

FARM AID GARDEN

CULTURE OF THE CHERRY.

According to the Cornell Experiment station a young cherry orchard should be given clean cultivation. Small fruit, like currants, raspberries or gooseberries or any others that require frequent cultivation, may be set between the rows for eight or ten years, but the bushes should be removed in the third year and opposite the trees at the end of the third year. No crop that does not require cultivation should ever be raised in the orchard. At about five years old the trees begin to bear fruit of consequence, and at ten years they give paying crops.

As the orchard comes into bearing, the management of the soil will differ according to its nature, and the trees themselves should be the indicators of their treatment. Clean cultivation should generally be stopped by June 1, or July 1, so as to check growth and give the trees sufficient time to ripen. Whenever the growth becomes too luxuriant, it can be checked by cutting a year's growth. A certain cherry orchard has stood in sod for fifteen years in an ideal soil and sustains a heavy crop.

The trees are making little growth and are filled with dead limbs, and while the size was small, quality poor and one-half were rotting on the trees. In striking contrast was a neighboring orchard which had been plowed lightly in the early spring and had a narrow run over it once a week up to the middle of June, and although there had been a severe drought the trees had made a good growth and were loaded with luscious fruit of large size.

METHODS FOR HARVESTING ALFALFA.

It must be said of alfalfa that in cutting it for hay a good deal of skill should be employed by the husbandman, or the result may be disappointing. Alfalfa should be cut at the point of blooming, but at the same time it seems to require a more thorough curing process to fit it for the stack or for the silage. The best method of curing is to cut the alfalfa sufficiently to insure it keeping sweet in the stack without becoming so dry as to shed its leaves in the handling. This cannot possibly be accomplished by curing fully in the swath. A method much practiced is to rake alfalfa, while still green, into windrows, which are allowed to cure somewhat more and finally rake it into moderate-sized cocks, in which it is allowed to stand until ready for the stack.

The process makes very nice hay, but where a large acreage is to be taken care of it is too slow and expensive. Alfalfa may be cured in the windrow with entire success, but it is important when cured in this way that there be ample facilities for putting it into stack very rapidly when ready, otherwise it will become too dry and much of it will be lost in handling, especially if it has to be carried from the fields on wagons. Alfalfa should be cut on the first appearance of bloom. The old-fashioned method of cutting alfalfa in the field by throwing away wagons, so-called, and all contrivances except a drag arrangement of his own invention.

This is composed of nine boards of Texas pine an inch thick, six inches wide and sixteen feet long. These are placed parallel, leaving six inches of space between each, and all are fastened across the ends with a 2x4 laid flat and loosely bolted to the boards. This is hitched to a team of horses, and on it nearly a ton of hay can be very easily hauled to the stack. Two men with pitchforks turn over the hay onto the drag, which when loaded is hauled to the stack and dumped on the sweep which carries it to the top of the stack. The drag will run over all ditches and is hauled up the best thing of its kind yet devised.

To facilitate the work of harvesting alfalfa, it is well to have parallel roads thirty rods apart running through the fields. These roads may be protected from irrigating waters by ditches on either side, so that the roadway at no time is flooded. This arrangement allows the alfalfa to be cut in close proximity, and the plan will be found very convenient. In stacked alfalfa more or less combustion takes place, and it is best to have a team of horses, which may be of headless barrels set on end in the center of the rack; or rails and boards may be employed.—Wilcox's Irrigation Farming.

THE SECRET OF WEALTH.

A Remedy for Extravagance.
Is there no remedy for extravagance? Practically, we suspect there is none, for the habit of spending has its root rather in character than in circumstances or in training, but there are two or three correctives, which, if a man suspects himself of the weakness, he may possibly induce himself to adopt. One is never to spend any sum without considering quietly whether he really desires the thing the expenditure is to buy. Will he be glad about it the day after the purchase?

Another corrective is to buy nothing of any sort without paying for it at once. It is the bills which come in twice a year which cripple a man, who will find that if he pays at once, the money assumes a new importance in his eyes. Clever traders know this so well that many of them would rather wait for their cash than accept the ready money, and even dislike to be paid by checks at too short intervals of time.

THE NEED OF ORGANIZATION AMONG FARMERS.

A great many farmers complain that other people are organized against them. This is a mistake. All others are organized to take care of themselves, and in caring for themselves the farmer suffers. The farmer suffers because he is not organized, and being unorganized, and his interests not looked after, all others profit by his neglect. It is a mistake to suppose that any interest is trying to injure the farmer.

"Eat vegetables and plenty of butter; drink milk, sweet wine and stout. Take cod liver oil in the early morning, some during each day and laugh as much as possible." Cream may be substituted for the cod liver oil.

Delicious sandwiches are made of fruits simply mashed into a rich paste and placed between very thin slices of bread. These are served with ice cream and sherberts instead of cake.

Belt pins have almost had their day. They pierced a hole in the shirt every day in the ribbon belt, besides they do not always do their duty, so the summer girl of '90 will go for the secret of the farmer's production between her skirt and bodice brought about by a set of strong hooks and eyes which are fastened to the belt.

The antidote to salt is sugar, soups, gravies and the like, that have been made too salty accidentally can be made palatable again by the addition of a little coarse brown sugar well stirred in.

Eggsells will clean vinegar bottles and decanters just as well as shot, which is not always kept on hand in every kitchen.

Don't wash the loaves either in water or gasoline. Lay them in wheat flour and let them stay there for twenty-four hours. Then shake out the flour, wash the loaves and they will be perfectly clean.

A chemist advises that canned fruit be opened an hour or two before it is used, because the heat of the kitchen will soften the air has been restored to it.

To clean green remove the pods and put on the stove a boiling every day in a tin kettle. Let boil fifteen minutes or until fairly well done and can immediately in glass jars and put away in a dark place.

Strawberries are easily bruised and should be handled with great care. Rinse them in cold water before using. To use them and not afterwards, so many cooks do, and then wonder why the berries are soft and water soaked.

Every housewife should provide a vegetable brush for use in the kitchen. Lettuce, spinach, beets and other vegetables can be cleaned much more readily with one than with the hands in every kitchen.

System has been introduced this year in the giving of wedding presents. If you may believe the alfalfa, a bride's list should be acceptable, so varied as to suit the purses of all her friends. Each of these lists should be written on a separate sheet of paper, and having seen it, notifies beforehand what present she would like to receive. It is not probable that the happy couple like it very much, it is bought and forwarded.

Soap used on the hair is apt to make it brittle, if it is used too often. The best is the best, and after using rinse the hair in several waters in which a little powder of starch has been dissolved.

If your children crave candy give them loaf sugar taken from a candy box. They will not eat enough of it to hurt them, and it has the advantage of being sweet and cannot be said of most of the candy one gets nowadays.

THE EMERGENCY SHELF.

Every housekeeper should have some particular place for emergency supplies. It may be a drawer or a closet, or even a certain shelf of a kitchen. The things should be known by every member of the family, and its contents kept always in good order. The things to be kept on the shelf should be bandages ready rolled for sprains, packages of court plaster, with a sharp pair of scissors, a bottle of iodine, mustard plaster for quick work, as well as a box of mustard flour and a roll of toilet tissue. For slower action, with serious cases, a bottle of castor oil, a bottle of hot water bag should be kept here, along with remedies apt to be needed in a hurry, such as kerosene, turpentine, oil for burns, brandy, ammonia, croup remedies and a prepared disinfectant.

TOILET HINTS.

Use a little sweet cream on the hands and face before retiring, rubbing it well into the skin with gentle upward strokes. The hair should be washed with a hair brush and hair oil. The hair should be washed with a hair brush and hair oil. The hair should be washed with a hair brush and hair oil.

BUYING A FARM ON CREDIT.

Probably half of the farms in the country were bought by their present owners with borrowed money partly. When one settled on a homestead, the privations and improvements required usually equalled the labor or effort expended in the purchase. In the case of farm mortgage in the older states, it is often wise to pay interest than to pay rent. The thrifty man or woman will usually accumulate money in a package of borrowed money to pay, provided the loan was used for a good purpose.

FARM NOTES.

Eat all the green things you can get now. They are an excellent tonic for a disordered liver. Do not use too much water. Your thirst may be satisfied without drowning you. It is the same with a plant. A man need not work himself to death because he is a farmer. Mind may do as much as muscle. The meanness of human nature are a bar to co-operative effort. There is too much pig nature in the combinations. Don't waste the straw. It may not be as nutritious as good hay, but it contains enough and feeding properties to be well worth husbanding. Nothing pays better on the farm than to keep accurate accounts, to know what is raised at a loss, and what yields a profit.

KEEP THE COWS CLEAN.

The skin of an animal is an active excreting agent, and a large quantity of foul matter is thus removed by it from the blood. All this matter will dry on the skin, and if not removed frequently will cover it and clog the pores, and thus prevent the excrement escapes. This dried matter is most easily loosened by the card made of fine wires, and acting like a comb, and a stiff brush then completes the cleaning of the skin by removing these loosened scales. Besides, the skin is continually changing, scales of dried tissues loosening in the form of dandruff, while the new tissues form underneath. It is in this way that in time the whole of the skin is renewed. All this dead and impure matter acts as a ferment on milk, and will cause it to sour, or take on a rancid odor very quickly. Thus it is not only necessary to keep the cows clean, but to remove this matter from the skin before each milking by the use of a card and brush.—Farm and Home.

BUTTER VS. CODLIVER OIL.

English experiments have shown that good butter is equal to cod-liver oil for consumptives, and others needing to be built up in flesh, and that it is much more easily digested, and hence it can be used in larger quantities. Many stomachs too delicate to digest cod-liver oil at all, readily digest a slice of butter taken on thin slices of stale bread.

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Cleanings in Bee Culture.

We can only secure the best results in surplus honey from strong colonies. Bees do not like to be handled hastily, but will repel all quick motions. All objectionable stock can be kept from breeding drones by using worker combs exclusively. The hives should be raised sufficiently from the ground to admit of a free circulation of air. Bees secrete wax only at times, and when necessary to furnish storage room for honey or brood. Foundation for comb honey must be made very thin and of the best quality of wax. Alfalfa is a good crop to grow, especially for the bees and honey. First-class comb honey is made only during the heaviest flow of nectar, and at a time of heavy flow. It requires the strongest colonies to work for comb honey, and these must be worked rapidly at the beginning of the flow. Bees are much more liable to swarm if cramped for room. Care in this respect will largely prevent unnecessary swarming. A swarm of bees will seldom issue if queen cells are present. By removing them swarming will be prevented, until new cells are formed. By stimulative feeding, it is possible to have colonies swarming ten days or two weeks earlier than if left to themselves. It is a mistake to draw from strong stocks in early spring to strengthen weak ones. Better put two weak ones together and allow good ones to remain. An examination of the hive should be made and all unnecessary brood comb be removed as an over supply of worthless drones is very objectionable. Honeybees are very sensitive to pure pine wax, and remains so long as it is used for honey alone. Brood combs are toughened somewhat after use from the fact that every bee hatched out leaves a thin lining in the cell. If a colony of bees is found lying still during the honey season it is evident that the hive is full of honey and the bees have no room to store more. This always has a tendency to induce swarming.—St. Louis Republic.

DAIRY NOTES.

Keep a live stock scrapbook and paste into it items that will be useful to you to remember. It may save you many dollars. A note book for the live stockman and farmer, in which he records important events connected with his crops and his live stock, will help him a better and more systematic business man.

Do you keep a record book for your live stock? The time of birth should be recorded and every event of importance in the life of the animal noted. You want to keep track of the pedigree of each animal. This record book full of notes is especially valuable in the case of cattle, such as a book with its story of every occurrence of note in the herd will prove a history full of interest and value.

Last August the Maine experiment station sent a man around with the cream gatherers of two butter factories to take samples of the skim milk from the farmers. These samples were carefully labeled and sent to the station chemist for tests for butterfat. The cream was 24 such samples, and his tests showed that skim-milk from farms where cream was raised by deep-settling in ice water was as free from butterfat as the cream from farms using cream separators. The conclusion is that deep-settling in ice water secures as good results as the separating machines.

GETTING NEW HONEY FROM A NEW SWARM.

Mr. W. Z. Hutchison, in his lecture at the Bee Keepers' Convention, at Jenkintown, last month, said, of beginning with a swarm in a new hive: If a swarm is hived upon frames with starters only, the first step is, necessarily, the building of a comb. Now, if a super filled with drawn, or partly drawn comb (not foundation) is placed over the hive, the bees will begin storing honey in the combs at the same time that comb building is begun. A queen excluder must be used to keep the queen out of the supers, then she will be ready with her eggs the moment a few cells are partly finished in the brood nest, and if the latter has been properly contracted she will easily keep pace with the comb building. The result is that nearly all of the honey is hived upon frames, which is stored in the most marketable shape and the combs in the brood nest are filled almost entirely with brood. When bees are hived upon empty frames a comb building is imperatively necessary, otherwise large quantities of honey will be stored in them, and when bees build comb to store honey, particularly if the field is good, they usually build a comb, which is probably do this because storage can thus be secured with the least expenditure of time, labor and material. So long as the queen keeps pace with the comb building, the bees will store honey, but if the brood nest is so large that bees begin hatching from its center before the bees have filled it with comb, and the queen returns to refill the brood nest, the result is that the bees, the comb builders are quite likely to change from worker to drone comb.

ALFALFA AS A HONEY PLANT.

A Kansas correspondent of the Orange Judd Farmer writes as follows: The cultivation of alfalfa has added considerably to the honey crop of the United States. No other honey plant has given such a "boom" to beekeeping, especially in the Western States, as alfalfa. It is a very deep root, and when well rooted seldom fails to produce heavy crops of hay and seeds, when almost everything else fails, as roots penetrate very deep into the ground, in many cases reaching water at fifteen feet deep. I have seen a continuous flow of honey from this plant, commencing in the middle of May and lasting until the first of September, for several years, without regard to drought or season. Alfalfa honey differs but little from white clover. It is a very rich honey, and is quoted in the markets at the highest price.

A WORD FOR THE HOUSEWIFE.

The farmer's wife has few conveniences in the kitchen. She carries water from an outside well when a small cistern on a farm is not available. The use of a single bolt in a mowing machine may not throw half a dozen hay-makers out of a job, but it does save tons of hay to a storm which three cents would have prevented had the farmer provided himself with the extra bolt in advance of the coming of the storm. The man who provides for repairs in the midst of first-class hay weather. Then there is but little carting on a farm that a farmer handy with tools cannot do just as well as any carpenter, and he ought to do it.—A. W. Cheever.

ONE WAY TO SAVE MOISTURE.

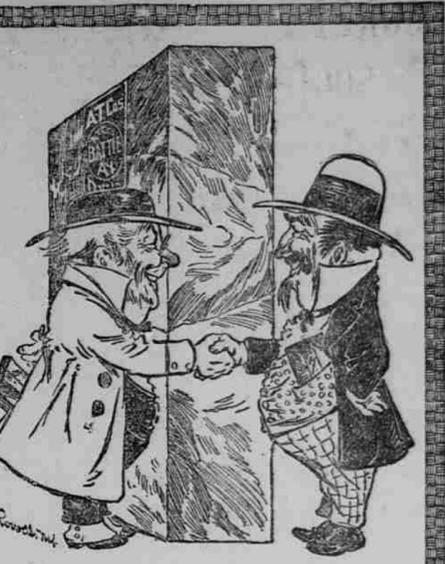
How to save as much of the moisture as possible is a matter which has received the consideration of scientists and farmers. There are methods by which water may be saved for future use. There is one way to partially prevent loss, and which is familiar to all farmers, and that is to keep the surface of the ground, which is exposed by crop, always loose. If a shower comes much of the water will flow off the hard ground, but if the soil is loose the water will more easily be absorbed. Constant stirring of the soil also prevents loss of a large portion of the moisture already in the soil. As soon after a shower or irrigation as the soil will permit, it should be stirred with a shallow cultivator. If this is done faithfully through the season the value of each shower and of each irrigation will be nearly doubled in any crop.

CLIPPING QUEENS.

I clip all my queens and in colonies run for extracted honey. I have little or no trouble with swarms, writes Mrs. L. Harrison in Farm and Home. The hives are close to the ground. A board leaning against the alighting board of each hive permits the return of the queen in case of swarming. Once in awhile she enters another hive, but the bees remain to rear another instead of decamping to the woods, and the next year the hive contains a young and vigorous queen. By clipping queens, using shallow combs filled with empty combs and self-spacing frames I can care for 400 colonies in a smaller space than I could handle half that number stored in sections. Bees never swarm much if supplied at the proper time with empty combs.

Photos of Carnival Queen.

Cabinet size, 15c. Panels, 31; 18x22, 32. Copyrighted, The Johnson Co., Salt Lake.



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