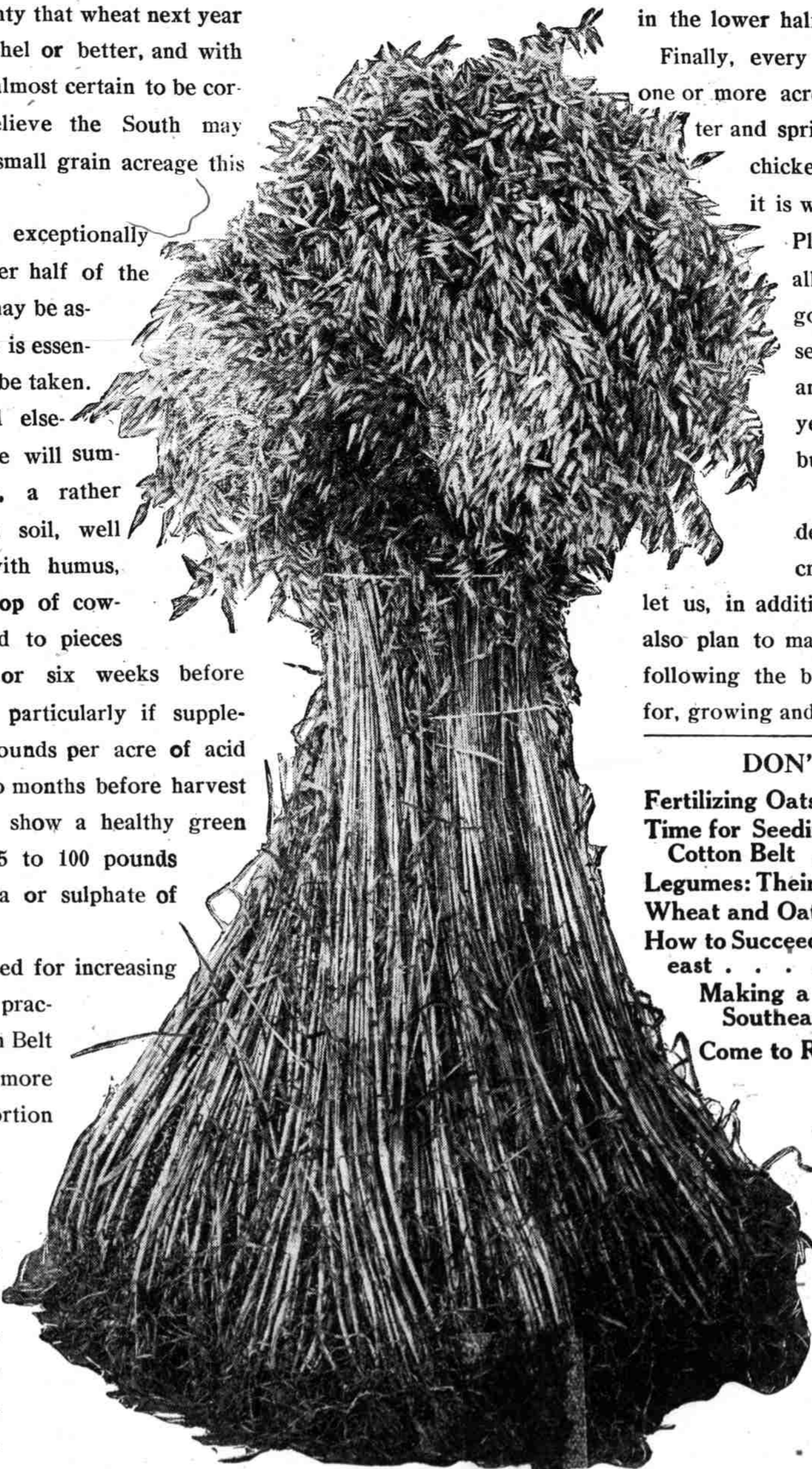
Wheat promises to pay exceptionally well, especially in the upper half of the Cotton Belt. But that we may be assured of profitable yields, it is essential that certain precautions be taken. These are given in detail elsewhere in this issue, but we will summarize them here. First, a rather strong clay or clay loam soil, well drained and well filled with humus, should be selected. A crop of cow-peas or velvet beans disked to pieces and plowed under five or six weeks before planting will help greatly, particularly if supplemented with 200 to 300 pounds per acre of acid phosphate. Then about two months before harvest time, if the plants do not show a healthy green color, an application of 75 to 100 pounds per acre of nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia should be made.

There is even greater need for increasing our oat acreage, because (1) practically all parts of the Cotton Belt are suited to oats; and (2) more oats will release a larger portion of our corn crop for human consumption. What we have said in regard to preparation and fertilization of wheat applies also to the oat crop. It should be added that to avoid winter-killing oats should be planted early—in September in the upper half of the Cotton Belt and in October

in the lower half.

Finally, every farmer in the South should plant one or more acres of Abruzzi rye for fall, winter and spring grazing. For cattle, hogs and chickens we believe it has no equal, and it is well suited to all parts of the South. Planted in September, it may generally be depended upon to furnish good grazing before Christmas. If seed seem high-priced, plant at least an acre for a seed patch, and next year have seed to sell instead of to buy.

Both patriotism and self-interest demand that the South largely increase its acreage of fall-sowed grain; let us, in addition to planning for a big acreage, also plan to make a record crop by learning and following the best possible methods in preparing for, growing and harvesting the crop.



SOUTHERN FARMERS SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO GROW A RECORD OAT CROP THE COMING YEAR.

DON'T FAIL TO READ—Page

Fertilizing Oats and Wheat	3
Time for Seeding Oats and Wheat in the Cotton Belt	3
Legumes: Their Place in Land Improvement	4
Wheat and Oats: Practical Suggestions	4
How to Succeed With Wheat in the Southeast	5
Making a Success With Oats in the Southeast	5
Come to Raleigh Week After Next	10
Free Farmers' Bulletins Every Farmer Should Get	10
Wheat, Oats and Rye: Making Them Pay	10
Ask Your County Commissioners for the Cotton Grading Service	11
Find Out About Forest Products Prices	11
Summer Complaint in Children	12
Odd Jobs for Local Unions	15