

# Farm Department

Devoted to the Interests of Those Engaged in Agricultural Pursuits. Conducted by J. M. Deay

**RYE IN THE POTATO PATCH.**

If you have a potato patch where you cannot turn your hogs after the potatoes are dug then it will pay you to sow rye on the ground. When you are ready to dig the potatoes go over and sow the rye broadcast over the vines and then dig the potatoes. In a week or two you will have a pretty stand of rye which will afford good grazing for your stock, besides furnishing vegetable matter to improve the land. If you cannot graze stock on the rye you can plow it in the ground when it is three to four inches high.

If you think you might want to cut the rye with a mower it would be well to go over the ground with a disc harrow just after the potatoes are removed from the ground. For several years we have sown rye after potatoes and feel sure it has always paid. If hogs are to root the potato patch it would hardly pay to sow it as they would tear it up too much. Be sure to sow some rye somewhere for the winter and spring grazing of your stock.

### Spreading Manure in the Fall.

While we must handle the manure at all seasons of the year, fall manure-spreading is, without doubt, the most propitious for ideal results.

Usually, the fields which will be turned under this fall or next spring, are now in stubble or sod, and if the manure be spread before the ground freezes, it will work into the soil and begin the work of rejuvenation this fall.

Another big advantage of hauling out the manure this fall, is, that it will give up to the soil on which it lies, the rich juices and liquids that would leach away during the winter if it is left in heaps around the barn.

Much of the most beneficial part of manure thus is lost.

It is not advisable to spread manure on the surface of a bare field, such as a corn-field where the product was cut for fodder, as there is nothing to hold the manure particles and prevent their being washed away by the late, fall rains and the water from melting snows later on. The liquids also are more liable to leach away on the bare fields; while the alternate freezing and thawing are other agencies we must consider.

The fall season is the only one in which to spread manure on the meadow. The stubble and the growth since mowing, will retain all particles of manure, as well as the liquids; while the alternate freezing and thawing of the soil during the winter, will work the rejuvenating components of the manure into the very texture of the sod, where it will be ready to wield its greatest influence on next season's growth of grass as soon as spring opens up. On the other hand, manure spread over the meadow in the spring, will be productive of very little good, since the spring and summer rains, together with the effect of the sun's rays, will destroy and wash away much of the richest fertilizing elements contained in the manure.

Where one uses a manure spreader in applying the manure there will be no necessity for further handling, but if it is hauled out in a wagon, by hand, it will be impossible to secure an even distribution of the fertilizer by scattering it with a fork; in which case, pay little attention to an even distribution while unloading; then, after several loads have been scattered, hitch to the harrow and harrow the field both lengthwise and crosswise till the manure-particles are thoroughly pulverized and evenly distributed over the surface of the soil. Again, where one must haul the manure in a wagon, let it be in a low, wide-tire wagon, so that the meadow-sod will not be cut up by the heavy loads.

There is still another great advantage in hauling and spreading manure in the fall. It is done at a season in which there is little else that can be done; when the farmer and his teams are practically idle. Then, the weather will not be disagreeable as in the spring, and one can stand the labor better now than when it begins to warm up next season. Besides, the present manure supply, collected during the summer will be more or less scattered before next spring, if left in the heap, and will be harder to gather up. Then, too, most farmers know by experience that the manure left lying around till next spring, is more than liable to be right there through next summer since the rush work of the season often claims one's attention at the very time he should be hauling out and spreading the manure on his soil that is fast falling in fertility conducive to profitable crop production.—M. Coverdell, in Indiana Farmer.

### For Bread.

Nothing is further from our mind than an attempt to tell the lady readers of the Ruralist how to make bread. We only hope to throw out a few suggestions which may possibly result in more bread.

Although bread may be made from many materials, wheat bread is the standard of the world. All others—corn bread, rye bread, oat bread, barley bread—are mere substitutes or apologies. When the one word "bread" is used the first thought is always of wheat bread. This is true in the South where corn is so largely used for making certain kinds of, or substitutes for, bread. It is equally true in Germany, where rye bread comes so near to being the staff of life.

We shall first attempt to remove several common misconceptions concerning wheat growing in the South. Then we hope to present some important reasons for the growing of more wheat in this section of country.

Misconceptions: The belief is very common among Southerners that wheat does not thrive in warm climates, and therefore is not adapted to the cotton states. Yet these very people have in their possession positive proof of their error. They know that the lands of Bible history all possessed warm climates. The "corn" of the Bible was wheat. It was really for wheat that the brothers of Joseph went down into Egypt. There in the valley of the Nile wheat is today, as it has been for thousands of years, a staple crop.

The plant came originally from the valley of the Euphrates. In the mild climate of India it is still grown both for home use and for export.

In Europe the chief wheat growing countries—France, Italy and Austria—are those with mildest climates.

The plain fact is that wheat is not naturally a cold climate plant. It possesses wonderful climatic adaptation—possibly more so than any other staple crop—and therefore survives in cold climates though preferring more mild regions. Clay soils, or loams with clay subsoils, in sections with moderate winter frosts, are most perfectly adapted to wheat. These conditions make the cotton states almost ideal for wheat growing.

The next most common error concerning wheat in the South is that its cultivation here could not be profitable.

It must be remembered that the mere selling price of a crop does not determine the profit of that crop. Three hundred pounds of lint cotton and 600 pounds of seed from an acre are to-day worth about \$56.00. Twenty bushels of wheat from the same land would bring \$20.00.

When it is remembered that all of the cultivation, much of the fertilizing and all of the picking expense is avoided with wheat it is easily seen that the direct profit from wheat is to-day nearly as great as with cotton.

There are indirect profits fully as important. These are more properly considered under our next division.

Advantages of Wheat: This crop occupies the land only a part of the year. In our climate another full crop can always be made on wheat land. It can be successfully sown on cotton and other stubble land between rows of standing crops. It supplies a much needed cover crop, protecting soils from washing during winter. It may be sown with a legume like Japan clover, which does not interfere with the wheat but improves the soil while a crop is being made. It may be followed by peas after harvest, and then a pasture crop like rape may follow the peas, so that the land is kept busy all the time and becomes the better for such use.

Aside from the mere question of profit from the crop there are other important reasons why more wheat should be produced on Southern farms.

Wheat must as a rule with us, mean fall plowing. Fall plowing means not only soil improvement. It means protection against the inevitable boll weevil which hibernates in all stubble and dead vegetation.

More wheat means more bread, and more bread means better living. The ideal bread—the real "staff of life"—is made of home-ground whole wheat flour. This comes near being a perfect human ration for growing and working human beings.

Chamberlain's Cough Remedy has become famous for its cures of coughs, colds, croup and influenza. Try it when in need. It contains no harmful substance and always gives prompt relief. Sold by Hood Bros.

Women are not permitted to be photographed in China.

### The Care of Farm Implements.

Franklin's old maxim, "A place for everything, and everything in its place" is a golden rule on the farm.

Farmers get on badly who have new tools and implements to buy every year. A cross-cut saw that rusts out in one year, if left on the log where last used, would last a lifetime if carried to the shelter and hung up in a dry place. The same is true in principle of all else with which the farmer carries on his work.

A rusty implement is not only partially decayed, but rendered less fit for use. The rusty saw runs hard; the rusty square is hard to read; rusty steel-yards or rusty scales will not weigh accurately; the rusty auger will not cut without great pressure; the rusty plow balls up for a half-day before it will turn the furrow; the rusty spade or shovel is four times as hard to use as a clean one. And so on, through the list.

Wooden handles of all sorts will rot if exposed to the weather, in shady places or in the grass or dirt. And everything, in iron or steel, is damaged by corrosion.

What then is more natural than the ruin of mowers, binders, windmills, harrows, plows, wagons, bugles, and all manner of machines that are allowed to lie about the stable lots, or in the fence corners on the farm?

So the commonest economy would suggest the provision of adequate shelter. On an ordinarily well furnished farm, it would pay to build a "home" for the tools.

Make it large enough for storing them all, so distributed that any one of them can be found without climbing over or removing the others. All polished steel surfaces, put away for the season, should have a coat of oil or varnish; and wooden surfaces are much improved by a coat of paint. There is always some moisture in warm air; and, as the implements, indoors, are a little cooler than the outer air, they will incline to condense this moisture; producing a coating of dew. Varnish or oil will keep this dew off the edges of the implements, and so protect them from rusting.

One caution, especially, I will presume to offer. A mere shelter is not enough. The shelter should be a building with a floor; not a shed. It is almost as important to keep out the damp currents and the snow driven in by them as it is to shelter them from the rain. So "side up" the house and shut out all water.

The shed is too convenient a place for fowls. I have seen binders literally plastered over by the droppings of roosting chickens. This is not only very unsightly but it is harmful, and not good for the birds themselves. I once knew of a hen that roosted in an old shop where a scythe blade had been put away. She closed her toes against the edge of the blade in such a manner as to sever an artery in one of her toes. She lingered on the roost until she slowly bled to death. Chickens and tools do not belong in the same room.

So much for the general care of unused implements, during the period when they are not in use.

They should be cared for quite as well when used every day. No spade, shovel, hoe, plow or cultivator should be set away over night with dirt sticking to its surface. If it cannot be scraped off with a paddle, wash it off. Put it away clean. Keep hatches, axes, saws, chisels, grass-hooks, plows,—all edge-tools—sharp. Time and strength should not be wasted in using a dull tool. Nor should we have to spend a half a day in gathering up our tools when we are ready to use them.

Some men have several places to stow implements. This is really a good plan; for it is not an easy matter to provide convenient places for all tools in one room. The binder is an unwieldy affair; and a small room may be devoted especially to it. About it can be stored many other matters, like plows, that are not to be used till the next spring. So may the spraying outfit constitute a central object in the planning of another building; and with it can be stored the ladders and general spraying paraphernalia.

It is a good education for the children to require them to put things away in order after they are used.—Walter S. Smith, in Indiana Farmer.

### Farm Hand Wages.

Raleigh, Oct. 11.—A summary of the chapter of the report of the department of labor and printing devoted to farms and labor is just issued by Commissioner of Labor and Printing M. L. Shipman and contains many features of special interest, the report being made up from special reports procured by the department from every locality in the state. The commissioner says the reports show a wholesome advance in farming in all sections of the state, with special progress in the practice of seed selection, preparation of soil, in drainage of swamp lands, measures to prevent erosion, with assurances that

progress along these lines will continue.

The commissioner commends the work he finds that the North Carolina Geological survey is doing along the line of drainage undertakings and declares that with constantly increasing values, it behooves the farmers to see to it that there are no gullies and washouts on their properties.

The reports indicate slight difference in wages or in cost of producing the various crops in different sections of the state. It is ascertained that 67 counties produce cotton at a cost of \$33.37 per bale; that 81 counties produce wheat at a cost of 72 cents per bushel; 97 grow corn at 52 cents per bushel; 95 grow oats at 31 cents per bushel; 53 grow tobacco at an average cost of \$7.40 per 100 pounds.

Increase in farm hand wages is reported in 33 counties, a decrease in one county and no change in the others. The highest average wages paid men for farm work is \$25.11 and the lowest is \$15.28, this being an increase of \$1 per month and 49 cents per month respectively. The highest average for women is found to be \$15.53, and the lowest average is \$10.11, an increase of 62 cents per month over the averages for last year's reports. Children are reported to have average wages of \$8.76, an increase 32 cents per month over last year.

As to the financial condition of the working people the reports from 17 counties show them good; 53, fair; 21, poor, and one, bad, with no report from another. Ninety-two counties report improvement in this respect.

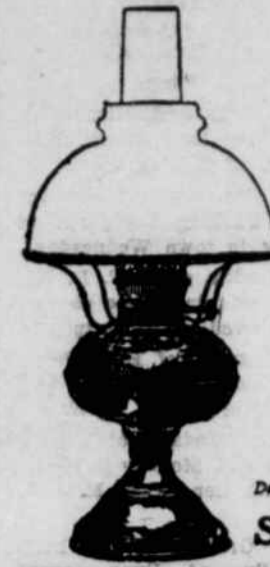
The reports from 93 counties show change toward greater diversity of crops, and 98 report improvement in methods of cultivation. Every county reports increase in the cost of living. Increase in the value of lands is reported from 93 counties and the fertility of lands maintained in 93, with general tendency toward smaller farms. Labor is reported scarce in 95 counties and negro labor unreliable in 95 counties and reliable in two.

Reports show road improvement strongly favored through taxation in 92 counties and not favored in six counties.—Greensboro News.

Women have usually better eyesight than men.

# The Famous Rayo

## Does Not Strain the Eyes



Don't use a small, concentrated light over one shoulder. It puts an unequal strain on your eyes. Use a diffused, soft, mellow light that cannot flicker, that equalizes the work of the eyes, such as the Rayo Lamp gives, and avoid eye strain.

The Rayo is designed to give the best light, and it does.

It has a strong, durable shade-holder that is held firm and true. A new burner gives added strength. Made of solid brass and finished in nickel. Easy to keep polished. The Rayo is low priced, but no other lamp gives a better light at any price.

Once a Rayo User, Always One.

Dealers Everywhere. If not at yours, write for descriptive circular to the nearest agency of the Standard Oil Company (Incorporated)

## TAXES NOW DUE

I will attend the following times and places, to collect the State, County, School and Special taxes, for the year 1910. The Privilege tax on Lawyers, Doctors and Dentists is due, and must be paid by Nov. 1st, 1910:

Monday,	Oct. 17, Bentonville Township, at Beasley.
Tuesday	Oct. 18, Meadow Township, at Peacock's X Roads
Friday,	Oct. 21, Ingram's Township, at Four Oaks.
Saturday,	Oct. 22, Banner Township, at Benson.
Monday,	Oct. 24, Pine Level Township, at Pine Level.
Tuesday,	Oct. 25, Selma Township, at Selma.
Wednesday,	Oct. 26, Wilders Township, at Archer Lodge.
Thursday,	Oct. 27, O'Neal Township, at Hare's Store.
Friday,	Oct. 28, Beulah Township, at Kenly.
Saturday,	Oct. 29, Boon Hill Township, at Princeton.
Monday,	Oct. 31, Elevation Township, at Elevation.
Tuesday,	Nov. 1, Pleasant Grove Township, at Johnson X Roads
Wednesday	Nov. 2, Cleveland Township, at Shelter.
Thursday,	Nov. 3, Clayton Township, at Clayton.
Friday,	Nov. 4, Wilson's Mills Township, at Wilson's Mills.
Saturday,	Nov. 5, Smithfield Township, at Smithfield.

Be sure to pay your taxes before January 1st, 1911. Unpaid taxes will be sent out for collection and will be subject to cost. Books will be open at Smithfield all the time.

R. M. NOWELL,  
Sheriff Johnston County.

# When You Come to Town

We want you to make Our Three Big Stores Your Headquarters

## We Will Sell You Goods as Cheap as the Cheapest

Our lines are now complete with Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Hats and Shoes, Oxford and Durham Buggies, Harness, Robes and Whips. Thornhill, Gregory and Our King Wagons. Dan Valley and Dunlop Patent Flour, Corn, Oats, Hay, Mill Feed and SEED RYE.

## FURNITURE

We have some of it too, and the Prices are RIGHT. Ask to see it and then price it. We take a pleasure in showing you, if you don't intend buying any at all. We have a few special bargains in Odd Dressers, Hall Racks and Chiffoniers at a very low price.

All Matting, and a few Tapestry and Ingrain Art Squares at Cost. These will not be on Sale very long as they must be sold. Our New Stock is arriving each day and all Summer Goods must go before.

We are, Yours to Please

# Cotter=Underwood Co.

SMITHFIELD, N. C.

# POLITICS DOES NOT AFFECT OUR BUSINESS

We are better prepared than ever to furnish the Builder's Trade with any kind of Builder's Material, Flooring, Ceiling, Sash and Doors made to order, Door and Window Frames, all kinds Builder's Hardware, Nails, Locks, Hinges, anything you need in building. We also carry a very extensive line of Cook Stoves, Ranges, Heating Stoves, Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Etc. We are receiving this week the best, and most extensive line of BELTING and MILL SUPPLIES EVER SHOWN IN JOHNSTON COUNTY.

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CLAYTON, NORTH CAROLINA.