

News for the Farmer

THE SELECTION, DRYING AND STORING OF SEED CORN

One of the most important factors in connection with the production of a large yield of corn is good seed. By good seed I mean seed of the desired type and variety, intelligently selected and carefully stored, and adapted to our climatic conditions. Many farmers do not realize the importance and value of good seed corn. One of the laws of nature is that "like produces like" and we should always keep this law in mind when selecting seed of any kind. Experiments have shown that good seed will increase the yield from 4 to 5 bushels per acre; in many cases the increase is even greater.

Good seed corn not only means increased yields, but a better, quicker and a more uniform stand. Good seed corn will be worth from \$3.00 to \$4.00 per bushel next spring. Time spent in the field selecting seed corn this fall will more than pay for itself in increased yields at harvest time next fall. Make an experiment and try it out.

Seed corn should be harvested when the corn is thoroughly mature, as indicated by the stalk, the leaves and the ear.

Go into the field with a sack around the shoulders before the general crop is harvested and select the best ears from the most productive plants. The corn can also be selected by nailing a box on either side of the wagon bed and throwing into these boxes the desired ears, when the general crop is harvested. This is not desirable for two reasons: (1) most farmers gather their general crop too late, and (2) everybody is not qualified to select seed corn.

Ears should be selected from strong, healthy vigorous stalks, and avoid very large and small stalks. Choose uniform stalks that have made large yields because of their inherent producing power, rather than because of a good environment, such as space, fertilizer, and moisture. Of two stalks producing a good ear each, one because of its environment, (fertilizers, moisture, space), the other because of its inherent qualities, also choose the latter. It is best to select ears grown 4 or 5 feet from the ground; never select ears produced too high or too low on the plants. Select ears that taper gradually, well covered with shucks, and long downward at an angle. The shanks should be strong and form an angle of about 45 degrees with the stalk. The shuck protects the ear from insects and rain; if the ear points downward it is also protected from the rain. Select ears that have well filled out butts and tips, straight rows and close together, the kernels long, broad and thick. It is best to select plants bearing one good ear rather than two inferior ones. Do not select ears that mature too early or too late. It takes about 20 or 25 ears to plant an acre and it is desirable to select about 50 ears for every acre to be planted so that a final selection can be made in the spring at planting time.

The drying and storing of seed corn is as important as the selection. When the corn is harvested it always contains from 15 to 20 per cent of water. This water causes moulding, fermenting or injury to the seed. There is a little germ or immature plant in every seed that must be very carefully kept if the seed is to maintain its vitality, hence the importance of drying and storing. As the ears are brought from the field they should be stored in a dry, well ventilated place in such a way that there will be a free circulation of air around each ear of corn. This is best done by stringing the ears on twine in a horizontal position so that the ears will be placed one above the other but not touching. This can also be done by taking some scrap lumber and building a rack with shelves in it to store the corn. Such a rack is inexpensive and can be constructed in an hour. The corn is now placed in a dry, well ventilated place for keeping. The seed corn should not be thrown in the crib in piles when harvested because it is not properly dried. If weevils get into the seed corn or in the crib, get some carbolic-sulphide from your druggist and place shallow pans about over the corn. Close all doors, windows and cracks. Pour the carbolic sulphide in these shallow pans and allow to stand for about 15 or 24 hours. The liquid will evaporate and being heavier than air will sink down into the corn and kill all of the weevils. This operation should be repeated when the eggs are hatched to kill all the young weevils. This is the best and surest remedy for weevils in corn and peas.

October should be the month to gather seed corn. I shall be glad to help anyone desiring to select their seed corn in the field that need my assistance.

W. A. Rowell,
County Agent.

USE CHEAPER FEEDS.

"It is time to quit shoveling grain indiscriminately into live stock. Good live-stock farming demands it and the need of more food requires it. Feeding grain to meat animals with a lavish hand is responsible for one of the greater feed losses on the farms of this country. Hay, fodder, silage, and pasture are the cheapest feeds and will carry animals along with a minimum of grain. Keep the frames of the young animals developing on these cheap feeds. Withhold the full grain ration until the finishing period arrives. Breeding cattle may be wintered on the cheaper feeds."

This advice of animal-husbandry specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture to stock feeders is emergency advice only; it is the sound logic of meat production; which American farmers must learn if they are to compete successfully with European meat producers in the coming generations. These are good days to learn the lesson of feed conservation. In Farmers' Bulletin 873, "The Utilization of Farm Wastes in Feeding Live Stock," specialists tell how to use these cheaper feeds in rations for cattle, sheep, and horses.

A tremendous waste of feeding stuffs occurs annually on American farms, according to figures presented in this publication.

This waste of corn stover can be checked, it is said, through use of better methods of feeding fodder and stover and it can be almost entirely stopped through the use of silos. Straw and stover are best utilized for feed when accompanied by concentrates, such as cottonseed meal. If the large amounts of cottonseed meal ordinarily used for fertilizer in the south were, instead, fed to live stock and the manure used for fertilizer, the value of the meal would be increased from 50 to 85 per cent.

Practical experience as well as experimental work has taught that straw and stover can be used very economically in the rations of almost all kinds of live stock. They can be used in the fattening rations of all farm animals except hogs and should compose the larger part of all wintering or keeping rations of cattle, sheep, and horses.

Weekly News Letter.

HARVESTING SOYBEANS.

Timely Points Given Farmers Who Grew New Crop—Bulletin Out.

Clemson College, S. C., Sept.—Many South Carolina farmers began to grow soybeans for grain this year. For the information of these farmers the United States Department of Agriculture will shortly issue a bulletin entitled "Harvesting Soybeans for Seed." Every South Carolina farmer who has soybean seed to harvest should write the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C., asking for this bulletin.

Inexperienced growers are likely to meet with heavy loss of seed through lack of knowledge as to the proper methods of handling the soybean plant. When grown for grain alone the shattering of the pods is a serious fault. The amount of shattering varies with the varieties of the bean, but it is well to give special attention to all varieties to prevent losses from this cause.

Harvesting Soybeans.

The best time to harvest, except where special bean harvesters are used, is when about three-fourths of the leaves have fallen and most of the pods have turned color. Harvesting at an earlier stage makes the plants difficult to cure properly and lessens the yield on account of immature grain. On the other hand, if the plants are allowed to become too ripe the pods will shatter before being cut. When special harvesters are used to gather the seed, the plants should be allowed to reach full maturity to get best results.

The crop may be cut with ordinary mowing machines, scythes, corn knives or sickles. After being cut the plants are cured in shocks and allowed to remain in the field until a convenient time for thrashing, unless the special bean harvester is used to gather the seed from the standing plants.

Thrashing may be done with an ordinary grain thrasher, which should be properly adjusted so that the beans are thrashed with little damage from breaking the grain. Special thrashers are on the market and

their use may be practical when large amounts of the beans are to be handled. If thoroughly dry, soybeans may be thrashed with a flail. If only an acre or two is to be thrashed this method is practical and economical. A corn shredder has been used with success in thrashing soybeans. If the beans are properly cured and dried they are shelled out very readily with such a machine.

Storage of Seed.

Soybean seed spoils rather easily if not properly handled, and care should be used in curing and storing. After thrashing the beans should be watched carefully to avoid heating and molding. When good and dry there is no such danger. A good plan is to spread the beans out on the floor immediately after thrashing and shovel them over from time to time until they are thoroughly dry, then they may be safely put into sacks or bins. The storeroom should be dry and have a free circulation of air. Soybean seed loses vitality very rapidly and it is not safe to hold seed for planting purposes for more than two seasons.

SHALL VELVET BEANS BE HARVESTED OR GRAZED?

A reader has 100 head of 750-pound grade Hereford heifers. Ample pasture is available until frost and then 100 tons of sorghum, cowpea and corn silage, and velvet beans for grazing are available. He asks: "Would you crush the velvet beans in the hull and feed the meal in addition to silage, or would you let these heifers take the run of the fields?"

On sandy land we would be inclined to let the cattle graze the velvet beans instead of trying to harvest them. Some of the beans might be gathered and fed with the silage after grazing is exhausted or when it is not advisable to keep the cattle on the land.

But on land such as is common in the locality from which this inquiry comes it is not usually advisable to put cattle on the land during the wet weather of winter. For this reason the pods may be gathered, ground and fed with the silage, unless the quantity will be only sufficient to furnish grazing for the cattle during such portion of the winter as is likely to be suitable for grazing. But if there are more beans than the cattle will need or can consume during the time the land will probably be dry enough for grazing, part of them should be gathered, ground and fed with the silage. If this is not done it will probably be found advisable to feed some cottonseed meal with the silage.

With only 100 tons of silage and 100 head of cattle to feed they cannot be given more than 20 pounds of silage each per day for more than 100 days, and, therefore, some grazing on the velvet beans or other roughage will probably be necessary. In view of these facts, it may be more economical to graze the velvet beans and feed cottonseed meal with the silage, but this will depend entirely on the supply or quantity of velvet beans.—Progressive Farmer

STATE-WIDE ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS CAMPAIGN

Movement Under Direction of State Board of Health, Headed by Mrs. Annie I. Rembert.

Under the direction of the State Board of Health, a state-wide campaign will be inaugurated through a central co-operating committee, headed by Mrs. Annie I. Rembert, field secretary of the State Board of Health, with regard to tuberculosis, and executive secretary of the South Carolina Anti-Tuberculosis association, for the protection not only of the military camps of the state against tuberculosis, but also of the civilian population as well, and for the care and treatment of those who have contracted the dread disease.

This work is considered vitally important during this war emergency, and it is felt that it can be more effectively carried out in view of the rigid examinations which are being undergone and are yet to be undergone by thousands of young men in the state, which will disclose many hidden places of the malady.

The co-operating committee of the tuberculosis war problem will be composed of the tuberculosis committee of the State Board of Health, the county chairmen of the state council of defense, the chairman of the Red Cross organizations and special agents of the South Carolina Anti-Tuberculosis association. In each county there will be a sub-committee composed of the county supervisor, county superintendent of education, a representative of the county medical association, the mayor or of the county seat, the president of the chamber of commerce, a representative of the women's clubs, and a representative of the women's defense council. Mrs. Rembert will organize these committees, county by county.

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THE EXPULSION OF BLOUNT.

In connection with the growing agitation for the expulsion from the United States Senate of Robert M. LaFollette of Wisconsin, it is noted that the Senate has rarely exercised this drastic constitutional prerogative. A number of Senators from Southern States who failed to resign when they sided with the Confederacy were formally expelled, but, outside of these cases, there have been few expulsions from the upper chamber of the national legislature.

The first case was that of William Blount of Tennessee, who was one of Tennessee's first pair of Senators and later a colleague in that body of Andrew Jackson. He was expelled on July 8, 1797, having served less than a year. The charge against him was that of using "seditious and treasonable words," which constituted "a high misdemeanor entirely inconsistent with his public trust and duty." It was based on a private letter to a friend in which Blount suggested the possible transfer of New Orleans and the Floridas from Spain to Great Britain. This British plan caused much excitement at the time, when feeling between the United States and the mother country was still very tense, and it has since been known as "Blount's Conspiracy." He was summarily expelled from the Senate, a judgment apparently by default, as it seems that he did not present himself for trial then. His formal trial was postponed until 1798 and early in 1799 the Senate dropped the matter for lack of jurisdiction, since Blount was no longer a member of the body.

Blount's explanation was that the privilege of American navigation of the Mississippi would be more easily adjusted and secured if its lower course were in possession of the British instead of the Spanish. This explanation was wholly acceptable to Tennessee in which State Blount retained great popularity after his expulsion. Soon afterward he was elected to the Senate of Tennessee over which he presided for a long period. He enjoyed a long and distinguished career, as he was a member of the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention, and in 1790 was appointed by President Washington to be governor of "The Territory of the United States South of the Ohio." He founded the city of Knoxville.

The Chattanooga News, commenting upon the Blount case, gives this interesting sidelight:

"Mrs. Octavia Zollicoffer Bond, presumably a daughter of Gen. Zollicoffer, tells an interesting and romantic story in connection with William Blount's expulsion. After his return to Knoxville, so the story goes, the sergeant-at-arms of the senate was sent to arrest Blount and take him back to Washington. Why this had been determined upon is not explained. While at Knoxville, the sergeant-at-arms was banqueted and royally entertained. The best citizenship of the town showered its attentions upon him; even in the home of Blount he was treated as an honored guest. But business was business, and at last he must reveal the purpose of his mission. Blount was informed that his guest had come to convey him to Washington. Then the former stoutly but politely told the latter he would not go. A posse was summoned but not a man appeared in response, so the errand had to be abandoned. It is related that when the sergeant-at-arms was ready to set out on his return journey, a number of the Tennesseans whom he had met, assembled on horse back and formed an escort for their departing guest. After accompanying him for quite a distance, they bade him adieu, saying: "We beg to assure you, sir, that William Blount cannot be taken from Tennessee." The senate official proceeded alone to Washington and nothing more came of the incident."

This story has the earmarks of historical truth, for at that time the Federal Government was so weak and decentralized that the States openly flouted it and often treated its mandates with more or less polite contempt. It is a far cry from that day to this, when the centralization of

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power in the national government is increasing and when its voice compels instant obedience.—The Greenville Daily News.

SAVE YOUR GARDEN SEEDS.

Clemson College, S. C., Sept. 29.—Seeds produced in pods should be allowed to fully mature before being picked. After picking, dry in the sun, store in a tight can and label. The seeds from fruits should be left to ferment in some of the pulp and juice for a short time. Then wash and store away.

COTS FIVE CENTS AN ACRE TO PREVENT SMUT

Clemson College, S. C., Sept. 29.—Smut in your wheat next year may cause the loss of from three to ten bushels to the acre.

You can only be sure that there will be no smut by treating your seed with formaldehyde before sowing it.

The cost is about 5 cents an acre. With wheat at \$2 or more a bushel the gain may be \$6 to \$20.

Treat your seed. Save the wheat and add to your own profits and the country's sorely needed bread supply.

MASTER'S SALE.

The State of South Carolina
County of Abbeville.
Court of Common Pleas.

MRS. LUDIE K. COX,
against

MARCUS FRAZIER and AMY FRAZIER.

By authority of a Decree of the Court of Common Pleas Abbeville County, in said State made in the above stated case, I offer for sale, at Public Outcry Abbeville C. H., S. C., on Sale in November, A. D. 1917, within legal hours of sale, the following described land, to wit: All that or parcel of land situate, lying being in Abbeville County, in State aforesaid, containing One (1-2) Acre, more or less, and bounded by lands of Richard Cook and T. Bradley and fronting on Vi Road.

TERMS OF SALE—CASH. Chaser to pay for papers. 10-12-3. Master A. C., S. R. E. HILL.

MASTER'S SALE.

The State of South Carolina
County of Abbeville.
Court of Common Pleas.

JULIUS M. VISANSKA
against

ORR CLINKSCALES and E. MESCHINE.

By authority of a Decree of the Court of Common Pleas Abbeville County, in said State, in the above stated case, I will offer for sale, at Public Outcry, at Abbeville C. H., S. C., on Salesday November, A. D., 1917, within legal hours of sale the following described land, to wit: All that or parcel of land situate, lying being in Abbeville County, in State aforesaid, containing One Acre and 24-100 (24 24-100) Acre more or less, and bounded by lands of R. B. Bryan and Carlisle land the North; East by lands of R. Carlisle, Whitman, Harper and Gowan; South and West by the No. 15 of the Meschine land—some being tracts No. 16 of Meschine land.

TERMS OF SALE—CASH. Chaser to pay for papers. 10-12-3. R. E. HILL, Master A. C., S. C. Master A. C., S. C.

MASTER'S SALE.

The State of South Carolina
County of Abbeville.
Court of Common Pleas.

MRS. JNO. T. EVANS, MRS. JOE EVANS and GEO. C. DOUGLAS

against

JAMES F. HÜTTO and JAMES CHIBALD EVANS.

By authority of a Decree of the Court of Common Pleas Abbeville County, in said State, in the above stated case, I will offer for sale, at Public Outcry, at Abbeville C. H., S. C., on Salesday November, A. D. 1917, within the legal hours of sale the following described land, to wit: All that or parcel of land situate, lying being in Abbeville County, in State aforesaid, containing Three Two (32) Acres, more or less, bounded by lands of Rosenberg Estate, Depot Street and Public Road and commonly known as the "Rosenberg House" place.

Also, all that tract or parcel land situate, lying and being in the County of Abbeville, County and State aforesaid, containing One and One half (1 1-2) Acres, more or less, bounded by lot of Derry Donaldson Tabby Ramey, Hodges, Childs, Her Harper and others—known as "Evans Store."

TERMS OF SALE—CASH. Chaser to pay for papers. 10-12-3. R. E. HILL, Master A. C., S. C.

RUSSIAN GENERAL IS SENTENCED FOR TREASON

Petrograd.—General Soukhomiloff, former minister of war, was sentenced to hard labor for life after conviction of the charge of high treason in the court here.

Madame Soukhomiloff was acquitted.

UNCLE SAM SETS THE HEIGHT ON BOOTS

No use to set one's heart on tall military looking boots this season—as the little boy said about his apple core: "There ain't goin' to be none!" The United States government has definitely decreed the height of feminine footwear; and the prescribed height is seven inches—that is, no feminine boot may be more than seven inches tall of course one may wear a lower boot-top if one pleases; But since all the new autumn boots are touching the limit of the seven-inch permission, the average woman will select that height, to keep in step with fashion.