

Farmer's Column.



Give foot their gold & leaves their power. Let fortune's bubbles rise and fall...

Agricultural Notes. The prickly-comfrey craze is now a thing of the past.

In Austria-Hungary this season's yield of wheat, rye and barley for grinding falls far below the average.

The wheat crop of India is now reported at 8,000,000 bushels below the average...

Grass seed sown on well-pulverized soil just before a smart shower will need no other covering to cause it to germinate...

In old times the sowing each fall of a piece of rye was so common as to be almost universal.

Some Ohio farmers declare that they can make more money by plowing under clover and raising wheat than by cutting, curing and feeding the clover either to dairy or beef stock.

The exports of wheat from America during the first six months of 1888 show a falling off of about 8,000,000 bushels from the amount exported during the first six months of 1885.

In Canada an order in council has been passed, prohibiting the importation of swine from Minnesota and Dakota, except through Port Emerson...

It is claimed that rye makes the best of feed for milch cows, calves and swine. There is, it may be added, as a further point in favor of rye, no crop which is less exhaustive to the soil, or so good with which to sow grass seed.

No kind of stubble, except of clover, of which the root forms the principal part, is worth anything as manure. Of grain crops, especially, neither the stubble above ground nor the root below is worth regarding as a fertilizer.

An excellent practical farmer remarked a year or two ago that he considered a good clover seedling worth from \$10 to \$15 an acre. This is more than the profit of any grain crop, and it can be had when grain is sown by the outlay of \$1.25 to \$1.50 for clover seed.

The exports of wheat from Russia during the past season have been the smallest for many years. The estimated exports of wheat for the year ending August 1, 1888, amount to only 46,000,000 bushels, against 72,000,000 bushels the previous year.

The perfection of good tree planting is to do it when the ground will powder and not paste. As soon as there has been dirt enough put in somewhat over the roots, pull the tree up and down a little, to encourage the earth to jolt into every hole and cranny, then fill in and pound down the earth as tightly as possible.

For exterminating scale insects which infest their fruit trees California orchardists have the best success with a wash composed of soap, sulphur and water, the proportions being one pound of soap to two gallons of water, with as much sulphur as can be dissolved in this mixture while boiling; one pound of American lye, or potash, may be added to eight or ten gallons of this; applied to the tree as hot as convenient.

Every practical farmer who has grown potatoes has probably learned that they keep much better in cool, well-drained underground cellars, than in warm, well-lighted apartments. Potatoes should be dug in fair weather, and lay exposed to the air until all moisture has been dried from their skins, the bottom of which should be raised slightly from the bottom of the cellar, so as to permit a circulation of the air beneath, particularly if the cellar bottom is damp. Shallow bins, not exceeding three feet in depth, are safer than deeper ones, as there is less liability of the potatoes heating when stored in such.

Now that the time for feeding green corn to hogs has come again, there will be little else than corn given them from this on until they go to market. It is often remarked that the continuous use of corn in the fall is the cause of swine-plague. That it may be the direct cause of ill health in the hogs thereby rendering them less able to resist contagious diseases, there seems no reason to doubt; but that corn does not of itself originate swine-plague has never been proved, nor do I think it ever will be.

The best means known to the present time of preventing the spread of swine-plague is for farmers and feeders to keep away from where it is. If the hogs are reported to be dying in a given country or neighborhood, be content—hear of it only. Do not go to see, for you can do no good, but may, instead, bring away with you the germs of disease, and thus give it a new start elsewhere.

As an additional preventive, and as a corrective of the ill effects of an exclusive corn diet, it is well to place the following mixture under shelter where the hogs can use of it as often as they like: Sulphur and copperas, each 5 lbs.; common salt, 10 lbs.; charcoal and slacked lime, each one bushel; wood ashes, two bushels.—Breeder's Gazette.

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