

Farmer's Column.



Give fools their gold & knives their power. Let fortune's bubbles rise and fall. Who sows a field or trains a frower. Or plants a tree, is more than all.

Corn and Cob Meal.

An experiment was recently tried at the Iowa Agricultural College on the respective merits of clear corn meal and corn and cob ground together for fattening pigs.

Pigs of the same breed and same age, and as nearly as possible the same weight, were selected and fed week to week to accustom them to the food selected. They were then given all they would eat up clean, half of them of corn meal and half of corn and cob meal, and also the hogs at the end of each week for two weeks when they were sold.

The corn and cob, 70 pounds to the bushel, made 13.05 pounds of pork per bushel and 50 pounds of the clear corn meal made 11.07 pounds of corn bushel fed. The hogs were sold at \$3.80 per hundred-weight and gave 45.79 cents per bushel for the corn ground with the cob, and 44.34 cents for the clear corn. The experiment was repeated with a lot of hogs in the early stages of fattening and returned 49.63 cents for the corn and cob meal, and 44.92 cents for the corn meal, reckoning pork at \$3.80.

The reason why the corn and cob meal seems to do better is explained by some writers on the theory that the mixed meal lies lighter in the stomach of the animal and is thereby better digested. It is quite certain that there is but little nutriment in the cob if indeed there is any. However the above with many other experiments in the same line seem to confirm the superiority of the corn and cob meal for fattening hogs.—Hoard's Dairyman.

About Fence Posts.

Nineteen years ago in October I cut a large white oak for fence posts. They were 3x3 inches, 4 feet 4 inches long, and no sap or waste was left on the post. As soon as sawed I stood them up against the fence so they would season. In the spring I purchased a barrel of coal tar at the gas works; set the barrel under an apple tree; cut a hole in the barrel large enough to set a four posts at a time; let them remain several hours, and some all night; they raised them up and let them drain back into the barrel, and then rolled them in lake sand. The reason I used sand was because I could handle them without getting tar all over me. The number of posts was three hundred, all treated with tar except twelve, and I set three feet six inches apart.

About Dairy Butter.

Notwithstanding that creamy butter, from the most careful makers, will be good in quality and uniform in its appearance, this by no means implies that butter made in the farm dairy should not be as good. In fact, it may and should be better, unless every person supplying the central factory with milk or cream exercises a careful supervision over his cows, to know that their health is perfect, and that they are giving milk unadulterated by any of the contingencies that may tend to disorganization of the milk functions of the cows. If twenty, fifty or one hundred milk-producers would attend as carefully to the condition of their milk as the man or woman who makes butter directly from the herd, and sells the same upon the reputation acquired for care in every department of the labor, the case would be different. But, where we multiply by twenty, fifty or one hundred, the life are too many to insure, it is equally the fact that the average product of dairies sell for less—far less—than the average price for creamery butter.

There is profit in dairy butter if the maker understands his business. If not, and he will not learn, or will not supply the good wife with facilities for making the best, and will not use current means for getting it to market in perfect condition, some other branch of agriculture requiring less exact care had better be followed.—Farm, Field and Stockman.

Experiments made at the Iowa Agricultural College grounds lead to the conclusion that in cultivating corn the work ought to be done in the upper three or four inches of soil. Deep culture in the middle of the row, it is reported, does less injury than near the hills, but even then a great many roots are cut by the points of deep-plowing shovels. Level culture of medium depth accomplished all the purposes of working the soil without serious injury to the roots.

According to Dr. Salmon there are two contagious diseases of hog cholera. The first affects the bowels and is genuine hog cholera; the second affects the lungs and is swine plague. An animal may have both at once.

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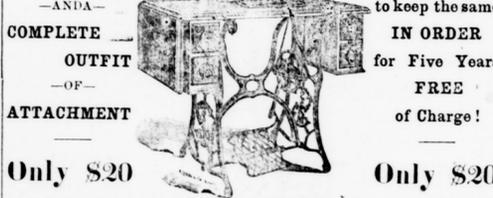
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