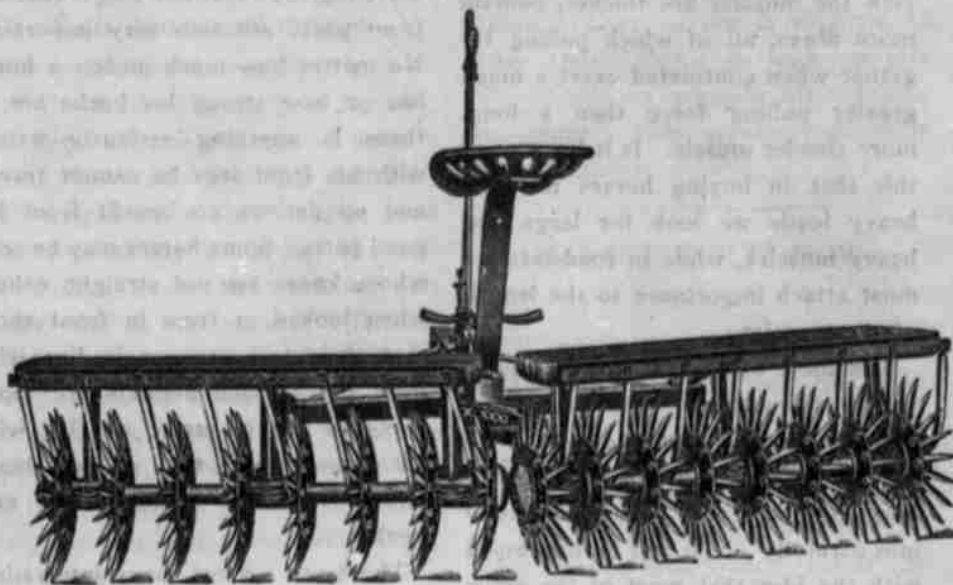


# AGRONOMY



## EMERSON ALFALFA RENOVATOR

### MACHINES FOR ALFALFA AND BROME GRASS.

A machine has recently come to my notice which I am sure will soon be used considerably by the farmers of the west, especially those engaged in growing dry farm alfalfa, either for hay or seed. This machine is called the Emerson Alfalfa Renovator. In other words it is a spike toothed disc. The spikes are in the shape of harrow teeth with the exception that they are slightly curved to give the wheel which twenty of them form, a slight disc. The machine has twelve of these wheels making 240 spikes. Each individual spike is bolted on so that if one is broken another can be readily put on. It works in the same manner as does a regular disc and so can be made to cut either deep or shallow. Two good horses will pull the machine readily.

The advantage which this machine has over the ordinary disc is that it pulverizes the ground much better, thus forming a better mulch for the conservation of moisture. It tears up all shallow-rooted plants better than does the disc, thus destroying June or Cheat grass more effectively. It does not cut off the roots of alfalfa as does the disc, but splits the crowns and causes the alfalfa to spread and thus thicken the stand. The only disadvantage which it has is that it is a little heavier pulling than is the ordinary disc, but when we consider that going over the field once with the Alfalfa Renovator does as thorough work as going over the

field three times with the ordinary disc a great deal of labor and time is saved by using this machine. Not only this, but more moisture is conserved, no alfalfa roots cut off or destroyed and all June grass and other shallow rooted weeds are killed which is quite a consideration.

A cut of this Alfalfa Renovator accompanies this article. It is sold in

this state by the Miller-Cahoon Co., Murray, Utah.

It has always been a hard matter to seed Brome grass properly, owing to the chaffy nature of the seed. If a grain drill is used it is continually clogging and is therefore not satisfactory. If the seed is sown broadcast by hand, it is not evenly distributed over the land and an uneven stand is the result. A small machine known as Thompson's Wheelbarrow Grass Seeder No. 8, is especially designed for sowing Brome grass. The hopper is ten feet long and is fitted with a rake or agitator preventing clogging and insuring an even distribution of the seed. The quantity of seed to the acre can be regulated as desired. These seeders do not run hard as they weigh only fifty pounds. A big wheel and a long hub make them push easy and balance nicely. They can easily be thrown out of gear. A man can readily seed from 30 to 40 acres a day. This machine has the advantage of not clogging, of sowing the seed evenly over the ground, thus wasting no seed. The wind does not effect the work as the hopper is carried close to the ground. This machine is manufactured by O.

E. Thompson and Sons, Ypsilanti, Mich., and can be obtained at a cost of \$10.00.—J. C. HOGENSON.

Richfield, Utah.

Editor Deseret Farmer:—I would like to be informed through your valuable paper, if alfalfa, a heavy stand, about three feet high or more, will make good seed, as there is a difference of opinion,—some think it will make good seed and others do not. We have not been very successful in raising alfalfa seed,—only now and then.—N. P. PETERSON.

Answer by J. C. Hogenson, Agronomist, A. C. U.

As a general thing a heavy stand of alfalfa three feet high will not make good seed. Alfalfa seed must have plenty of sunshine and air to develop and mature properly; this cannot be obtained where there is a thick stand, and where the alfalfa lodges to any extent.

### A GRAFTER.

Mrs. Bill—"Do you think that skin-grafting operation by Dr. Doemall will prove a success?"

Dr. Bill—"Why, most assuredly. He's one of the most noted grafters in the profession."—Judge.

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