"CIVILIZATION BEGINS AND ENDS WITH THE PLOW"

THINGS TO PLAN TO THROUGHOUT COMING YEAR

The Farmers' Day at the test farm at Swannanoa on May 17, 1928.

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Poultry loading depot with facilities for grading eggs.

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An annual poultry show.

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Monthly livestock sales.

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Farmers' own line of delivery trucks.

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Purebred sires and seeds.

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Guernsey cattle association.

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A semi-annual seed exchange day.

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A Harvest Carnival one day of the bread and butter show.

Just About the Farm

DAIRYING

Feeding Dairy Cattle

1. "Be gentle to the milk cow." It costs nothing and is very important.

2. Weigh the milk of each milking. It is the only way to deetermine how to feed and care for the dairy cow.

3. Feed each cow separately. One cow will use more feed profitably than will another.

4. Provide clean dry well-ventilated quarters.

5. A concrete floor in the stable will soon pay for itself in manure saved. It is far more sanitary and takes a great deal of the drudgery out of the dairy business.

6. Feed a balanced ration of home-grown feeds. Cottonseed meal and nulls is a very expensive feed and is not a balanced ration.

7. If you have 4 or 5 cows you should own a separator. If you have 8 or more cows you should have a silo.

8. Silage is the most satisfactory winter substitute for June pastures that we have. It increases milk flow. **It is a cheap feed. It keeps the cow** in good thrifty condition.

9. Corn stover, poor quality grass hay, cottonseed hulls, etc., are not good roughages. You can just as well [illegible] land at the same time.

10. Hay crops classified as legumes are compea, soy bean, velvet bean, alfalfa, lespedeza, red clover, vetch and oats.

11. Winter cover crops for late fall and early spring pastures are important. They are feed savers., They promote milk flow and they protect the land from winter and spring soil leaching.

12. Milk is 87 per ceent water. Water is cheap. Provide plenty of clean fresh water.

13. Use poor quality straw, spoiled hay, etc., for bedding. It makes comfortable quarters for the cow and saves the liquid manure by soaking it up. It is also a fine thing for the land when spread on with the manure.

14. Feed 3 pounds of silage per day to each 100 pounds of body weight.

15. Feed 1 pound of grain per day to each 2 1-2 to 3 pounds of milk given.

16. Feed all the roughage the cow will clean up at each feed. An 800-pound cow giving 25 pounds of 4 1-2 per cent milk per day should receive 30 pounds of silage, 14 pounds of legume hay and 8 pounds of a good grain ration.

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PASTURE

As little as we may think about it the pastures in Macon county—as sory as they are—is what's holding the county together.

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It's holding the soil fertility against leaching; holding the soil itself against washing; and very often furnishing milk to the family, thereby holding the very home together.

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After about a year and a half of a study of local conditions I am thoroughly convinced that there is no one thing that could be done that would go so far toward relieving the present—more often imaginary than not—farm situation than properly made and properly handled pastures.

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There are all kinds of pastures. Permanent pastures, temporary pastures, rotation pastures, summer pastures, and winter pastures, and there are various divisions and kinds of each of these types.

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Of course I know the hick farmer just turns his cows out somewhere and takes what the gods may send. But then he has to do something like that or he would not be a Hick Farmer.

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In addition to the above, there is pasture for cattle; pasture for horses; pasture for sheep; pasture for hogs; pasture for chickens.

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While any may be used for all and all for any, there is a difference.

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Temporary pastures are pastures used very much in the same manner as a catch crop: These pastures will come in either to fill in through the summer or early winter, or late winter as the case may be. They are composed of rye, oats, wheat, barley, rape for winter; and Lespedeza, rape, soy beans and velvet beans for summer.

Rye is grazed by all kind of livestock and is suitable for early grazing. When sown early in September, or late in August, it will be ready for grazing early in April. It should be sown 1 1-2 to 2 bushels per acre on good land, or on old pasture when the sod is too thin. And in March 10 to 20 sow lespedeza seed 16 to 25 pounds per acre, the more the better.

Mixture:

Rye 1 1-2 to 2 bushels sown in September, per acre

Lespedeza 16 to 25 pounds sown in March, per acre.

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Rotation Pasture

This is the pasture used as you would for crop rotation in soil building practices. It is generally left on the ground for one, two or three years to enrich the soil, and furnish feed at the same time. The following mixture is recommended:

Mixture for rotation pastures:

12 lbs. Orchard grass
4 lbs. Tall Meadow Oat grass
3 lbs. Timothy
3 lbs. Red Top
1 lb. White Dutch clover
5 lbs. Japan clover (lespedeza)
3 lbs. Alsike clover

31 lbs. per acre

This seems to some farmers to be rather heavy seeding, but experience says use lots of seed at the start, and get a good stand which pays best in the long run.

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Winter Pastures

Winter pastures, as the name implies, is a mixture of grasses and clovers which will "carry on" during the winter months. The mixture recommended as follows:

A good mixture for winter pastures:

For heavy clay soils

14 lbs. Orchard grass
5 lbs. Tall Oat grass
20 lbs. Kentucky Blue Grass

46 lbs. per acre.

For lighter porous subsoils that are rich

8 lbs. Orchard grass
11 lbs. Tall Meadow Oat grass
4 lbs. Alsike clover
2 lbs. White Dutch clover
12 lbs. Kentucky Blue Grass
6 lbs. English Rye grass

43 lbs. per acre.

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Permanent Pasture

The pasture that is worth more than all combined for our local conditions is permanent pasture, and until there are at least a couple of acres of permanent pasture per cow unit on every farm in Macon county the farmers of Macon county will not reach that stage of efficient production which their natural location entitles them to.

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The great slogan should be "Every hill a green hill." When you stop to figure that green grass has 50 per cent more nutriment in it than cured hay and costs 80 per cent less to produce it, you begin to see into the proposition. The following mixture is recommended for permanent pasture, and has been found to pay in actual practice high dividends:

A good mixture of grasses for permanent pasture, on good rich land:

24 lbs. Kentucky Blue Grass
10 lbs. Orchard grass
2 lbs. Tall Meadow Oat grass
3 lbs. Timothy
3 lbs. Red Top
5 lbs. Alsike
1 lb. White Dutch clover

48 lbs. per acre.

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This looks like heavy seeding ,but the best experience and not theory is back of it. It is economy to get a good stand at the start. 4 lbs. of Blue grass may be left off and 4 lbs. of Bermuda grass added where the farmer does not object to the Bermuda.

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The above mixtures, etc., may not conform with your ideas, but that is all right, for if you have an idea on the subject you are getting away ahead. The main thing is to have that idea—and then put it into practice—in the field I mean, not on a nail keg in some country store.

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POULTRY

Below is a letteer to you all from Dr. Kaupp—nuf sed. (Only you read it):

April 10, 1928.

Dear Poultryman:

The North Carolina Poultry association was again revived during the 6th Annual Poultry Short Course held in January at your State College. The next meeting will be held during the 7th Annual short course held at the college the week before Thanksgiving and we hope every poultryman and poultrywoman will attend.

If the poultry industry in North Carolina is to grow there must be maintained a state poultry association with a definite program. Those who complain that poultry don't pay will probably be found not trying to do the job in an organized way. For any industry to survive there must be a business program carried out. The organization to succeed is as follows: Community organizations to plan the work. The items to determine are: What purebred birds to keep, how many dozens eggs to produce, how many broilers to produce in fall and winter, the community hatchery, educational aid in housing, feeding, brooding, hatching, and general management. The communities come together and form county associations through which selling, buying of feeds and supplies, and storing eggs during the spring flush and a larger educational program and many other operation management problems. The county organizations join the state poultry association for the larger state program and to place a delegate on the National Poultry council. Revive the official state poultry show so that the best birds of the communities are shown at the county fairs and the best from the county fairs are sent to the state fair. To conduct the first week in May each year a National Egg week. Issue an annual breeders roster. Look after state legislative matters as freight rates. The state should be running a record of performance contest but until the poultry people organize and ask that this be done it is not likely to be put over.

Organization has made California a rich state and poultry is one of these organizations. They ship their eggs 3,000 miles acros the Nation and sell in New York maintaining an egg auction each day—a thing no other state has put over—and they are selling eggs in our own state, right under yet your state poultry [illegible] has shown you that 25 to 35 eggs more per hen per year can be produced here than at the altitude of Winnipeg, Canada. We are within 24 hours of New York where 25 per cent of the consuming population live and who consumed last year 7 millions cases of eggs. Poultry is profitable in all parts of the state as your institution has shown you. Let's wake up and do this job. Please send your name, address, and breed you keep, and what you have to sell sometime during the year inclosing $1.00 and for your county association 10 cents per member. Send to Dr. B. F. Kaupp, secretary-treasurer, N. C. Poultry Association State College Station, Raleigh, N. C. Let's not put it off—do it now and let's get going.

With kindest regards I remain,

Very truly yours,

B. F. KAUPP, Secretary-Treasurer.

BEES

Swarming—How to Prevent It

1. Why do bees swarm?

The bee colony is divided into workers, drones (or male bees), and a queen. Normally the queen alone lays eggs and to perpetuate their race new colonies are necessary. This is their natural way of increase.

swarming? ....

2. What are conditions that induce swarming?

(a) The brood chamber may be too small, allowing too little egg-laying space.

(b) There may be too little storage space.

(c) There may be lack of ventilation.

(d) There may be too many drones.

3. At what season is swarming most frequent?

Mostly in early spring, but it may occur at any time during honey flow if conditions named in No. 2 are not corrected.

4. Can swarming be entirely prevented?

No, but it can be greatly reduced by proper management.

5. Why should swarming be preventeed as far as posible?

To keep the working force together. One hive full of bees is worth more than a number of weak colonies.

6. Are there two queens in the hive at swarming time?

Generally not. The young queen has not yet come out of the queen cell. The old queen leaves with the first swarm.

7. How may swarming be reduced or possibly prevented?

(a) If the brood chamber becomes crowded, add another brood chamber.

(b) If bees cluster out, it may be due to a crowded condition, or lack of ventilation. Ventilate the hive and add supers when necessary. If possible remove drone comb and also queen cells.

8. How may a swarm be hived to best advantage? ....

(a) When the swarm has settled, shake or brush it into the new hive.

KEEP YOUR FARM AND IT WILL KEEP YOU AND YOURS

The farm pages of The Press are edited by the county agent in collaboration with the editor.

(b) Remove the old hive from which the swarm came and place it where you want it to remain in the future.

(c) Place the hive containing the new swarm on the old stand. The first bees returning home will enter the new hive on the old stand; by night the majority of bees are again in the new hive on the old stand, making a strong colony.

TRANSFERRING BEES

1. What is meant by transferring?

The changing of bees from one hive to another. The word as used by bee-keepers generally means the changing of a colony of bees from a box hive or "gum" into a modern movable frame hive.

2. Why is the hive or "gum" unsatisfactory?

(a) Honey is wasted by crude methods of harvesting.

(b) Swarming can not be controlled, and this reduces the earning power of the bees.

(c) Bees can not be properly wintered and many will die in cold weather.

(d) Bees can not be assisted nor stimulated for a honey flow.

(e) Diseases can not be controlled.

(f) Colonies can not be requeened.

3. What kind of hive is generally most satisfactory?

A standard ten-frame Langstroth hive.

4. What equipment is nesessary for transferring?

A good movable frame hive with frames and either comb or full sheet foundation or foundation starter; a smoker, a bee veil, and a store box of suitable size to invert over the box gum.

5. What steps should be followed in transferring?

(a) Remove the box gum from its old stand to a point about ten feet away, not in the line of flight.

(b) Turn the box gum up side down.

(c) place the new hive in the position on the stand from which the box gum was taken.

(d) Tear off the top of the box gum (which was the bottom before [illegible] gums have no bottom) and place the store box over the top of the inverted box gum. Smoke and drum bees at the bottom of the box gum and get them to move upward and away from the soft honey. After a few minutes they will collect in the inverted store box.

(e) Take the store box and shake the bees in front of or on the frames of the new hive on the old stand. Repeat this until nearly all of the bees have been transferred.

(f) Tear the box gum apart with as little injury to the comb as possible. With a long knife separate the comb from the hive walls. Cut large sections of brood comb to fit in the frames in the new hive and wire them into the frames.

(g) Collect all comb honey for the table or for sale. Collect all of remaining comb to render into wax.

(h) Thoroughly clean up the place after transferring, as the occurrence of loose honey may start robbing in the bee-yard.

6. At what time may bees be transferred?

At any time during honey flow; not later than eight weeks before cold weeather so that the colony may have at least eight weeks to build up for winter.

If there is any further information desired in reference to other methods of transferring, write for information.

POTATO-PLANTING TESTS UPSET OLD PREJUDICES

Phases of the moon and position of the horns still govern planting operations, particularly of potatoes, in many sections of the country. The light or the dark of the moon, or whether the horns point upward or down are of no concern to horticulturalists of the United States Department of Agriculture, but they are interested in providing information looking toward settlement of some of the other disputed questions dealing with potato planting.

William Stuart and several assistants report on experiments in potato planting carried on in leading potato-growing districts, Norfolk, Va., Presque Isle, Me., Greeley, Colo., and Jerome, Idaho.

Growers have long disputed the comparative merits of potato sets cut from the stem end and from the seed end of the tubers. Some previous experiments seem to have indicated considerable superiority for one end or the other. The seed values of the two ends probably differ somewhat in different varieties. Results varied with the weight of the set, according to numerous tests, and the data as a whole seem to indicate that as the weight of the set increases there is a greater response from the apical (seed) set than from the basal (stem) set.

Another fruitful source of argument is found in the value of oversized tubers for seed. Most growers of seed potatoes have a strong prejudice against using large sized tubers. After three years of experiment the investigators conclude that 'sets from oversized tubers are evidently as productive as those from normal-sized tubers, and in seasons when a considerable proportion of the seed stock grows too large to satisfy commercial demands it may be recommended for seed purposes. The chief objections that have always been raised in regard to oversized tubers are that there is more wastage in cutting, involving a larger quantity by weight to plant an acre, and in addition that they are silghtly more difficult to cut."

Several experimenters have claimed great advantages from the use of seed dug when it was somewhat immature. Departmental experiments at three stations were inconclusive. At the Idaho station the increased yield from immature seed ranged from 77 bushels an acre for one variety to 180 bushels an acre for the best of the varieties.

"Greening" potatoes for seed, that is, allowing them to sprout somewhat in sunlight is a common practice in Europe where the advantages seem to be distinctive. While greening ordinarily would bring potatoes to maturity 10 days or two weeks earlier than would planting from unsprouted seed under cultural conditions prevailing be profitable.

THINGS TO PLAN FOR RIGHT NOW

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That cream check every two weeks.

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That cannery check every time you come to town.

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Fat hog sale in March.

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Poultry sale on Monday, April 23.

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Bread and Butter Show next fall.

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Encourage the 4-H Clubbers.

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Big Farmers' day next fall.

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Local Curb Market.

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Breed sows so that the pigs will go on the market in March, April, August and September.

SOME QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF, MR. FARMER

Mr. Farmer, ask yourself these questions. If you can answer all of them accurately and satisfactorily your are probably prosperous and contented with your lot. If not—well, try to answer them anyhow.

What is the size of your farm business?

What part of your investment is in land, buildings, livestock, machinery, and other capital?

Are your crops properly proportioned for greatest returns?

How do your crop yields compare with the average yields of the locality?

What classes of livestock return you the most money?

How do the returns from your livestock compare with the average of your locality?

How many acres of crops do you raise per man? Per horse?

Is your farm so organized that each part of the business is yielding satisfactory returns?

How much have you left for your own labor after deducting from your total receipts your year's expenses, value of labor performed by members of your family, and interest on your investment?

How much does the farm contribute toward your family living?

Farmers' Bulletin No. 1139-F, published by the United States Department of Agriculture, is designed to help you answer these questions intelligently. Then if the answers are not satisfactory you can more readily find the strong and weak points in your system of management and make such changes that the answers next year to the same questions will prove more satisfactory. This bulletin includes blanks for the compilation of an analysis of the farm business as a whole and in its parts, and the authors explain how the spaces may be filled and the sumaries made. It is mailed on request to the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

CHOOSE GRASSES WITH CARE

Now that the land south of the Mason and Dixon line is selling cream and milk, it is time for that country to plan for more and better pastures. And while that land is handling a few dairy cows at a profit, why not have a few sheep and perhaps a small bunch of cattle to fatten or to grow?

There are grasses and clovers which will grow on any soil. So the farmer ought to learn what he should use on his own particular piece of grass land and not sow red clover or alfalfa where it has no chance to live.

But the county agent is going to let C. C. Flanery tell in part what he told the readers of the SOUTH-

(Continued on page three)

CONSULT YOUR COUNTY AGENT AS YOU WOULD YOUR DOCTOR OR YOUR LAWYER