

## FARM QUESTIONS ANSWERED

### Oats on Meadow.

Messrs. Editors: I have a piece of land that has been a meadow for fifteen years and I want to break it. How would it do to sow it down in oats in February for hay and cut the oats in the dough state? Then could I get a cutting of hay? It has both Bermuda and Johnson grass on it.

H. L. WHITE.

Yazoo City, Miss.

**Editorial Answer:** It is not unusual to do what is suggested here when oats are sown in the fall, but very fair results are likely from spring sown oats. Sow as early as circumstances will permit and use May or Burt seed. They have the advantage of earliness. Harrow the land well to make it smooth for the use of a mower. A roller would firm the sod and make the grass grow off rapidly at the first opportunity.

### Bermuda and Bur Clover.

Messrs. Editors: Will you please tell me where I can find Bermuda seed, also Bur clover seed? How far north will they grow, and on what kind of soil will they thrive best?

H. S. BRIGGS.

Corinth, Miss.

**Editorial Answer:** Bermuda will do well on all Southern soils that are not too wet, of course yielding better on fertile land. Broadly speaking, Bur clover will grow anywhere Bermuda will; but on thin sandy land may not grow vigorously at first if the land is not inoculated for it. Bur clover should be seeded in the fall or late summer. The seed of Bermuda may be used for sowing if preferred; but the usual way of getting Bermuda started is to plant bits of sod about an inch square and two feet apart each way. March is a very good time for sowing Bermuda seed, while the bits of sod can be planted any time during the year except the coldest weather. Advertising seed houses should be able to supply both kinds of seed. Bermuda and Bur clover make a very good combination.

### Canada Pea in the South.

Messrs. Editors: I should like to know where I can secure Canada peas to be planted with oats, also price of same, and how many to use per acre?

F. C. WILLIAMS.

Merigold, Miss.

**Editorial Answer:** Some of the general seed houses that advertise regularly list the Canada field pea, and their catalogues quote prices. Not all Southern seedsmen list the Canada field pea, for the reason that it is grown but little in the South. The chance for success will be greater if some of the varieties of peas or beans known to do well in the South, are substituted. The amount of seed per acre will range from two bushels of the small varieties up to three and one-half bushels for the larger ones. So much better results are got from planting oats in fall, that spring planting ought never be done, except when fall planting was impossible. Winter killing can be largely if not entirely prevented by planting early enough and in the right way.

### Hulled Cotton Seed for Fertility.

Messrs. Editors: What percentage of nitrogen is contained in the kernels of cotton seed before the oil is crushed out? Our ginners has a Perryman cottonseed huller, which hulls the seed and separates them for feed

and fertilizer; therefore I wish to know the percentage of nitrogen in the kernels, so I'll know how much of them to use per acre with fertilizer. I aim to mix them with acid phosphate.

CENTRAL MISSISSIPPIAN.

**Editorial Answer:** Cottonseed contain 19.6 per cent of nitrogen, while the hulls contain 4.2 per cent and by weight are approximately one-half of the whole seed. Since 100 pounds of whole seed contain 19.6 pounds of nitrogen and the 50 pounds of hulls contain 2.1 pounds, it appears that the hulled seed should weigh approximately 50 pounds and contain 1.75 pounds of nitrogen. That is 35 pounds of nitrogen for 100 pounds of hulled seed, or 35 per cent.

Cottonseed meal contains 42.3 per cent of nitrogen, and one should make a comparison of the cost of the nitrogen for fertilizer in hulled cottonseed and in cottonseed meal. When cottonseed have been injured so that the oil mill will not pay a good price for them, they may still be used profitably for fertilizer when of little value for feeding purposes. The oil in cottonseed has no fertilizing value. It is valuable only for stock feed or for making cotton seed oil, and it is practically lost when it is put under a crop.

### Stable Manure for Truckers.

Messrs. Editors: Every gardener and trucker should prepare his soil well, get it in the best of condition for planting. I have experience in gardening and trucking and in fertilizing for truck. Commercial fertilizers do great good in this line, but well rotted barnyard manure is the best. Well rotted barn manure is the best that can be got. It will cause plants to grow fast and get on the market early. I want to emphasize its value as a soil enricher for the present crop and for building up the soil. It will put even old worn-out land in condition to produce great crops for the market.

The farmers of the South should think, and stop wasting money for labor; stop letting good land lie out that could be making good crops of some kind. With the aid of manure or fertilizers, it can be brought to the top, and by means of fast cultivation, more horse power and less laborers, more money will be made and more saved. I say every subscriber should stick to your paper.

R. H. HALE.

Penn, Miss.

**Editorial Comment:** It is common for truckers who live near enough large cities to make it possible, to have stable manure shipped out by the carload, because the lasting quality of this manure is so great. It feeds both the crop and the land in a way that commercial fertilizers cannot. It feeds the crop with available plant food, and it improves the mechanical condition of the soil—something commercial fertilizers do but little or none at all. The mechanical condition of land is just as important as plant food is.

### Gets a Great Deal of Good Out of It.

Messrs. Editors: Taking advantage of your kind offer, I herewith enclose \$2 to pay my arrears and also subscription for balance of 1908. Your paper in its new form I like very much, am reading it with pleasure and get a great deal of good out of it.

E. SCHAEFER.

Yazoo City, Miss.

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