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PREPARING LAND FOR THE FALL GRAIN CROP

Much of the success of the crop depends on the condition of the seed bed and on the fall growth. A seed bed should be prepared with about three inches of loose mellow surface soil and a firm subsoil.

MAKE FALL-SOWED OATS A SAFE CROP

SINCE fall-sowed oats make so much better yields throughout the South than do spring-sowed oats, and oat production is of such importance to the South, no effort should be spared to make fall oats a safe crop in practically every section of the South.

But certain requirements as to choice of variety, time of seeding, rate of seeding, and method of seeding must be met. Failure to meet one or more of these requirements has been responsible for untold failures in fall-oat growing. Protection from winter-killing cannot be assured unless all these requirements are met.

Strict observance of the following points will practically assure a successful crop of fall oats:—

(1) Provide a loose, mellow seed bed about three inches deep, and with a firm subsoil.

(2) Along the northern border of the Cotton Belt sow Winter

Turf oats. Farther south sow Fulghum or one of the Red Rust-proof varieties.

(3) Along the northern border of the Cotton Belt finish sowing by October 15 or 20. Farther south finish before October 31.

(4) Clean the seed well, and sow at the rate of two and one-half bushels per acre.

(5) Sow with the grain drill. Sow about two and one-half or three inches deep, and leave the furrows open. Do not use drag chains. If a grain drill is not available sow in open furrows. Do not broadcast.

(6) Fertilize according to the needs of the soil. The phosphorus fertilizer should be applied at time of seeding. The nitrogen fertilizer, nitrate of soda, or sulphate of ammonia, should be applied as a top-dressing about March.