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DEPARTMENT STORE.

AGRICULTURAL TOPICS

FARM VIEWS AND NEWS

"Agriculture is the Foundation of Civilization and Commerce."

Talks on Corn—No. 2.

BOTANY OF CORN.

Corn belongs to the Gramineae, or grass, family of plants, which includes the Johnson, the crab and other grasses. Corn is known botanically as "Zea Mays."

BOTANICAL SPECIES OF CORN.

1. Zea mays, "Pod corn," each grain is enclosed within a sheath within the ear, known as Egyptian corn. Primitive corn pod corn.

2. Zea everta, Pop corn, each grain has the property of turning inside out through explosion of moisture on application of heat.

3. Zea indurata, "Indian Flint corn," Carter found it near Montreal, Canada in 1535. Heriot found a variety in Virginia in 1585 known as the common corn of Trinidad, North America, Honduras, Peru, Paraguay, Mexico and Brazil.

4. Zea indenta, Indian Dent Corn, used by Powhatan Indians in 1607.

These two species above named, viz: Z. indurata, Z. indenta are the most extensively grown in the United States.

5. Zea amyloea, soft corn known as Peruvian Mummy Corn or Curo, is the largest grained corn yet known in existence.

6. Zea saccharata, sweet corn used by Indians and grown extensively for the purpose. Specimens found in 1713 B. C. Specimen 2. Found in 1660 A. D. known as "Kish-nising" by Cherokee Indians. Specimen 3. Found in 1595. Specimen 4. Found in 1592. Specimen 5. Found in 1776, originated by Indians on the Susquehanna, called by them "popoon" or "popoon e. e."

American varieties of corn in 1855. Albany, Adams's Early, Albany sugar, Amber-Corn, Amber-rose, Angel of Washington, Armstrong's White, Armstrong's yellow, Baldwin's Roman ear, Bear Foot, Benton white, Benton yellow, Big Bushy, Black-Monroe, Black-pop, Black-Tussock, Blue, Blue Flint, Blue Pearl, Boston, Boone County, Mo., white, Brazilian, Brewster's,

Burbank's early, Canada, Capital Carr's Corn, Cary, Champaign county, Ill. Champion, Champion white dent, Champion yellow dent, Cherokee, Chester County, Pa., Gourd-Seed, Chester county early dent, China, Clark's early, Canning corn, Common corn, Compton, Compton's early, Conqueror, Country Gentlemen's, Crosby's early, Crowder's, Curruck, Curaco, Dakota Red, Davenport's, Dolly Doit, Dolittle, Dr. Woodhouse's, Dugan's, Durkey, Dutton's early Boston, Early Boynton, Early Buteer, Early Colossal, Early Dutton, Early Eclipse, Early Giant, Early Huron, Egyptian, Farmer's Favorite, Farmer's Pride, Fisk, Giant, Golden Gourd seed, Hawkins, Hickory King, Hogue's Hoyn's-Hominy, Housy, Horse-tooth, Hoffman's Iowa-Beauty, Iowa Gold, Ironclad, Japanese, Jim-J, Kane County Kan., Kansas King, King Philip, Kyle 1, 2, 3, 4, Laxwaxan, Legal tender, Leaming, Lemon, Log-Cabin, Long-John, Long-Tom, Long-fellow, Long-yellow, Mammoth, Maple-dale, Marble head, Mill's white, Miller corn, Minnesota, King, Missouri Mammoth, Monroe's, Mortgage lifter, Mummy 1, 2, 3, 4, Negro-pop, Ninety day, Old Cabin Home, Pearl, Pee Kay, Red River, Rural, San Pados, Sanford's, Seek no further, Self Shucking, (on ripening the sheath comes partially off, exposing the grain.) Southern Queen, Stewart's, Stowe's, Strawberry, Stowell's, Tarah-mar, Thousand Fold, Thompson's Top-over, Tri-nip, Tussock, Turkey, Tyler, Victory, Virginia, Waterloo, Watson's Weiborn's White-Cap, White-Dent, White Flint, White Shoe-peg, White-Gourd-seed, White's White, Yellow Cap, Zany.

The United States Department of Agriculture recognizes 451 varieties of corn in cultivation. The writer gives 155. Limitations of space at the time of writing prevent us from treating as fully as we should wish in this issue the originators and post office address. The magnitude of the varieties is well understood. The scope of our plan therefore will be curtailed and we will content ourselves by giving 155 varieties of corn out of a total of 451 varieties in cultivation.

AGRICULTURE IN THE GAZETTE.

It is conducted by the Department of Agriculture, Division of Statistics, in the interest of our horticultural readers.

For the National Convention Baptist Young People's Union of America, which meets in Atlanta, Ga., July 9-12 the Southern Railway will sell return tickets at one first-class fare (plus 25 cents) for the round trip. Tickets sold from points beyond a radius of 300 miles from Atlanta on July 8, 9, and 10. Return limit to enable passengers to reach original starting point July 15.

WANT--

To put THE GAZETTE in every reading home in Gaston county. Why shouldn't it be there? It pays its visits twice a week, tries always to be a welcome guest, and costs only one dollar a year. Speak a good word for it to your neighbor who doesn't take the paper. We will appreciate it, and we believe the time will come when your neighbor will thank you for having mentioned it. The person who gets THE GAZETTE, with its wealth of local and general news, for only one dollar a year has the long end of the single-tree on the publisher.

Don't Miss It.

The great gathering of music teachers and music lovers, to be held at Asheville June 30th to July 3rd, ought to prove a noteworthy event in the educational history of the State. It will be the first meeting of the Music Teachers' National Association ever held in the South, and, being held conjointly with the meeting of the Southern Music Teachers' Association, will doubtless bring together distinguished teachers and artists from all parts of the United States, many of whom it will be a privilege to meet. This meeting will give our North Carolina musicians an unparalleled opportunity to put themselves in touch with the great forward movement of the day in musical as well as in general education, an opportunity which it would be a misfortune and a shame to neglect.

The programme includes several grand concerts, besides lectures, excursions, etc., worth many times their cost. For further information address P. Flaxington Harker, Biltmore, N. C., or Secretary Board of Trade, Asheville, N. C.

NOTICE.

Folio and Property to be Returned for Taxation.

Notice is hereby given that the list-taker for the town of Gastonia and assessors will sit at the below mentioned times and places, when said persons are to be made under and where all property owners and tax payers are required by law to make returns to them for the year 1903 of all real estate, personal property, moneys, etc., owned by each on the first day of June, and all said persons are to list their polls at the same time.

Oscar Mill, Tuesday morning, June 2.
Modena Mill, Tuesday afternoon, June 2.
Aven Mill, Wednesday morning, June 3.
Gastonia Mill, Wednesday afternoon, June 3.
Trenton Mill, Thursday morning, June 4.
City Hall, June 5th, 6th, and 7th. The returns of property and polls are to be made under the pains and penalties imposed by law.

Jno. F. HOLLAND, List-taker for town of Gastonia, May 11, 1903.

brief description of thirty household pests, etc.

"The American Crow," 98, economic status of this well known bird.

"Studies on American Grasses," pages 62. Studies on Calamagrostis-grass, thirty-eight species described, etc.

"Wages of Farm Labor, 1868-1900," page 50. Results of investigations by the U. S. D. of Agriculture regarding wages of farm hands etc.

Total volumes in library 358, June 1, 1903.

LIST YOUR TAXES—GIVE IN YOUR POLLS.

Regarding the law as to listing taxes, it is well for every citizen to inform himself. Persons who fail to report to list-takers will have to list before the Board of County Commissioners up to the second Monday in July, and are required by the law to pay 25 cents for recording and 5% on the amount of tax. All persons who are liable for poll tax and fail to give themselves in, and all persons who own property and fail to list by the 2nd Monday in July may be charged with double tax, deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction fined or imprisoned. (Sections 15 and 58 Machinery Act 1903.)

GASTON CROPS JUNE 6TH.

The week's rainfall has consisted of heavy showers all over the county. The winds were light, changeable. The rains have given corn and cotton a healthier look and started a rapid growth. A rapid improvement is indicated, "stands" are irregular. Chopping is finished. No crab grass. Cotton is small for the season. Fields are clean and well cultivated. Some wheat has been harvested. Poor yield. Oats favorable. Rye favorable.

Baptist Young Peoples' Union.

Atlanta, Ga., July 9-12, 1903.

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Jno. F. HOLLAND, List-taker for town of Gastonia, May 11, 1903.

HESSIAN FLY IN WHEAT.

The Pest is Becoming Unusually Destructive in Western Counties—Entomologist Sherman Tells of Ways of Combating It.

Franklin Sherman, Jr., in Progressive Farmer.

There seems to be urgent need of informing the wheat farmers thoroughly as to the best means of dealing with the Hessian Fly, for it is evidently causing them much loss every year. A week or two ago we gave in The Progressive Farmer the essential points in dealing with it, but will repeat here more in detail as more serious reports have been received since the publication of that article.

The adult parent insect of the Hessian Fly is a very small, slender, blackish, two-winged fly (there are a number of specimens before me) which resembles a mosquito. The adult female fly deposits its eggs on the wheat leaves, usually selecting those that are nearest the ground. The eggs hatch into small white maggots which work down to the stalk, feeding on it near the joints where it is near the base of the leaf. Here it grows to maturity, when it changes to what is known as the "flax-seed" stage. This stage is correctly known as the pupa and it is brown and oval in shape suggesting the seed of the flax in general appearance. In this stage the insect is entirely helpless and takes no food; the maggot is simply transforming to the adult fly. We see then that there are four distinct stages of existence in the life of the Hessian fly: (1) the egg; (2) the maggot, which does the damage; (3) the pupa or "flax-seed," and (4) the adult fly.

All through the piedmont section of North Carolina there are two complete generations of the insect each year. One brood of adult flies appears and deposits eggs in the fall and another brood emerges and deposits eggs in the spring or early summer.

Let us now begin when the farmer sows his wheat in the fall and follow his field (and the fly) through a year, and we will then be able to discuss the matter of remedies intelligently. Suppose his wheat is sown early in October and is nicely up by the 20th of that month. About the 25th a brood of the flies appear and deposit their eggs on the young wheat. The maggots which hatch from the eggs work around the joint of the stalk near the ground feeding on the juicy fiber. Here they reach maturity in about four weeks and change to the pupa (flax-seed stage) to pass the winter. The adult fly emerges from this pupa in April or May (specimens bred from stalks sent to me emerged between May 4 and 18) and after mating the female deposits eggs for another brood. The flies themselves do no harm other than lay the eggs, and after they are deposited the flies die. The eggs thus laid transform into maggots which continue the destructive work and which mature and transform to the pupa (flax-seed) stage by harvest time. The grain is cut and the stubble left standing in the field. Another field is sowed to wheat in early October and the brood emerges from the old stubble in the latter part of the month, flies to the new field, deposits eggs and dies.

If there is no wheat up when this fall brood of flies emerges then they must die without depositing their eggs or they must deposit them elsewhere, and each fly only lives for a day or two after emerging, for it is the natural course of events with many insects that they reach maturity only for the purpose of providing for the next generation, and they die a natural death of slow starvation after maturity is reached.

It is evident that it would be very expensive to apply any kind of remedy which should reach the insects on each stalk, but knowing the history of the insect's life we are prepared to combat it effectually. Note that the adult flies emerge in the fall in October or early November and that therefore they may be largely avoided by planting as late as possible. Note also that the insects are in the pupa (flax-seed) stage when the grain is cut in summer, so that by at once burning off the stubble they will be turned under deeply and then rolled to pulverize the top surface, the flies will be suffocated and unable to emerge.

These are the two great points to be attended to in combating the Hessian fly and the advice may be boiled down to these two propositions:

1. Plant late as possible in the fall.

2. Burn off or turn under deeply the stubble of infested fields immediately after harvest.

Any farmer who will adopt these practices will realize great benefit from it, but the results will be all the more evident and beneficial if adopted generally by all the farmers in a community.

The Hessian Fly is a bad pest

and will no doubt continue to be so, but it will not seem nearly so serious when the farmer learns thoroughly the history of its life as here explained, and puts into practice the suggestions here given. There is nothing theoretical about this. Every farmer must see the common-sense of it, and all know that the very late sown wheat is not so subject to damage by fly as that which is sown earlier. In teaching my classes at the A. & M. College for the past two years, and whenever I have had occasion to talk with farmers about this pest, I have always brought out the point of late planting and have never yet found a farmer who had carefully noted the results who did not admit its value. The turning under or burning off stubble is a point not so well known among farmers, but it is of value for the reasons here given.

FRANKLIN SHERMAN, JR., Entomologist, Department, Agriculture, Raleigh, N. C.

NOTICE.

Carolina & North-Western Railway Company.

Notice is hereby given that a special meeting of the stockholders of the Carolina & North-Western Railway Company has been called by the Board of Directors, and will be held at the principal office of the Company in Chester, South Carolina, on the thirtieth day of June, 1903, at twelve o'clock, noon, and that at such meeting there will be considered a proposition to create a new mortgage upon the property of this Company and to issue bonds thereunder for the purpose of unifying the funded debt of this Company and to provide funds for the purchase of additional equipment, and for extensions of the railroads of this Company, such bonds to be limited in the aggregate amount to \$2,500,000.

By order of the Board of Directors.

J. J. McLUCK, Sec'y, Chester, S. C., May 28, 1903.

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Southern Railway SCHEDULE.

Trains from Atlanta, Greenville, Spartanburg, etc., for Charlotte and the West, pass Charlotte, N. C.

GOING EAST. No. 26, Fast Mail, daily, 8:30 a. m. No. 12, Daily, 9:45 a. m. No. 46, Heavy Freight, 3:45 p. m.

GOING WEST. No. 27, Fast Mail, daily, 8:30 a. m. No. 13, Daily, 9:45 a. m. No. 47, Heavy Freight, 3:45 p. m.

Trains from Charlotte and the West for Spartanburg, Greenville, Atlanta, etc., pass Charlotte, N. C.

GOING SOUTH. No. 25, Fast Mail, daily, 8:30 a. m. No. 11, Daily, 9:45 a. m. No. 45, Heavy Freight, 3:45 p. m.

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3-lb. can Tomatoes . . . 10c	
Corn . . . 80c per bu.	

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Consultations of all questions with Southern, S. A. L. S. C. & C. L. & C.

L. F. BRYANT, Asst. Gen. Pass. Agent, Charleston, S. C.

L. T. NICOLA, General Manager.

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Come and see my line before placing your order.

Respectfully,
A. D. Clark.