

# Chariton Courier

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## Farm Bureau Notes (By Sam Jordan)

A good many inquiries are coming in about fertilizers and it seems that the materials that are used in the manufacture are getting scarce, and it may be a case of "The early bird gets the worm." We are promised fall prices in a short time, and those who want to use fertilizers for wheat or alfalfa this fall will do well to order early.

Many farms do not need such to any great extent, but on the poorer and badly cropped farms fertilizers must be used if quick results are expected.

The question about fertilizers damaging land always comes up, and candidly, it is like most other things that are done wrongly. No matter how fertile a soil may be, if the soil had no vegetable matter in it, it could not produce anything. Vegetable matter when it decays forms a vegetable mold called "humus." Humus "unlocks" the plant food from the soil particles so it can dissolve in water. It must be thus dissolved before the plant can use it.

Commercial fertilizer carries no humus or vegetable matter, and when applied to land for a considerable time, when no vegetable matter has been added to the soil, in the way of manures, or green crops plowed under, or when we practice the evil thing of burning corn stalks, we thus have a dead soil, tho perhaps fertile. Such a dead soil can be given new life by applying vegetable matter or humus.

Phosphorus is commonly the limiting factor in the size of grain crop. Burning corn stalks destroys less phosphorus than is removed by the grain. Burning destroys all the nitrogen in the stalk so that all the fertility that is returned to the soil from burned corn stalks, or other plant growth is potash and about one third of the potash is left in the grain and two thirds in the stalk.

You cannot grow a bumper crop of corn on scrub soil from scrub seed with scrub care.

Many of the weeds grow in a soil so poor that blue grass, timothy and clover cannot do well. Manure this ground and see the good plants take them. Just take a look in your pasture

or meadow and see what sort of plants you see growing on those spots where the droppings of the stock have been, then note the weeds just outside that green spot.

Certain plants build soil, but blue grass, timothy, wheat, corn and many others cannot do it.

Plants known as soil builders, build soil in but one element of fertility and that is nitrogen.

### Save Eggs Now

Eggs are not cheap now, yet they are cheaper than they will be next January. To pack eggs so that they will keep for ten months or more is very easy, simple and cheap.

Keep in mind that there is no way to make a spoiled egg a good egg, so all eggs must be fresh from the nest and clean. If you wait till hot weather you are not so sure to always secure the strictly fresh eggs.

One of the most successful methods yet devised for preserving eggs is by the use of water glass (soluble sodium silicate). When eggs are to be kept for a period of eight or nine months, the formula recommended is one part water glass to nine parts of water. If eggs are to be kept only a short time, a one-to-fifteen solution will prove satisfactory. The water used should be boiled or distilled to remove all impurities, and cooled before making up the mixture.

Water glass secured from a local druggist costs about 50 cents a quart and if used in the formula one-to-nine will preserve approximately 20 dozen eggs. Glazed earthenware jars make the best containers. They can be left uncovered in a cool cellar, providing there are at least two inches of the solution over the top layer of eggs. A good plan is to make up the solution and add the eggs as they are gotten each day until the jar is full.

### Sorghum

Sometimes a good variety of crops on a farm saves us from trouble and in many cases where for some reason we have lost our stand of corn and it should be too late to replant there are many other profitable crops that can yet be grown. Among them will be found kafir corn, milo maize and the sweet sorghum. In point of production the sweet sorghum will produce perhaps the greater amount of forage with the least amount of work as it can be drilled solidly and get along well without any cultivation. The non-saccharine sorghums do best when cultivated.

I have understood that a good sorghum outfit will be purchased in the community of Keytesville and it might be a part of wisdom to put out a pretty good acreage from which molasses may be made. This is one of the most wholesome foods and becomes profitable as well for the reason that the sweet sorghum can be grown successfully on land a little too thin to produce good corn and when grown on medium thin light soil the sorghum has a better flavor than when grown on heavier lands. These crops are often considered pretty hard on the soil but this effect may be largely offset in the event that they are grown for forage by sowing cow peas or soybeans with them.

When sorghum is sown for forage drill solidly with a grain drill. From 50 to 70 pounds of seed per acre will be about the right amount varying with the quality of the seed. Where cowpeas and sorghum are sown together about thirty pounds of sorghum with one bushel of whipporwill cowpeas is recommended. The cowpeas should be drilled but the sorghum may be reasonably broadcasted. It is sometimes practiced to double row the peas with a corn planter a few days before planting the sorghum for the reason that when planted at the same time the sorghum in a short time will begin growing more rapidly than the peas and is likely to smother the peas. When handled in this way an enormous amount of feed of excellent quality is often secured and the quality of the soil not damaged.

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Some users of printing save pennies by getting inferior work and lose dollars through lack of advertising value in the work they get. Printers as a rule charge very reasonable prices, for none of them get rich although nearly all of them work hard.

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## MUSIC PUPILS RECITAL

An Unusual Program for Youngsters — Each Number Well Rendered.

The recital Thursday night last week by the pupils of Mrs. R. W. Rucker featured an entirely new number for this city, 8 hands and two pianos. It was not only new but alone worth the price of admission and more, and the large audience enjoyed the two numbers perhaps more than any other on the program.

The difference between a properly trained pianist and one who has dabbed at the difficult instrument, the greatest of all musical machines, is more than noticeable even to a novice. Each of the girls on the program showed plainly the benefit from being trained by one who knows, and each received merited applause for her exhibition of skill.

The first number, Grand Valse de Concert, Mattei, 8 hands, opened the surprise indicated by the listeners all thru the evening. Misses Vera Cropper, Virginia Wood, Zoe Arrington and Elizabeth Arrington started the afternoon enjoyment in a number never seen here before, two pianos and 8 hands, and it put the audience in finest of condition for the remainder of the program.

The second number, Shepherds Lullaby, Friml and Witches Revels, Schytte by Elizabeth Arrington displayed good tone and rhythm and pleased all. The third, Marceaux Character En Farm D'Etudes, Wollenhaupt and Valse Arabesque, Lack, Miss Roberta Parks, was brilliant and technique splended. As ever her appearance was the signal for settling down to hear something good.

The fourth number, Pier Gynt, 8 hands including Mrs. Rucker was classical and of course most excellently rendered with Misses Vera Cropper, Roberta Parks and Zoe Arrington and their teacher again introducing the high grade novelty of two pianos.

The fifth number, Church Processional, Friml, Miss Virginia Wood, was well rendered and showed clearly the temperament of the young performer.

Miss Zoe Arrington was on for the sixth number with splendid selection, Serenade Badine and La Cinquantine, Gabriel-Marie. Zoe loses sight of all else in the world when she takes her place at the piano. She loses herself in the music and when she finishes a selection and emerges, she presents the appearance of having just waked up. The seventh number Serenade, Maszkowski and the Flatterer, Charminade, by Miss Vera Cropper was marked by splendid interpretation and the rendition by a quiet dignity characteristic of one certain of herself. The eighth and last number on the classical program was Scherzo, Wollenhaupt-Lack, two pianos with Miss Roberta Parks and Mrs. Rucker. Naming the pianists tells the story of the excellence of its rendition.

We most heartily congratulate the young women and their teacher on their musical accomplishments and trust that they will favor our community so highly again soon.

### Young Men

If under age or physically unfit for army, now's your greatest opportunity to enter business. Young men subject to military service we are agreeing to refund tuition if called to army. Write us about this unusual situation. We've made a study of it and are able to offer advice.

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Blowing And Breathing Wells  
 What are known as blowing wells are described by the United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, in a recent letter to a correspondent.

"Blowing" wells, also known as "breathing" "sucking" "weather," and "barometer" wells, it is stated have been reported from many localities. When such wells, have been carefully observed it has been found that the blowing and sucking occurs alternately, that is at certain times the blowing is outward and at intervening periods it inward. It has been found that the phenomena are due to difference in atmospheric or barometric pressure. The necessary condition seems to be a porous stratum, such as sandstone, gravel, or porous limestone, only partially saturated with water, overlain by some impervious substance such as shale or clay. While the atmospheric pressure is high the air enters the well and collects in the upper part of the porous stratum above the water level. While the barometric pressure is low the air is expelled with considerable force, producing what is known as "blowing". This blowing frequently occurs during storm periods or when the wind is in a certain direction or during certain periods of the day.

The peculiar action which you have observed in the case of your own well may be due to causes similar to those above mentioned. If gas is escaping it ought not to be difficult to detect its presence. It should first be tested to see whether it will burn, and for this test a funnel or some contrivance can be used. In case it will burn it may be either marsh gas or 'oil or rock gas.' Whether it is one or the other can be determined with some probability, though not with certainty, by chemical analysis.

Some natural rock has almost, if not exactly, the same composition as marsh gas.

It is not at all probable that your well is giving off gas in sufficient quantity to be used for domestic purposes, but in case it is it will be necessary to install some mechanical device for the collecting and storing the gas. From the storage tank it could then be piped to your residence to be used as fuel or light.

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