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PLANTING FRUIT TREES.

Care Should Be Taken Not to Set the Roots Too Deep in Soil.

The beginner in tree planting usually sets his trees too deep rather than too shallow in the relatively heavy soils of Missouri, J. C. Whitten of the department of horticulture of the University of Missouri says.

"Young trees should be selected for planting, and they should be set at the same depth at which they stood in the nursery," Mr. Whitten said. "Trees turn to the northeast and grow evolved because of the warm south and southwest winds during the growing season. The tree should be set with the heavier side to the southwest to avoid this."

"The roots should be trimmed so as not to be cramped and any ragged wounds taken off. Peach trees should be pruned most severely after planting of any of the orchard fruits. Trim all branches off, leaving a single whip; then shorten the whip to a height of about two and one-half feet. Cherry trees should be less severely trimmed. If well branched the center of the tree should be cut out. The Japanese plum tree should be shaped like the peach. Other plum, apple and pear trees, having only a single whip, should be treated likewise. Older trees may be treated like the cherry, with the exception that all branches may be shortened to one-half or one-third of their natural length."

WAY TO CONTROL THE OX WARBLE PEST

Injury by the ox warble amounting to millions of dollars annually could be reduced to almost nothing if stockmen would practice effective practical methods of control, according to C. A. Dean, professor of entomology in the Kansas Agricultural college.

The presence of the ox warble is detected by passing the hand over the back of the animal. The warble may be destroyed by putting kerosene, turpentine or mercurial ointment in or on the opening through the skin directly over the grubs. This treatment



The Aberdeen-Angus breed of cattle have been popular with feeders and butchers. When matured and fattened they show their heads almost always symmetrical and not bunched or patchy. As beef producers they are hard to equal. The bull shown is an Aberdeen-Angus.

should be given when the grubs appear on the backs of cattle, because if the grubs become tough before being killed they are likely to cause sores. If the opening through the skin is very small it should be enlarged with a smooth, pointed stick. A machinist's oil can having a slender nozzle furnishes an excellent method of applying the medicine. This treatment may be applied rapidly by running the cattle through a chute, with one man stationed on each side provided with an oil can filled with the medicine.

The cattle should be examined from fifteen to twenty days later, and any grubs that escape the first treatment should be squeezed out and crushed. It is important that any grubs squeezed out should be destroyed, else they will transform into adult flies.

The ox warble is one of the worst enemies of cattle, especially in the grazing sections. It is sometimes called botfly and hecily and is also often spoken of as a grub. In general appearance and size the adult fly, like many other botflies, resembles the common housefly. It is half an inch long, black and covered with yellowish white and reddish brown and black hairs.

In the spring from the latter part of March to the 1st of May the flies appear about the cattle, laying their eggs upon the legs, especially in the region just above the hoof. It is from this point of placing the eggs near the heels that they get the name of hecily in the west and southwest.

In 1915 it was estimated that 60 per cent of the cattle in Kansas were infested with warbles. The annual financial loss on damaged hides alone is not estimated for the United States at from \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000.

Corn Experiment Lesson. In experiments with corn at the Pennsylvania state college during the last few years heavy seed gave a little better field germination and a little better yield than light seed. Seed from ears which germinated quickly gave a slightly better field germination. Seed selected on the stalk germinated better than seed selected at husking time in an outdoor test, for the single year for which the record was kept. Seed selected at husking in three years showed for some unaccountable reason, the better field germination. The yields were about alike.

Renew the Litter. Straw, hay, alfalfa, chaff, leaves and cut corn stover all make good litters. Shavings and sawdust are not best because they tend to pack and also become dampness, in addition the kind of litter used, it should be renewed frequently and never allowed to become badly contaminated with droppings.

THE PURE BRED SIRE.

In 1889 a Lacrosse county (Ill.) farmer decided that his ordinary beef and milk cows were not paying, and so he purchased the best pure bred sire he could get of the breed desired and mated him with his herd, which was of mixed breeding. By keeping careful records he found that the cows resulting from the first cross produced the first year, on the average, 212 pounds of butter fat. By continuing the use of a pure bred sire of the same breed he increased this amount to a 268 pound average at the end of the ninth year. In 1912 in his herd of twenty-five milking cows none produced less than 400 pounds of butter fat and several produced 600 pounds.

SOY BEANS FOR THE SOUTH.

Belief That This Legume May Be Profitably Rotated With Cotton.

The department of agriculture and the various state experiment stations are conducting wide experiments to discover the various forage crops best suited to conditions in the southern states, says the Home and Farm. The soy bean is now the subject of thorough experiments in various sections.

While the bean may be grown throughout the humid and semihumid sections of the south and in the southern portion of the corn belt, it thrives especially well in the cotton growing regions. For this reason it offers an excellent opportunity to the cotton planter for adjusting his farm plans to offset the damage to cotton inflicted by the boll weevil. From the farmers' point of view the existence of the many oil mills in the south and the probability that by furnishing a demand for soy beans these concerns will make the legume an important cash crop should greatly facilitate the introduction of the new product on a commercial scale. Soy beans



SOY BEAN PLANT.

should be of additional interest to farmers since, as in the case of other legumes, their culture improves the soil. As a pasturage crop this legume is rich in protein and is particularly suited for pasturing hogs, especially so when the beans are grown for soil improvement. When the plants are young and tender the hogs will practically eat the whole of the plant, but after they become mature and hard and woody they will not be eaten so readily. By planting the same variety at different dates or by using varieties with different rates of maturity the grazing may be extended over a considerable period. Although this crop is chiefly used for pasturing hogs, all other kinds of live stock may be pastured on it if desired.

Salt For Dairy Cows.

From one to two ounces of salt daily, in accord with the amount of milk produced, is sufficient to meet all requirements of a dairy cow on rations of ordinary feeds, according to Dr. P. B. Forbes of the Ohio experiment station. In nutrition studies with cows milking as much as forty-five pounds daily and fed common feeds he found that one ounce of salt a day satisfied the cow's needs.

To Keep Up a Good Milk Flow.

To keep the cow persistently in milk always milk rapidly and see that every bit of milk is taken each time. It does not pay to turn the milking over to careless and inexperienced hands.

CHICKEN CHATTER.

A few thorough applications of crude petroleum to the interior of poultry houses will destroy completely the common red mite infesting chickens. Notwithstanding that many good breeds have been imported, the fact remains that not one of them can be classed with our American production. After plowing and before seeding turn the poultry in on the freshly turned up earth.

Use good, vigorous breeding stock.

Remember that a weak chick in most cases can be traced to poor breeding stock. As to poultry diseases, folks are to blame for most of the trouble encountered in that direction.

Making the Farm Pay

CORN IN DRY REGIONS.

Need of Getting Moisture Into Soil and Conserving It.
[Prepared by United States department of agriculture.]

As lack of moisture more than anything else limits corn yields in droughty regions the first question regulating each operation should be, "What will be its effect upon the soil moisture supply?"

The authorities state that while summer fallow frequently results in greater yields of corn, the practice has not proved practicable. They therefore advise beginning the preparation of land to prevent loss of moisture and to put the surface into condition to receive moisture as soon as the preceding crop will permit. Cultivation after the re-



BREAKING VIRGIN LAND IN SOUTH DAKOTA.

mains of the preceding crop is profitable if it stops or prevents a growth of weeds. But if the growing season is short, as is often the case, the snow then would be caught by a cultivated surface.

Fall disking, or listing, is usually beneficial in putting the land in better condition to prevent the soil from blowing, to hold the snow and to prevent runoff. The penetration of moisture is slow, and when rains occur evaporation is rapid from hard soil surfaces, such as usually follow the growing of small grain. The chances of storing moisture are increased by loosening such compact surfaces as early as possible. Whether plowing is necessary, however, depends very much upon the type of soil. Most heavy clay soils are best out in proper condition by plowing. Sandy or light loam soils should not be plowed in the fall and left bare during the winter in regions where soil blowing is likely to occur. If however it becomes advisable to plow such soils in the fall, blowing of the plowed area may be checked by top dressing with heavy manure.

Deep plowing should always be done in the fall or very early in the spring to allow more moisture to penetrate and the soil to settle before planting time.

On sloping land the plowing, listing and cultivating should follow on a level along the slopes or around the hills. The moisture saved makes this a profitable practice, and very often the prevention of runoff is necessary to avoid erosion, with the loss of the richest portions of the soil.

Alfalfa land to be prepared for corn should be fallowed one year or plowed early the previous summer.

Growing plants draw large quantities of water from the soil and subsoil. All growth of weeds and volunteer grain on land to be planted to corn should be prevented.

Deep plowing and subsoiling should be done in the fall rather than at corn planting time. Soil put in the right condition to take in moisture to a considerable depth is also open to the air and dries out rapidly. If necessary to plow in the spring for corn the plowing should be done early and should not be deep, and the ground should be packed immediately. Plowing under several inches of snow is an effective and sometimes a practicable way of getting moisture into the ground.

Dairy Farming Profitable. Dairy farming is an economical form of agriculture, and economy and thrift are handmaidens of prosperity. It retains upon the farm the larger portion of the fertility of the crop and thus the productivity of the fields is kept up without recourse to expensive commercial fertilizers. Dairy farms are invariably highly productive because the fertility is returned and because a plentiful supply of manure is applied to the soil. Dairy farming is economical in that it utilizes practically all the land. Parts that are unsuited to the plow can in nearly all cases be turned to pasture.

Corn For Poultry. Do not supply too much corn to laying hens. It is very heating, and it is not fattening for hens that are to make eggs. It is a good winter feed, but too much fat stored in a hen's body interferes with the laying functions.

Gems In Verse

OLD FAVORITES.

OUR KIND OF A MAN.
By JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY.
[Copyright 1887, 1888, by James Whitcomb Riley.]

THE kind of a man for you and me! He faces the world with a blanching And smites, as long as the wrong resists, With a knuckled fist and force like fists:

He lives the life he is preaching of And loves where most is the need of love; His voice is clear to the deaf man's ears, And his face sublime through the blind man's tears.

The light shines out where the clouds were dim, And the widow's prayer goes up for him; The latch is clicked at the hotel door, And the sick man sees the light once more, And out o'er the barren hills the sea, Springing blossoms and waving trees, Feeling as only the blind can feel, That God's own servant has come that way.

Smoothing the path as he walks on, Through the golden gate where his loved have gone.

The kind of a man for me and you! However little of worth we may be, He credits full and ables in trust That time will teach us how there is just.

He walks on in his high, wise way, Of querulous and uneasy moods, And sympathizing, he shares the pain Of the doubts that rack us heart and brain.

And, knowing this, as we grip his hand, We are surely coming to understand! He looks on sin with pity-eyes, Even as the Lord, since Paradise, Else, should we read, Though our sins should glow, As scarlet, they shall be white as snow?

And, feeling still, with a grief half glad, That the bad are as good as the good are bad, He strikes straight out for the right—and he Is the kind of a man for you and me!

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

O, slow to smile and swift to speak, Gentle and merciful and just! Who, in the face of God, didst bear the sword of power, nation's trust!

In sorrow by thy fiercest hand, Amid the awe that burst our fall, And speak the anguish of our land, That shook with horror every fall.

Thy task is done; the land is free, We hear thee speak to us again, Whose proudest mourning shall be The broken fetters of our chain.

Pure was thy life; its light, whose path placed thee with those of men, Among the noble host of those Who perished in the cause of right.

—William Cutler Bryant.

HAND THAT RULES THE WORLD.

THEY say that man is mighty and governs land and sea, He wields a mighty scepter o'er lesser powers that be; But when a woman's mightier, stronger, man from his throne has hurled,

'Tis the hand that rocks the cradle that rules this mighty world, The iron arm of woman, the power of this great world.

CHORUS. Yes, the tender, loving mother, who nurses, nurtures, tends, Into our life's great battles many noble and, altho' she's in the background when the banners are unfurled; The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world.

Behold the brave commander, on land or on the sea, Stanch 'mid the carnage standing, no fear of death has he! The standard bearer, dying, with the color, Brave men they be, yet all are ruled by woman's gentle hand.

Great statesman govern nations, kings rule a people's fate, But the unseen hand of velvet these giants regulate; The iron arm of fortune with woman's arm entwined, For great men rule the nations, and woman rules the mind.

—Charles W. Berkeley.

BY THE NORTH SEA.

A LAND that is lonelier than ruin, A sea that is stranger than death, For fields that a rose never knew to be, Waste endless and boundless and bowery—

But of March blossoms fruitless as free, Where earth lies exhausted, as poverty To strive with the sea.

FAIR flickers the flight of the swallows, For flutters the web of the grass spun dense over desolate hollows, Store piled than the clouds as they pass; Thick woven as the web of a witch is Round the heart of a thrill that hath wings.

Whose youth and the wrecks of its riches Are waifs of the wind.

THE pastures are herdless and sheepless, No pasture or shelter for herds; The wind is relentless and sleepless, And restless and songless the birds; Their cries from afar fall breathless, Their wings are as lightning that pierce; For the land has two lords that are deathless—

Death's self and the sea! —Alfred Lord Tennyson

AT BEST.

THE faithful helm commands the keel, From the port to port fair breezes blow, But the ship must strike the convex sea, Nor may she straighten so.

SO men to men in fair accord, On thought and will the winds may wait, But the world will bend the passing word, Though its shortest course be straight.

PROM soul to soul the shortest line, At best will be the best, The ship that holds the straightest course Still cuts the convex sea.

—John Boyle O'Reilly.

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