

ive Farmer. This very important matter is generally overlooked or disregarded by southern farmers. Perhaps the absence of the disk or smoothing harrow on so many small farms is largely responsible for the neglect of this best opportunity for pulverizing or fining the soil; but we fear its importance is not appreciated on too many farms possessing these implements.

The effects of harrowing before the soil has dried out, and even small lumps or clods formed by the baking influence of the sun, are so apparent that it seems any one should recognize them and act accordingly. Not only will harrowing the land plowed in the forenoon before stopping for dinner, and harrowing that plowed in the afternoon before stopping work at night, result in pulverizing the soil much better at less cost, but it is practically impossible to obtain a good seed bed on stiff soil deficient in humus, if it is not harrowed after breaking before it dries or receives the hot sun's rays for more than an hour or two.

In preparing a seed bed, especially on stiff soils, disking before plowing, if the land is hard or there is much vegetable matter to plow under, and disking or using the section harrow immediately after plowing are the

two most important considerations, but they are very generally neglected by the small farmers of the south.

**HOW TO CURE SEED CORN**

The best seed corn (other things being equal) is that cured in the natural way. Several methods of curing large and small lots of seed ears have been in use at the experiment station, and for large amounts a thin layer upon the floor of a well ventilated room is thought to be most efficient and practical, says C. P. Bull, assistant agriculturalist, Minnesota Experiment station. In small amounts (ten bushels or less) the slat rack or "trees" are best. The slat racks are made by nailing narrow (one inch) strips crosswise upon two upright boards. These boards are six inches or less wide; thus when the slats are nailed on either side and opposite in pairs, an ear of corn will rest safely when laid across them. The slats are placed about six inches apart, thus allowing of only a limited number of ears being piled together. This is necessary to prevent molding or decay. In this manner ears may be stored with comparative safety. An occasional turning of the ears may be found necessary to insure perfect curing, but this is not much of a task.

Another successful method of curing the seed ears is tying them in long strings with binding twine and suspending the strings from the ceiling. Seed ears of corn have also been safely cured by sticking the ears through the meshes of a strip of wire poultry netting which has been suspended from some convenient support.

The "tree" is made of 2x4 or 4x4 pieces. Into these on all sides ten penny nails are driven. The nails should be placed about three inches toward the top end. The timber, thus "nailed," can be leaned against the wall or supported by braces at the bottom so as to stand alone. The seed ears are forced, butt end first, upon these nails. In this manner they remain, without contact and where they can receive perfect circulation of air. For the home supply of seed there is no better method to be recommended.

**WHITE GRUBS CUT FARMERS' PROFITS**

Farmers who have suffered losses from attacks of white grubs in their fields this year should plan their crops for next year so as to avoid a repetition of the loss. Although the actual numbers of white grubs in the fields next year will probably be less than this year, those remaining will be larger and more voracious and do a great amount of injury, says William Moore of the Minnesota Experiment station.

All fields infested with white grubs should be fall-plowed as early as possible—not later than October 1. Badly infested fields should be planted with grain or some crop not in hills, as such crops are least affected by white grubs. Only fields slightly, or not at all, infested should be planted with corn, potatoes, strawberries, or other plants grown in hills. Fields which have been in sod in 1914 and 1915 should be considered as infested fields and, if to be used next year for susceptible crops, should be plowed this fall.

**PURE-BRED HOG BREEDERS SHOULD VACCINATE**

The question of vaccinating against cholera should be of special interest to breeders of pure-bred hogs. Where these hogs are offered for sale, with a pedigree, for breeding purposes the man who can advertise his stock

as being immune to cholera has the advantage over his competitors.

If vaccinated by the simetaneous method at the time of disposal, they can safely be guaranteed to withstand any form of infection so far encountered in this state.

In the east and middle west the leading hog breeders are advertising their stock as being immune to cholera or having been vaccinated.

This should be an advantage to the breeders in so much as it protects his hogs from cholera and also acts as an insurance for the buyer, who would be willing to pay a premium for stock which he knows is insured against death from cholera.—J. H. Coffman, Veterinarian, Idaho Hog Cholera Serum Plant.

**SATISFACTORY MEASURE OF FARM PROFITS**

Farm survey work has resulted in finding the most practical way of figuring farm profits. The term which is used to express the profitableness of a farm business is called "labor income." This is the amount left after the expenses and 5 per cent interest on the investment are subtracted from the farm receipts. That is, it is what the farmer received for his labor and management. In addition to the labor income he had a home and what the farm furnished toward his living.

Surveys covering the 1914 crop year show very satisfactory labor incomes. One of 10 regions in Nebraska in which surveys are being conducted co-operatively by the United States department of agriculture and the Nebraska college of agriculture, gave an average labor income for 54 farms of \$787. Another region gave an average labor income of \$1,362 for 46 farms. The remaining regions are expected to show up equally well.

**DIAMETER OF THE SILO**

The diameter of a silo should be determined by the amount of ensilage to be fed, says the North Dakota Experiment station. If less than one and one-fifth inches of ensilage are removed daily, molding is likely to start. The warmer the weather, the greater the depth of ensilage that should be removed. In winter, twelve dairy cows fed forty pounds a day will use up the right amount from a fourteen-foot silo, while in summer it would require eighteen cows to use the amount of ensilage that should be removed daily. For the twelve-foot silo, nine cows in winter and thirteen cows in summer; for the sixteen-foot silo, seventeen cows in winter and twenty-five in summer. Let the amount of ensilage fed daily determine the diameter of the silo and let the height determine the capacity.

**THE "GOOD OLD WAY"**

Naturally, in the years when his party made so much of "business" in the political field, Senator Aldrich acquired marked influence. He was, in no contemptuous sense, the chief "go-between" for the republicans in their relations with men of large affairs. With this went very well Mr. Aldrich's activities in tariff matters. With the framing of two tariff bills—1897 and in 1909—he had a great deal to do. The report was spread about Washington that the thing for any manufacturer to do, looking for higher protection, was to "see Aldrich." And the stories were too many and too precise of this and the other factory-owner being allowed to write his own schedule in the congenial air of Senator Aldrich's office, not to have a foundation of truth in them. All this was simply a part of the good old "comfortable" way of the republican party, first granting tariff favors and then frying cam-

paign fat. Senator Aldrich's connection with the process was no secret, and neither he nor his friends saw in it at the time anything to blush for.—New York Evening Post.

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**AM I INSURED?**

When the whistle blows for a fire in a city, or the fire bell rings in the town, the first thought which comes to one is, "That may be my property which is on fire." The anxiety is not relieved until he knows definitely that it is not his. And if it is his, he goes over rapidly in his mind the amount of insurance he has on this particular property. If perchance he has no insurance, he laments the poor business judgment he displayed when he turned a deaf ear to the fire insurance agent.

But a fire only causes a property loss to the living man. While the loss may be a severe one, he can accumulate again, even if the property burned was wholly uninsured or only partly insured. If there is need for the breadwinner of the family to protect by fire insurance his property interests which can be replaced, how much more needful is it for him to protect by life insurance the earning value of his own life, which can not be replaced.

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