

Farmer's Column.



"SPEED THE FLOW."

Farm Work for August.

This is a sort of leisure month with most farmers, but a busy one with planters. The small grain crops have been harvested and perhaps threshed out, and put away in the granary or sold. The rye and oat crops have been this year unusually productive, but the wheat crop has fallen short in the opinion of the knowing ones, 20 per cent., or 100,000,000 bushels in the crop of the whole country, owing to early freezing last fall, the late Spring, insects, May drought, and a wet June. The corn crop will likewise prove a short one, because it came up badly owing to the seed being imperfectly ripened; much was destroyed by the cut worm after it came up. This class of worms was unusually prolific this year and did great damage. June was so wet that the crop could not be worked well in its early stages and much of it is yet not grown enough to be beyond the necessity of cultivation. The cotton crop and the tobacco crop both have splendid prospects. The area devoted to these crops have been increased considerably, and, unless something unforeseen should occur, the general product will be enormous and a great aggregate increase over former years.

Tobacco.

This crop will now need the utmost vigilance and require unwearied energy to keep clean of worms and suckers. Top low and leave only twelve to sixteen leaves on a plant. To destroy the worms, use all the hand-labor you can command and all the poultry—turkeys, geese and ducks—you can get hold of, and also destroy all the "horn-blowers"—or tobacco butterfly—to do this kill them by hand, reward the children for each fly they kill, and put a few drops of coal-balt in the flowers of the plant, and in the flower cups of the Jamestown weeds and of all flowers that you find the horn-blowers dip their long proboscis into. There is poor economy in growing a large crop of tobacco that it may be eaten up by worms, or so mutilated as to be not saleable. Most planters "top" too high—much is lost by such greediness or mistaken policy. Low topping produces large leaves, more body and firmness, gives more weight to the same plant and ripens earlier. But the suckers must be broken before they get three inches long or they will exhaust the plant. Let the tobacco get well ripened before it is hoisted if possible. It takes four to six weeks to ripen properly, after it is topped. It gains flavor, richness, substance and weight in ripening. Do not crowd it when housed, either by having too many plants on the stick or the sticks too close together. Ten plants of good sized growth are enough on a stick five feet long, and the sticks should be twelve inches apart on the joists or stringers.

Rye.—It is a convenient way to sow rye amongst the standing corn, and it will get good roots and growth, so as to make fine winter pasture for sheep and young stock. The rye crop requires early sowing to produce well. Pasturing on it by sheep or calves and young colts until the middle of March will not materially injure its grain yielding powers. A gentleman from the Eastern Shore of Maryland told us that he sows it specially to give him an abundance of green food for his dairy cows and other stock in winter and spring, either for soiling or pasturing. He states also that when it was fully grown and before the seed was ripe, he always cut and tied in bundles a portion of it, to tie his corn shocks with, and also to tie the bundles of corn fodder. It when cut green was more pliable and made stronger rope than when it had become ripe, and used in that way it never left seed to grow amongst the wheat that follows corn. If the straw is used for tying the corn heaps after the rye had ripened, no matter how carefully it had been threshed or flailed, there would be seed left which the following year appeared in the wheat and caused much trouble to pluck it out of the wheat crop.

Late Potatoes.—Keep the late potatoes free of grass and weeds and the land well stirred until the blossoms appear. Destroy the bugs or beetles by applying Royal Purple or Paris Green in a liquid form through the newly invented syringe, or mixed two pounds to a bushel of plaster and put in a course or guano bag and shake over the vines. By the latter method the beetles will be killed and the plant will help the growth of the potatoes. Apply this remedy as often as the potato bug seems formidable. The ravages of the potato bug are stopped easily by this simply applied remedy.

"Forced by my political connections into public life, my sufferings were intensified by the comments of those who saw my face and head covered with scrofulous humor," said a gentleman recently cured by

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Advertisement for Iron, A True Tonic, A Perfect Strengthener, A Sure Reviver. Includes text about iron's benefits for health and vitality.

Advertisement for Wheat, Best Goods, Lowest Prices. Includes a logo for 'PURITY' and text about wheat quality.

Advertisement for Fertilizers, To Wheat Growers. Includes text about the benefits of fertilizers for crop growth.

Advertisement for Excelsior & Ammoniated Phosphate. Includes text about the quality and benefits of the fertilizer.

Advertisement for J. Q. A. Holloway, featuring images of fertilizer bags and text about the product's quality.

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Advertisement for F. M. Cox, Attorney at Law, located in Port Tobacco, Maryland.

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Advertisement for Wesley Bowie, Boot & Shoe Maker, located at Port Tobacco, Md.

Advertisement for Hallock's Improved Hand Seed-Drill, featuring a detailed illustration of the machine.

Advertisement for New Departure in the Flour Trade, located at 100 BARRBETS OF CHOICE FLOUR.

Advertisement for Enterprise Lime Kiln, located at Virginia Ave. and 21st St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

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Advertisement for R. A. Golden, Grocer and Commission Merchants, located at 100 BARRBETS OF CHOICE FLOUR.

Advertisement for The Best of All Liniments, for Man and Beast, featuring a detailed illustration of a person.

Advertisement for Mexican Mustang Liniment, located at 100 BARRBETS OF CHOICE FLOUR.

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