

# LOVINGTON LEADER.

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## Frijole Beans Profitable Crop.

The Following Clipping From  
the Seminole Sentinel Should  
Be of Interest to People Here.

Owing to the extremely low price received for this year's cotton crop newspapers and farm journals are full of suggestions and advice to the farmers regarding next season's crops. The remedy most frequently urged for the present disastrous conditions, is that the farmer should largely curtail his next season's cotton planting and raise something else; the question which naturally follows is what shall the farmer raise in place of cotton, and in many parts of Texas it is a question hard to answer.

In the Midland country there is a great deal of talk by the farmers along the same line, and a number of them have stated their intention of raising less cotton next year. It has been demonstrated that there is no better land in the world than that around Midland for raising forage crops, especially milo maize and kaffir corn, and with a price ranging from \$16 to \$19 a ton, there is certainly more money in it than raising eight cent cotton. That the soil is also especially congenial to broom corn which is even a more valuable crop, was also proven last season by D. T. Parr and others.

Our fellow townsman, Theo. Ray, has recently visited the Deming country where he found the farmers making good money from the cultivation of the pink, or frijole bean. As a result of his trip and investigations Mr. Ray will probably put in about 25 acres of beans next season. Other farmers are also discussing the advisability of trying this crop.

Soil in this section is undoubtedly extremely well adapted to growing frijole beans, as they require a soil containing considerable lime and potash. (Want that suit the Lovington country?) A semi-arid climate is absolutely necessary to the growth of the bean, with plenty of sunshine and nights not too warm, the vines make a very rapid growth; on the other hand, very much rain and damp foggy weather will cause the vines to rust and die. In preparing the ground the soil should be plough-

ed from a depth of six to eight inches, and harrowed until a fine mulch is formed.

In New Mexico and along the Rio Grande the frijole bean is usually raised by irrigation, although they can be produced in the Midland country without irrigation, provided we have a proper season. Where beans are grown on a small scale by irrigation, the satisfactory method is to run furrows two feet apart and about four inches deep, then turn the water into the furrows, taking care not to flood the surface. When the land is dry enough, take a one horse corn planter (all standard makes have regular bean plates) regulated so as to drop a bean every two or three inches or as near as possible, which will give a uniform stand. For planting two inches apart, in rows two feet apart, about one hundred pounds to the acre is required. Immediately after planting, a little harrow should be dragged crosswise the furrow leveling the ground and leaving a sandy mulch on the surface to prevent moisture from evaporating.

When beans are grown on a very extensive scale for the market by irrigation the ground is usually flooded, it is then disced and the planting done with a two horse grain drill; the harrow then being used as before.

Beans should be cultivated as soon as they are large enough. The soil should be loosened and all weeds killed, when the vines commence to bud put flowers, hill up lightly with dirt. At this period more moisture is necessary, and where irrigation is possible the water is again turned on the crop after which no more water is required for making the crop.

The best tool for cultivating beans is a two-horse, four row Planet, Jr., cultivator, using the small cultivators the first time, and the small sweeps the second time for hilling up the vines. After irrigating, or after a rain, run the cultivator through a few times to loose

en the surface soil and no more cultivation will be necessary. In harvesting a small crop nothing is better than a common "Georgia stock" using small narrow winged sweeps well sharpened. For large fields, any standard two-horse, two row bean cutter is used.

Pull vines when pods are matured and turning yellow, not waiting until they are entirely dry, which will cause them to shatter too much. When vines are thoroughly dry haul and stack them and cover with canvas or hay in case of rain. Should the beans get wet in the stack, they will rust or mold.

Beans should remain in the stack two or three weeks to allow them to thoroughly dry, they will then not only thrash better but there will be less danger of the weevil, for if the beans are kept perfectly dry the weevil does not bother them.

The average time required to produce a crop is from eighty to ninety days. Sixty days or more, according to the season, is required to mature the seed from time of planting and thirty days to harvest and prepare crop for market.

For thrashing, any grain separator will answer the purpose by removing most of the concave teeth and running slowly in order not to split the beans.

The average cost of producing a bean crop by irrigation has been figured as follows: Seed \$5, ploughing and preparing soil \$5 two irrigations \$2.50, cultivating four times \$2.50, harvesting \$2, thrashing \$3, total \$20 an acre. The average yield under ordinary conditions is from nine to twelve hundred pounds an acre.

The average price paid the farmer is from five to six cents a pound.—T. C. Carrington in Midland Reporter.

We sell the best shoes in the world; the R. J. & R. S. "Star Brand." The popular priced shoe of today. T. M. Ancell's Store.

## Christmas Week A Busy One.

Friday night Dec. 22, a very successful concert was given the public by Misses Wier and Graham. The house was full and some standing, eagerly watching for the appearance and performance of the pupils of both teachers. The entertainment being ended about 9 o'clock, a large crowd gathered at the hall and enjoyed the most successful ball since last winter.

The Christmas tree was given Saturday night, and the Christmas spirit seemed to be on the face of all, especially when Santa appeared, giving him cheers and welcoming him to the tree to distribute his gifts. The crowd gathered at the hall again after the Christmas tree was over and danced until late, realizing that Christmas didn't come but once a year and wanted to get enough out of it to last them till next Christmas.

Preaching was held Sunday by Rev. Jenkins, also Sunday night, being a large attendance and excellent attention. The young folks gathered after preaching was over and had a very enjoyable singing.

A box supper for the benefit of the church was given Monday night, which was a success, counting the condition of the weather. A music recital was given by Mrs. J. W. Bopd's music class. The pupils showed remarkable advancement in music and well entertained the crowd. The supper and recital not being enough, the young people went to the skating rink spending part of the night, some also gathered at the dance hall and had another dance.

A party was given the young people at Mr. York's house Tuesday night. Games for the in-

tertainment and amusement of the crowd was played and a general good time was enjoyed until midnight.

Mrs. R. F. Love entertained a very large crowd at her home Wednesday night, all seemed to be as fresh and cheerful as if no sleep had been lost. Domino and card games were played, snap being the center of amusement of most of them. A plate of delicious candy was passed around, which completed the incident of enjoyment.

A social crowd gathered at Prof. J. C. Johnson's Thursday night and had the pleasure of enjoying a candy drawing, nice games and good music. The gathering after expressing their pleasures of the occasion, went home thinking they would spend the remainder of the week in sleep.

## NEW YEAR'S GREETING.

We wish to thank our many friends and customers for their liberal patronage this busy year, and to say that we shall use every effort to please you in every particular during the year 1912. Again thanking you kindly and wishing one and all a most prosperous and happy New Year.

We remain yours to please,

Lovington Drug Store,  
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