

861, as compared with \$148 on the poorest farms. The farm management survey work undertaken in Gage county is being introduced into four different systems of farming in a given locality and the factors that influence these profits.

FARM MANURES

When properly cared for, the manure from a well-fed horse is worth \$14.75 per year; from a dairy cow, \$18.75; from other cattle, \$11.60; from a sheep, \$2.25, and from a hog, \$2.10. At present only a few farmers are obtaining these manure values because the manure is not made under proper conditions or well cared for.

Over half the total fertilizing value of the manure (solid and liquid) is contained in the urine; therefore every reasonable precaution should be taken to prevent its loss.

The loss from leaching during three or four months may range from one-third to one-half the original fertilizing value of the manure. By using impervious floors and by keeping the stock well bedded, leaching may be prevented.

Fermentation may destroy one-half the organic matter and one-third or more of the nitrogen if permitted to go on unchecked for four or five months. It can not be prevented but may be held in check by keeping the manure moist and thoroughly compacted so that air can not penetrate the mass.

In order to obtain the greatest return, manure should be applied to thin sandy and clay soils rather than to those soils already rich in organic matter. It should be used on soils, where the organic matter, as well as nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash will be beneficial.

As a rule, in general farming, manure should be plowed under for corn or applied as a top dressing on wheat. The rotation of the crops, the relative value of manure on different crops, and the convenience of the farmer should be carefully considered when deciding upon a system of usage.

When the supply of manure is limited, it is more profitable to apply four to six tons to the acre than to apply a larger quantity to fewer acres. In general farming where there is only a moderate supply of manure produced, applications of four to eight tons to the acre will be found most advisable.

The practice of treating manure with some kind of phosphate is commendable. For immediate results, acid phosphate is preferable to raw rock phosphate, though either will give good results in the end.—Bulletin Indiana Experiment Station.

HOW PIGS GAIN

Young animals make more pounds of gain from their food than when older. Dean Henry, of Wisconsin, gathered a lot of data on this, and found that 38-pound pigs required 293 pounds of feed to make 100 pounds of gain; 78-pound pigs required 400 pounds of feed; 128-pound hogs, 437 pounds of feed; 174-pound pigs, 482 pounds; 226-pound pigs, 498 pounds; 271-pound pigs, 511 pounds; and for the 330-pound hogs it took 535 pounds of food to make the 100 pounds of gain, or nearly twice as much as for the 38-pound pig.

This emphasizes the importance of pushing the hogs from the start in order to make the most economical gains. It has been found at the North Dakota Experiment station that April pigs can be made to weight 200 to 250 pounds by November 1.

AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Forty-five bushels of seed potatoes were cut up by the boys of a Kansas

high school. They will be planted in the school gardens, which consist of twenty-two acres.

The census bureau places our last cotton crop at 16,012,143 bales of 500 pounds each. The yield in the principal states was: Texas, 4,584,933 bales; Georgia, 2,713,470; Alabama, 1,750,281; South Carolina, 1,524,595; Mississippi, 1,244,703; Oklahoma, 1,261; Arkansas, 1,015,674; Louisiana, 447,861; Tennessee, 382,431; Missouri, 81,587; Florida,

80,963. There were 81,598 bales of sea island cotton.

Farm progress in Allen county, Kansas, has determined eastern loan associations to reduce the interest rates in that county from 7 per cent to 6½ per cent, while in adjacent counties the rate remains 7 per cent. When W. E. Watkins, the county agent prepared the exhibit to be sent to the International Dry Farming congress in Wichita last autumn, which won the first premium for

county exhibits, it was such a showing for this progressive county that the reduction of interest rates was made.

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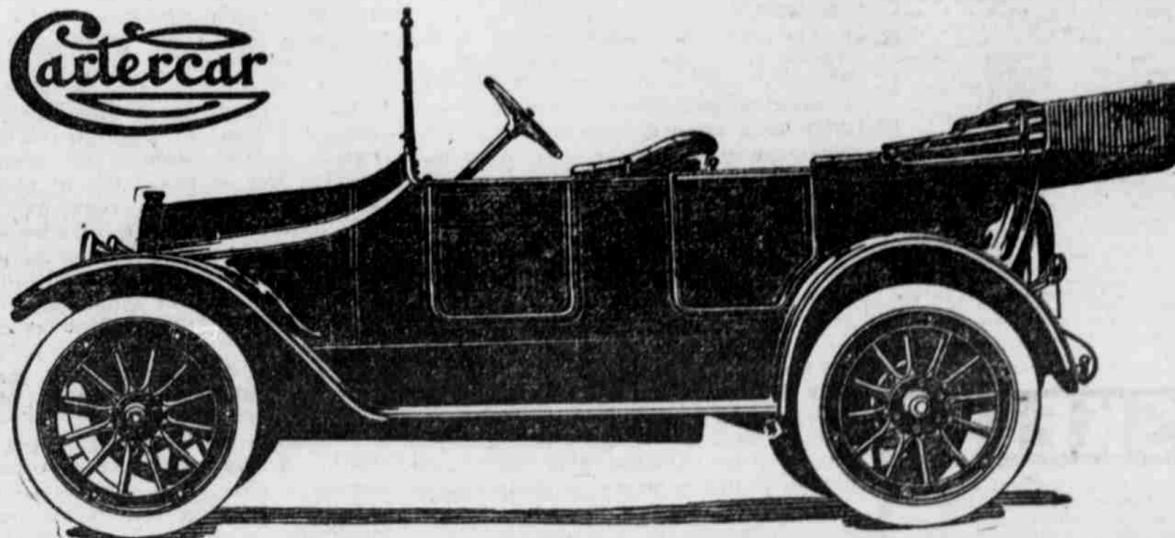
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