The June Delineator

IN the June DELINEATOR you will find very interesting Prophecies about New Style Features,

This number of "The Fashion Authority of the World" also contains just the Styles you need for the Summer Outing at the Country, Shore, or Mountains,

Everyone likes a good story, and you will enjoy "Simple Simon," by RUDYARD KIPLING, You will also be interested in "A Brief to the Housewife," by MABLE POTTER DAGGETT. This article is the result of a special investigation by THE DELINEATOR into the Rising Cost of Living.

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INTERESTING FACTS FOR FARMERS

BY THE BEST AUTHORITIES ON SCIENTIFIC FARMING SHOULD BE FOLLOWED CLOSELY BY MONTANA SETTLERS

WHEAT ON DRY FARM

Durum Variety Admirably Adapted to the Semi-Arid Regions.

Must Be Grown Without Irrigation to Give Best Results—Several Important Facts Obtained from Actual Experience.

As to the amount of wheat that can be handled, there is no question that a considerably larger amount of the wheat can be readily marketed than has ever been grown. There is good reason, therefore, from this standpoint for increasing the production, writes M. A. Carleton, in charge of cerals, department of agriculture, in Dakota Farmer. Each year the supply is not sufficient to meet the demand. This, of course, is largely because of the great amount exported. Some have remarked that the export is now likely to decrease because of the larger production of this kind of wheat in other countries. It may be noted, however, that the wheat is continually increasing and during the past year has increased more rapidly than at any other period. About 20 important flour mills in the country are now grinding this wheat every year, some of them using for this purpose their entire capacity the year round. The names of these mills will be given at any time to the parties individually or commercially interested. They include some of the largest milling firms in the world. This list too covers probably not more than half the entire number of mills in the country using durum wheat, but simply gives the extent of our own information in the matter.

In view of the fact that durum wheat is so admirably adapted to semi-arid districts and must be grown without irrigation to give best results and at the same time has received opposition from mills in certain quarters, it will be important to give the following facts with respect to it which are obtained from actual experiments either by this department or by millers and bakers using the wheat and flour.

1. The export is now about 20,000,000 bushels per year, a large part of which goes to central and northern Europe for bread-making. The amount being used for bread increases each year.

2. There is an unmistakable increase in the use of durum wheat flour in this country each year for bread, a very large proportion so consumed being ground by Minneapolis and North Dakota mills.

3. In respect to every objection made by millers and bakers to this wheat, when the wheat has been properly handled it has been found that such objection is not well founded.

4. Even the objection of the stronger color in the flour and bread is almost entirely overcome by many bakers in their method of handling the dough.

5. The size of the loaf also, which is smaller than that of loaves produced ordinarily from other flour but which is purely a mechanical matter and of value only to bakers, allowing them to sell that much more air than bread for the same price, is largely controlled also by the same methods that modify the color. On the other hand the advantages are:

6. Unquestionably a better flavor in the durum wheat flour.

7. Durum wheat bread, being more moist, will remain fresh half as long again as bread from other wheats.

8. The baker can get many more loaves of bread from one barrel of flour because of the greater absorption of water, so that he can sell more water at the same price in durum wheat if he cannot sell so much air.

9. The baker also makes a saving of a considerable amount of sugar per day in his regular baking in using durum wheat flour, as a prominent baker has stated that no sugar is needed in making this bread because of the large amount naturally found in the flour.

The above points mentioned are in respect to the commercial side of the subject. As to the adaptation of durum wheat as a crop to the semi-arid districts, this has been thoroughly demonstrated for many years. Durum not only gives uniformity a yield of from 33 1-3 to 50 per cent. greater than that of other wheats under the same conditions in such areas but will even produce a crop when other wheats practically fail. The present production of durum wheat is probably somewhere near 60,000,000 bushels per annum, about 50,000,000 of this amount being produced in North Dakota, South Dakota and western portions of Minnesota and the other 10,000,000 western portions of Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma, in the Texas Panhandle, eastern Colorado and scattered localities over the Rocky Mountain and Pacific coast regions.

Let Curtis put up a windmill.

PROPER DEPTH FOR PLOWING

Conditions and Circumstances Vary with Locality and Season—Farmer Must Determine.

How deep to plow is a question that often confronts the farmers in all localities and it is almost impossible to cite any definite answer to this question. Circumstances and conditions vary with the locality and with the season. This is a question that the farmer in each locality must determine for himself. However, in order to answer the question intelligently himself he must understand the object of plowing, or, in other words, he must know why he plows.

It is generally known that the object of plowing is to prepare a seed bed. Manure and other inorganic matter is turned under and the soil is mellowed that the roots may easily penetrate in all directions in search of plant food and moisture. The fact is known that the deeper the farmer plows the more moisture he will save. However, the length of time between the plowing and the seeding is very important. The land should be plowed long enough before seeding that it will have time to settle and exclude the unnecessary amount of air before the seed is put in. From this it will be seen that it is wisest to plow deep in the fall and shallow in the spring. In all semi-arid regions it is wise to plow deep enough that the seeds can be placed in the moist soil. By plowing deep in the fall and leaving the soil open during the winter a large amount of water and moisture is collected during the wet season. If then, early in the spring the field is plowed or harrowed this moisture can be conserved in the soil and saved for future use. Again when the land is plowed deep the roots have better place in which to grow and consequently penetrate deeper. Then when the hot, dry months of July and August come they are prepared.

The land should not be plowed as deeply in the spring because there will not be sufficient time in which to settle and become firm in order that capillary attraction will work to the best advantage. It is always wise to follow spring plowing with either a disk or a harrow. This will place a dust mulch over the surface and will materially stop evaporation from the surface soil. It will also prevent the formation of chunks or clods upon the field.

USING ROLLER ON DRY FARM

Implement Must Be Used with Judgment as Possibilities for Doing Injuries Are Many.

The roller is a tool which must be used with much judgment in dry farming, as its possibilities for working injury are fully as great as its possibilities for good. It can be used to great advantage in packing down sod which is broken shallow in the spring. It is valuable for crushing clods. Some day our farmers will be able to dispense with it for that purpose, because they will pay much closer attention to the moisture condition of the soil at the time of breaking, and will find that they will have much less need for a clod crusher than at present. Another condition that sometimes arises under which the use of the roller is very essential, is where seed have been planted in a soil which is quite moist below, but dry near the surface. Rolling will compact the surface, thus causing concentration of the moisture there for a short time, and give the seed a chance to sprout. If the surface remains packed for very long, the soil will dry out. The great danger in the use of the roller is that it leaves the surface fine and compact, which favors evaporation. The surface should always be loosened, best with the drag harrow, after it has been rolled. The essential difference between the roller and the sub-surface packer, is that the roller packs the surface of the soil, leaving it in a condition which favors evaporation, while the packer firms the plowed layer against the plow sole and leaves the surface loose.

The Value of Charcoal.

Charcoal has great value as an antiseptic. Smoked ham will keep for years packed in charcoal. A few lumps of it in a cistern will keep the water pure and sweet. A quantity of it in a cellar will absorb the odors, and a small lump boiled with cabbage or onions will do the same. Butter put in a small vessel completely surrounded with charcoal will keep sweet a long time. A paste of powdered charcoal and honey makes a good dentifrice. It not only cleans the teeth, but disinfects them and sweetens the breath. Taken inwardly is good for the digestion and relieves constipation.

Call up the Harlowton Bakery—they can deliver it.

FORESTS-DRY FARM

Several Reasons Why Farmer Is Interested in Conserving Trees.

They Catch Snow in Blizzards and Hold It Late in Season, and Leaves and Rubbish Form Dams, Holding Water Back.

The dry farmer is interested in the conservation of the forests for several good reasons, writes E. R. Parsons in Ranch and Range.

The trees catch snow in the blizzards and hold it late in the season, the leaves and rubbish dam it back from running off into the streams and thus prevent waste of moisture and erosion of our mountain soils.

Every drop of water that remains with us to help dampen our atmosphere is so much gain. Every drop that finds its way into the rivers and down to the sea, a dead loss. But the most important reason of all is this.

Every plant, every tree takes up its food in solution with water; when this plant food in the sap has been digested and assimilated the surplus water is thrown off by the leaves and transpires into the atmosphere.

An ordinary apple tree may give off from 20 to 30 gallons of water a day, a good-sized cottonwood 100 gallons, a big Engelmann spruce, several hundred gallons.

Now, if one tree can transpire into the atmosphere several hundred gallons, a forest ten miles square can throw off during the day enough moisture to make a good-sized cloudburst over an area of several square miles. This is easy to figure out.

Now most of this water is from melted snows which but for the existence of these trees would have run off and been lost. The roots of some of our big evergreens reach a hundred feet down to bedrock and pump water back into the atmosphere from great depths which otherwise would have escaped from the surface, perhaps forever.

Perhaps you will say: "What has all this to do with the dry farm?"

Just this much: In the growing season, when our clouds come floating gayly over the mountains and strike a dry streak of air they begin to dissipate and dry up without giving us a shower. They are absorbed by the hot, dry atmosphere.

But on the other hand, suppose they strike a damp forest, lakes and reservoirs, what happens then?

The clouds begin to gain in moisture, growing before our very eyes, until the point of saturation is reached—they can hold no more—the floodgates are opened and we get a shower.

When our hygrometers show plenty of moisture in the air and we hear the train whistles from afar, we know that almost any cloud will make a rain, but when the air overhead is dry then our clouds go floating by to raise crops in Kansas and Nebraska.

Our rainfall has undoubtedly suffered through the firing and devastating of our forests, but on the whole I believe we have gained more than we have lost, by the building of reservoirs, ditches and irrigation works in general, the water from which when turned onto the heated soil of our fields evaporates millions of tons into the atmosphere every day of the summer season, besides this we must take into account every plowed field which catches and holds moisture, every crop which transpires this moisture into the atmosphere, for every hill of corn, every plant of alfalfa or grain, throws off into the air many times its own weight in water vapor before it reaches maturity. Thus we see that the conservation of forests and the settling up of a country conduce to a moisture condition of the atmosphere, and, as I have already shown, a moist condition of the atmosphere conduces to more dew and more rain.

Years ago dew was a rare occurrence and when we did happen to discover any we would call out the whole family to look at it. Nowadays we have so much dew and so many damp nights in June that we usually wait until July before cutting our alfalfa, which we used to put up two weeks earlier.

The weather bureau people contend that wet and dry weather comes in cycles and that it will become dry again before long. However, I have never been able to discover any evidence yet that the difference amounted to more than an inch or so, or that any of these dry cycles have ever been too dry to raise crops. In fact, many men, myself among the number, have raised crops every year for 30, and some for 40 years, without a failure, dry cycles or wet cycles, but of one thing I feel certain, that in years to come our dry cycles will not be so dry, and our wet cycles wetter than ever, for sooner or later all of this atmospheric moisture must and

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