

# THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER AND SOUTHERN FARM GAZETTE

A Farm and Home Weekly for the States of Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Tennessee.

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## Have Your Own Cowpeas and Crimson Clover Seed Next Year

**I**N a seedsman's price list just received, cowpeas are quoted in 10-bushel lots at \$2.60 to \$3.10 a bushel; soy beans, at \$2.20 per bushel; crimson clover, at \$8.75 per bushel, with bags extra, and red clover, at \$8.25 per bushel.

Many a farmer will not plant cowpeas in his corn this year, or sow them on his wheat and oat lands when the crops are removed, simply because "the price is too high." Many a farmer will leave bare next winter land that should be sown to crimson clover because "the price of seed is too high."

Now, even at these prices, these crops can be profitably sown. The cost of sowing an acre to cowpeas or soy beans or crimson clover is small indeed, compared with the benefit that may be derived from the crop—in fact, it is just as we have often said, "We cannot afford not to sow them." Southern soils need the nitrogen they will gather and the humus they will add; Southern live stock need the feed they will make; Southern farmers need the money that this nitrogen, this humus and this feed will bring to their pockets. If all these seeds were twice as high, it would still pay to plant them, because it is only by increasing the humus supply in the soil and by making use of the free nitrogen of the air that most lands can be built up to permanently profitable production. Southern farmers, however, should be the last people in the world to complain of high prices for any of these crops. It is their own fault that these seeds are scarce and high; and if they suffer on account of this scarcity and these high prices, they can blame themselves alone.

The fact is, the average farmer should be selling these seeds—some of them, at least—instead of buying them.

Now, this is just what we want our readers to be doing next year. It will not only mean more dollars in their pockets at the season's end, but also more fertility in their soils, and the chance to do even better and more profitable farming the next year. But if they would have these seeds to sell instead of to buy next year, or if they would buy part of what they plant at lower prices, they must get busy right now.

Every man who has a field of crimson clover should try to save at least enough seed to supply his own wants next year. And, as a farmer said to us the other night, we have never yet known a man to grow too much clover. The man with a large acreage can clip the tops off with a mowing machine and have his seed threshed out with a clover huller. The man with only a little patch can follow the directions given by a correspondent last year: "Cut early in the morning when damp, rake up next morning when damp, let it dry out, haul to the barn, throw it on

the floor, shake it up good with a pitchfork, and all the seed will fall out." These seed will, of course, be in the chaff and possibly a little hard to sow; but they are likely to grow even better than the cleaned seed.

You don't want to leave any land bare next winter—you can't afford to do it; and crimson clover is as near the ideal winter cover-crop as we have. Therefore, save every seed you can, sow your corn fields and cotton fields and truck patches next fall, not forgetting to put out a special seed patch. Somebody is making money raising crimson clover seed at \$8.00 and more per bushel. He is making his land better all the time, too. Why, then, cannot you take a hand in the business and get your share of the profits?

As to cowpeas and soy beans, the thing to do just now is to plant them. Plant them in your corn, of course, and save what seed you can gather there, if you can get the picking done; or if you are situated to do so, plant a field especially for seed. You can save the peas with a mower and rake, or the soy beans with a reaper—not a binder—and thresh them with one of the improved pea threshers.

But that comes later; the thing to do now is to save your crimson clover seed—your bur clover, too; and plant a patch of cowpeas or soy beans, or both, especially for seed. Then next year the high prices of these seeds, will mean money in your pocket, as it means to many other wide-awake farmers who know how to seize an opportunity.



FILLING THE SILO.

Last week we gave Mr. A. L. French's testimony as to the value of the silo, together with detailed figures, showing just what silos of different types have cost in our territory. We do not want any reader to think because this silo talk was published in the Dairy Special, that silage is a feed for the dairyman only, nor do we want any reader who contemplates keeping any considerable number of live stock to try to go on without a silo. Therefore, we are bringing the silo to notice once again, and would urge every reader who can to emulate the progressive farming pictured here.

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