

THE MAN WITHOUT A (COUNTRY) GARDEN



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News for the Farmer

BY JNO. C. BARKSDALE, COUNTY DEMONSTRATOR.

NEED BUNCH OF SHEEP ON EVERY FARM



LAMBS ON SOY BEAN AND CORN PASTURE.

(By P. G. HOLDEN, Former Dean of Iowa Agricultural College.)

In good farming allow nothing to go to waste.

On many farms every year grass and weeds around buildings, in barn lots, along fences and roads, in corn or stubble fields, go to seed and become waste material. These weeds could be turned to good account if there was a bunch of sheep to eat them.

No farm animal will respond more readily to care and feed than sheep. They need but little attention if such as they require is given them at the right time.

There is a world-wide shortage of sheep. The consumption of mutton is on the increase. The wool supply of the world is about exhausted. Fat lambs and wool bring good figures. Not on account of the war, but from a genuine demand of the people. There is wonderful interest in sheep-growing everywhere, but the demand for mutton and wool is so great that producers cannot meet it. There should be sheep on every farm.

Sheep need a change of pasture. Turning them from one field into another furnishes this change and keeps the sheep healthy.

Expensive housing is unnecessary. Warm shelter is essential only when the lambs are very young. The roof is the important part of the sheep house. Keep the sheep dry during the winter season and the fleece will provide the warmth. A bunch of good ewes will return good profits. Their requirements are simple and their returns in fleece and fat lambs will surprise you.

There is no better winter feed for the ewes than good silage and alfalfa hay. A good ewe will give more milk for the feed consumed, than will the best dairy cow. Her lamb will do the milking, and by converting the milk into fat lamb, the farmer can get much more per 100 pounds for the ewe's milk than for the cow's, and in addition, the ewe furnishes a fleece each year to sell.

Care should be taken not to feed sour or moldy silage to sheep. It will kill them. Large ewes raising lambs can be fed sweet silage up to four or five pounds per day, after they have become accustomed to it. During the winter before the lambs arrive, the ewes, if in good condition at the start,

need only a light silage ration with alfalfa hay and corn fodder. Sometimes a feed of bright straw is relished by the ewes.

Sheep kept in muddy yards for long periods are almost sure to get sore feet. Give them dry footing and there will be no trouble.

Raising Lambs Profitable.

Select a bunch of rugged "mutton-shaped" ewes and mate them in the fall with a purebred sire of good form and fleece. Have the lambs born in March if there is plenty of good feed for the ewes and warm shelter for the lambs. Otherwise the lambs had better not arrive until later when the weather is warmer and the ewes can get some grass to increase their flow of milk.

Some farmers have the lambs born in January or February and fatten them for earlier markets. This necessitates much care, abundant feed and warm shelter, but it is a profitable business when well managed.

When the lambs are ten days old they will begin eating grain and hay. Fix a creep for them so they can have a trough apart from their mothers, give them some wheat bran and cracked corn and continue to feed them all they will eat while on pasture, if they are to be fattened and sold three or four months old. The best time to sell the lambs is before they are one year old.

Some good farmers allow the ewes and lambs to graze during the summer with little or no grain, wean the lambs in August and turn them into the standing corn. There is no place where a lamb will fatten faster than in a cornfield eating grass and weeds and weed seeds and the lower blades of corn.

Lambs should not be kept on old pastures that have been grazed by older sheep. There is danger of stomach worms. However, if tobacco dust or stems are kept before the sheep at all times, they will not be troubled with internal parasites.

Three hundred farmers' reports give \$3.69 as the average cost for keeping a ewe and lamb, as against \$10.15 as the average return in wool.

Nearly all good sheep men keep a few of the best ewes each year to add to the ewe flock and take the place of the older and discarded ewes.

but when the farmers stop to count the cost, which comes not only in the labor involved but in the decreased yield of corn, we believe that the practice will become more unpopular. If you haven't a silo, or if it be impossible for you to shred your corn and thus utilize the entire plant, then of course the fodder will have to be stripped.

The cotton may be at a good price, the price is not out of ratio with the necessities of life. All things considered, one cannot grow cotton to buy food stuffs and prosper. It is the better policy to produce enough food-stuffs to run the place and have some to spare than raise all the cotton you can.

TO PREPARE FOR BOYS CLUB WORK

Owing to the lateness of the season, not much can be done towards accomplishing anything in club work so far as this season's crop is concerned. However, now is the time to begin preparations for next year's work. In the formation of the Boy's corn and pig clubs we should begin our plans now. For the corn club work, plans should be made now to provide a source of humus for next year's crop of corn. As a source of humus, burr clover, crimson clover, or abuzzi rye, would give most satisfactory results. By all means plan to have one of these crops seeded in September on the land selected for planting another year. The cover crop will provide humus for conserving moisture for the crop in time of drought and will enable you to get better results from the fertilizer used.

It would be a mistake to begin the pig club work without arranging for the necessary feed-stuffs to carry the pigs through the winter and afford grazing for the early spring months. It is not too late to plant Spanish peanuts, to set potatoes, or to plant sorghum for fall and winter feeding. If any of these crops are to be planted, we should seed them right away because the season will soon be too late. In September grazing crops should be seeded to provide winter and spring pasturage. For this purpose Dwarf Essex rape, crimson clover, abuzzi rye, or a combination of the three will give satisfactory pasturage.

The County Agent would like to have all the boys interested in growing field crops or livestock write him at Abbeville so that he can get in touch with them.

For Sale

The Lawson place, containing 54 1-4 acres, just 2 miles from the center of the city of Abbeville. A good dwelling, two tenant houses, large barn and good stables. A good pasture and fine farming land.

639 acres land about 10 miles from Abbeville. Good tenant houses and well improved.

Can give good terms. Price \$7500.00

153 acres about two miles from city limits of Abbeville, 85 to 90 acres in cultivation. Abundance of wood and plenty saw timber, two running streams on the plantation. Lies well. Price \$20.00 per acre.

128 acres about 1-2 mile outside city limits of Abbeville, three-horse farm open on the place, fine pasture, plenty wood and water. Price \$45.00 per acre.

I have quite a lot of farming lands and city property listed with me for sale. Come to see me, I feel sure I can please you if you wish to buy any kind of real estate.

ROBT. S. LINK.

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The County Demonstrator is an expert in his line.

The Home Demonstrator is an expert in her line.

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The architect is an expert in his line.

We send our children to school to be trained to be experts in some line.

We send our children to church and Sunday School that they may become experts along moral lines.

We send the boy and the girl to college to become experts. When they make good we are proud of them, whether they become editors, doctors, soldiers, farmers, business men, or instruct the children in the home, the church, the School, in the newspapers or at the mothers' side.

The best is none too good for Abbeville County, for South Carolina, and for this nation, whether at peace or war.

Be a Booster for
Abbeville County

(Advertisement)

ARRANGE TO HAVE AN
ABUNDANCE OF ROUGHAGE

Too much attention cannot be paid to the production of feed-stuffs. With the prevailing high prices of grains and roughages, the farmers should see that every available foot of ground to be made to produce some form of food stuff. Every acre of stubble land should be seeded to

peas, sorghum, corn, or velvet beans, to provide sufficient roughage for wintering the livestock. It would be wise to endeavor to produce enough roughage so as not to be forced to strip fodder. Pulling fodder is an unwise procedure of our farm management, it provides an excellent feed, but it comes at a very high cost. The practice is quite general throughout this state and others,