

the grains of which are perfectly white. It is used for culinary purposes in various ways. It is equally productive as the common variety, and as valuable for stock.

CHINESE SUGAR CANE (*Andropogon Sacharatus* or *Shaloo*, *Sorghum Sacre*.)—This is a new variety of great value and promise, recently introduced into France and China. Its growth is similar to the Durra corn, with the difference that the head assumes more the shape of the common broom corn, and the seeds are black. It is the richest of all the *gramineæ* in saccharine matter. We have seen syrup, finely crystalized sugar and vinegar, made from its juice. It closely resembles sugar cane in taste, and will no doubt, at some future day, furnish material for the production of sugar and alcohol, in those regions where the true sugar cane will not grow. It will be more valuable than Durra corn on the plantation, as it is richer in saccharine matter, and its general introduction as a soiling crop will be highly beneficial.

There are several other varieties of Sorghum, all belonging to the same great family, originating on the rich alluvial plains of the tropical East, and all well suited to Southern cultivation, which are destined to be important auxiliaries to the planter. These crops are great exhausters of fertility, when cut and carried entirely off the soil. Objections are freely urged against their cultivation on this score. Whatever is taken from the soil, if fed to domestic animals, and the manure properly preserved and economised, is of benefit; and in this light enormous crops, highly exhausting in their character, ultimately pay better than their less greedy rivals, which produce but little.

INDIAN CORN, sown broadcast, or thickly in drills, cut and fed at the period when the tassel is fully developed, is preferred by many to all other green food. Our usual custom is to fatten our mules on the green tops and stalks which have small shoots not well filled, cut after the corn is sufficiently hard not to be injured, and we think it pays us better than to allow them to dry up, as we can go over but a few acres before they are out of season, and worthless.

There are other crops valuable as soiling products, but being perennial in their nature, do not come strictly under the subject-matter of this article. Of these, we may mention Lucerne (*Medicago Sativa*), Common Red Clover (*Trifolium pratense*), and the Seedless Panicle Millet (*Sorghum Halapense*), the twin sister of which is so much reviled as the Means grass.

All these furnish a large amount of food, and can be profitably cultivated in various sections of the State. On the dry arid sand hills, the Lucerne finds congenial soil, and on all the stiff, red clays, the Red Clover, stimulated by the application of a small quantity of plaster and lime will produce enormous crops.

A parting word, dear reader, in favor of bountiful soiling, and we will be done. Let no antiquated opposition prevent you from giving all domestic animals that will eat green food, as much as they can devour, in its proper season, and our reason for the advice is the fact, that it is a requirement of nature that they should thus be furnished. The animal economy will not only suffer, but deterioration in quality and constitution will rapidly ensue if this requirement is not strictly attended to.

Since writing the above, we have received the following information respecting Durra corn, from "Littleton," which we append:

In 1842, Mr. Russell, of Columbia, gave me a new kind of grain, which he called "Multiplying corn," and said it was valuable for poultry, for whose benefit I planted the seed. But two grains came up, from which I gathered eleven heads or ears. I continued to grow this corn for the above purpose alone, until 1848, when the late Col J. Davis, of Fairfield district, informed me it was good for hogs and milch cows, but said he preferred another kind I had, viz:—Guinea corn. The next season it was planted upon a little larger scale, and enough cut to keep two cows for nearly three months, taking care to cut the stock, blades and ears fine, to prevent them from choking.—Mrs. ——— thought she got more and richer milk, than when fed upon hay, cotton seed and a few peas. I do not know as to that, but I do know that my horses would never quit Multiplying corn for any other food put into their troughs. In 1850 I noticed, as I thought, an extravagant account of the yield, &c., of Durra corn, or Indian Millet, by a Mr. Anderson. A few lines, requesting some of the seed, were sent the editor of the *Southern Cultivator*, and when they arrived I recognized my old acquaintance under a new name. Since that time several articles have appeared in the agricultural papers of the day, and it is now called *Doura*.

Several gentlemen in this vicinity have planted it for a few years, and almost every one of them enlarges his "patch" yearly. I think the best acre upon every man's farm should be planted with Doura, and until something better can be had, I will continue to plant it for hogs, horses and cows.