

Of Interest to Farmers

Edited by

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Farm Gossip

Pull down the mounds from around those peach trees and dig out the borers. See that your spray pump is in working order and get lime sulphur for the dormant spray. If you haven't a good spray pump, now is a fine time to get it.

The old town was full of Coops Monday getting their second payment on their tobacco. All appeared to be well pleased as far as I saw; and not one talked as though the money would have ever been any more welcome than at the present.

Mr. H. K. Beatson, one of our big farmers is a wheat enthusiast. He has made excellent yields of this crop for the past two years in spite of the adverse conditions, and is planting still heavier this fall. Mr. Beatson plants his wheat on GOOD LAND. Possibly this is the secret of his success.

Approximately 20,000 bushels of sweet potatoes are going into curing houses in the county this fall. Managers of curing houses should be on the job steadily for the next couple of weeks. Keep your temperature up around 85 and keep the moisture out of the house.

A record yield of sweets are also being banked. Everything possible should be done to insure the keeping of these. If we should be unable to sell them profitably, they make good feed for hogs and cows.

Don't pay from fifty to seventy-fives cents for peach trees as some have done. We can get good trees and in small lots for less than one third that price.

If you have peas for sale, put your price on them and list with me. I may be able to place them for you. State the variety and the quantity that you have.

Mr. J. I. Bradham is today shipping a car of good Durocs to the Richmond market.

Kill the weevil before the weevil kills you.

A real system of farming doesn't change to meet changing prices.

Farming in the South can no longer be done by proxy.

Where there's a will to fence the fields, there's a way to grow forage crops and raise livestock.

A carpenter's saw is not a fit tool for pruning fruit trees.

Money in cover crops now saves double money on fertilizer bills next spring.

"Blood will tell."—That's why pure-bred sires are so important.

Now is a good time to provide the garden with a self-starter by building a hot-bed or cold-frame.

Carbon bisulphide is mighty discouraging to honest hard-working grain weevils.

"Distress" cotton means "distressed" cotton growers. Both are national liabilities.

Why will a farmer build a garage for his \$500 automobile and let his \$1000 worth of farm machinery stay out in the weather?

It is hard to understand how any farmer can spend his time hunting and town loafing while cotton stalks and other boll weevil hiding places are still undestroyed on his farm.

Factors in Profitable Farming
The most important single element in profitable farming is a fertile soil. The principal steps necessary to secure a fertile soil are given by Prof. C. P. Blackwell, Chief of the Agronomy Division.
First, the drainage must be taken care of and the land not allowed to

wash if it is to be built up to a high state of fertility. In order to prevent washing it is necessary to have proper terracing. Next to proper terracing is the incorporation of organic matter as the most important thing for our thin soils. We have found that the greater the amount of organic matter added to most South Carolina soils the greater the amount of fertilizer that can be applied with profit.

We have also found that legumes constitute the best source of organic matter. Legumes when grown as a companion crop make the most economical contribution of organic matter and nitrogen to the soil. Of these companion crops perhaps the velvet bean is the most valuable, when grown as companion crop with corn. Cowpeas and soy beans may also be grown successfully in this way.

The legume's next most economical contribution to soil improvement is as a winter cover crop. The legume may be grown alone or in combination with rye. Rye and vetch make one of our best winter cover crops when turned under as a green maturing crop.

The third most important factor in soil improvement is crop rotation. A crop rotation in which a legume appears as often as practicable is extremely important in soil improvement and in promoting greatest efficiency of valuable plant food in the soil. We have found in our experiments that a crop rotation contributes as much to the yield of crops as 1000 pounds of 8-4-4 fertilizer per acre. It is therefore a contribution which can not be neglected.

Proper cultivation is also a very important factor in efficient crop production. Many of the farmers in South Carolina do not have the proper plows or sufficient teams with which to prepare and cultivate their land efficiently.

Another aid to successful crop production is proper use of lime and commercial fertilizer. From our experiments to date, we believe that lime when used in connection with organic matter and crop rotation is a valuable aid to soil building and economical production. The judicious use of commercial fertilizer is essential to profitable crop production on practically all of the soil of this state. Judging both from our experiments and from observation of the practice of our most successful farmers, we are convinced that the above named factors are the determining factors in successful crop production in this state. We believe that any farmer who will put into practice proper terracing, crop rotation, incorporation of organic matter, and combine with this good tillage practices and judicious use of lime with commercial fertilizer, will be able to produce crops economically and profitably.

A GOOD WHITEWASH

Seekers after a good formula for whitewash will find it in the one given below as recommended by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Government Whitewash

Take one-half bushel of unslaked lime and slake it with warm water. Cover it while slaking to keep in the steam. Strain through a fine sieve or strainer. Dissolve 8 quarts of salt in the warm water; make a thin paste and while boiling hot stir in one-half pound of Plaster of Paris and one pound of glue, which has been previous dissolved over a slow fire. Add all of this to the strained lime solution and mix well, then add 5 gallons of hot water. Let whole mixture stand for three or four days. It should be put on hot, with a small brush. Coloring may be added, as Spanish brown or yellow or common clay.

Is Wheat From Rusted Plants Fit For Seed?

The Botany Division has received various questions recently regarding the suitability for seed of wheat from a rusted crop. Such grains are as good as any other of the same quality. Of course if badly shriveled, it would not do so well.

There are no commercial varieties of wheat immune to the leaf rust, which is the most common one in this section. Moreover, the infection is airborne and not seed-borne. It is clear therefore, that good grain, even if from badly rusted stalks, will be as good as any other. And since the infection is not seed-borne, no seed treatment can influence the amount of rust infection.

This does not mean to imply, of course, that treatment of the seed is of no value for stinking smut and some other disease are thereby controlled.

Treatment of Calf Scours

Scours in calves may be due to over-feeding irregular feeding, feeding cold milk, sour milk, dirty milk, use of unsanitary feeding pails, etc., says J. P. LaMaster, Chief of the Dairy Division, who makes the following suggestions for treatment:

1. For ordinary scours, as soon as symptoms are observed, omit one feeding and reduce next feeding to half, and then gradually bring up to original quantity.

In case the disease becomes obstinate, give from 1-2 to 2 table-spoonfuls of castor oil, repeating the dose on the second day if necessary.

Scours may be due to the mother's milk being too rich in butter fat.

2. To prevent white scours, tie the navel string close to the body and paint with iodine as soon as the calf is born. There is no cure for white scours.

Winter War on Pests

Our insect pests for any growing season come from those that successfully passed the preceding winter. For these pests to maintain themselves on the farm in the orchard certain conditions are necessary, says Prof. A. F. Conradi, Entomologist, and these conditions should not exist.

The old cotton stalks and corn stalks, as well as unkept ditch banks, terraces, fence rows, etc., furnish shelter for the boll weevil and other marauding insects of farm crops.

By tolerating an unkept orchard and undernourished trees we invite San Jose scale plum curculio, apple worm, shot hole borer, and other pests to stay with us in our orchards over winter and enjoy our hospitality. Allowing the refuse of garden crops to remain in the garden undisturbed is to provide comfortable winter homes for insect enemies of the garden.

This is an opportunity to do away with the old-fashioned privy, the most repulsive and most dangerous producer of flies anywhere. And we have time now to arrange for a better system of taking care of manure instead of leaving it in open stalls and under the open sun to rear flies by billions next spring.

Now is a good time to care for rain barrels, cisterns, tin cans, water holes, a dother places that breed the mosquitoes that make life uncomfortable on the porch and in the house next spring.

Winter is not the idle season as some may think, but it is the most important season to prepare for the next year's crop and comforts.

Get Poultry Winter Quarters in Readiness

The fall and winter months are approaching and it is very important and necessary that each and every poultryman be certain that the houses in which the pullets and hens have to live are properly fixed. We can not expect the birds to give us the best if we do not provide suitable environmental conditions. The poultry house should be so constructed that we can obtain plenty of sunlight in the entire house some time during the day. Then again it should be sanitary, for if the birds become sick, their vitality is lowered and it will be impossible for them to produce eggs economically.

Some of the other needs of proper housing are the following: there should be no moisture in the house, for if there is, disease is bound to arise; there should be plenty of ventilation but the birds should not

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be subjected to drafts; to keep the health and vigor up to a maximum there should be plenty of room for the birds to exercise. The house should not be kept too hot or allowed to become too cold, for either will throw the birds out of condition, which will result in a low egg yield.

Now is the time to put the poultry house in an ideal condition. It should be thoroughly disinfected and cleaned, and should have plenty of clean litter on the floor. This litter is necessary for it is in this way that we induce the birds to exercise by feeding the grain mixtures in it.

The nests are a very important part of the house equipment. The hen likes a dark secluded place in which to lay her eggs. With this in view the nests should be located under the dropping boards. There should be clean dry straw in the nests and it should be kept clean if the hens are to produce good clean eggs.

In short cheery, clean, dry san-

itary, well ventilated, well littered houses mean dividends in the form of a larger supply of eggs.

TOBACCO ASSOCIATION HAS BIG CELEBRATION

A single check for \$1,127,673.06 was received by the Tobacco Growers Co-operative Association last week on account of sales of redried tobacco from the South Carolina belt made to R. J. Reynolds company.

All of this money was turned loose in South Carolina and border North Carolina markets along with some proceeds from other sales of South Carolina tobacco in the second advance to member tobacco growers on Monday, November 13.

Mass meetings of tobacco growers in celebration of this second payment in the South Carolina belt were held at Kingstree, Florence, Conway, Mullins and Cowards. Treasurer J. H. Craig and Executive Manager Sands addressed the growers and told them how their organization was handling tobacco in a business-like manner to the advantage of the growers. Members in South Carolina had been told that they would never get any more than their first advance but with the second payment already made and

the statement that there was more to come the South Carolina growers are feeling much better. They are also reported to be less ready to believe any of the wild rumors started by enemies of the Association.

At the coming meeting of the Board of Directors which will be held in Raleigh next week arrangements are to be made for a second payment in Eastern North Carolina and a definite date for this payment will probably be set.

Some of your automobile tools are so seldom useful that the garage mechanic doesn't feel justified in keeping them.

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