

NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



One of the very best feeds to grow for sheep is fodder corn.

Blue grass and white clover make an ideal pasture for sheep.

Corn for grain and alfalfa hay go well together in animal feeding.

Sudden changes in the calf's feed are almost certain to start trouble.

All dairy utensils should be washed as soon as possible after being used.

If you grow squashes and have never seen the squash bug you are fortunate.

Be sure there are no drafts in the hen house or your hens are likely to have the roup.

Chicks and young cockerels are apt to become weak in their legs while running at large.

Look out for ticks. Your sheep can not fatten if they are troubled with these pests.

The brood mare in foal should be handled by a firm, steady hand, not an excitable, rash hand.

With over 100 breeds of chickens already in existence, breeders are at work trying to fix new ones.

Stagnant water should never be allowed to remain where sheep can get at it. It conveys parasites.

There is no crop that a stock feeder can grow that will make as much feed as corn and peas or soy beans.

If the man who has no silo would watch his neighbor feed and watch the results he would soon have one.

After the asparagus season is over remove the weeds, stir the soil and put a coating of well-rotted manure on the bed.

There is only one time when a poultryman is justified in selling a good pullet, and that is when he is going out of the business.

Dairying does not imply that any other line of farming is bad. It makes the fields more profitable and the farm more profitable.

It makes some horses ugly to work them with horses that do not travel up with them. Match them as to gait as well as to other things.

A drop of melted lard rubbed on top of the head and another drop under its bill and along the neck will put an end to the head lice.

One reason why more farmers do not have better breeds of poultry is because the hatching and brooding season comes in their busiest time of the year.

To succeed with celery you should have cold manure or muck applied in large quantities. It is a deep feeder and does best on a compact cold or deep soil.

All crops should be severely thinned—better have a good ear of corn than two nubbins; better have a good nubbin than a thrashy nubbin and an empty shoot.

In order that a horse may trot or pace he must have the physical conformation, adoption to the gait, and a favorable condition of mental and nervous organizations.

Keeping down the weeds will aid the garden crops in maturing, and make picking easier. Mutch the clean surface of the ground with old straw in case of dry conditions.

If you have a crop of heifer calves, be sure to select those that have the greatest promise of being producers. Give them the best of care and build up your future herd in this way.

The condition of the soil, the location with regard to schools, and markets and the desirability of a farm from a general standpoint are three things that should enter into consideration before buying.

The cow is the final judge as to the real worth of silage. She is its "ultimate consumer," and when she says by a full pail and satisfied expression that silage is the best dairy feed the wise dairyman will abide by her decision.

It is poor policy to starve and stunt a pig during the first few months, expecting to make it up by heavy feeding later. The 100-pound pig makes gains 20 per cent. cheaper than the 200-pound pig if equally thrifty.

Warm milk is best for the calf, no matter how old it is.

If you haven't a silo, think over the matter of building one.

Some horses have learned to balk by being overloaded and abused.

The cow that loses flesh in October or November will be an expensive one to winter.

Alfalfa hay is a fine rough feed for horses once per day if fed in moderate quantities.

All over the country people are keeping better poultry than they did a few years ago.

Sweet corn is a very profitable crop. One reason for this is because it is so easily handled.

Cow pox is a contagious eruption; running a fixed course, and accompanied by a slight fever.

Mature hogs that are thin may be made a gain of a half pound a day on alfalfa without grain.

Running the mower along the sides of the ditches will make it easier keeping them clear of weeds.

Hot water and sunshine are two of the best cleansers for the dairy utensils that can be found anywhere.

Until we get perfect animals we should search for a sire that in some particulars is superior to the cows in our herds.

A good pedigree counts, and the good ram is bound to show his good points; if he is not good he will show his defects.

Many orchards have sufficient available plant food, but lack water at that critical period while the tree is fruit making.

The man who has plenty of soiling crops does not fear the dry pastures so much as the one who depends upon the grass alone.

The sow should be given a warm milked slop, made fresh for each meal, whole oats and a little sound corn twice a day.

Of the insects attacking squashes, melons, cucumbers, pumpkins, etc., the common striped cucumber beetle is the most injurious.

The right time to castrate pigs is a week or so before they are weaned, if healthy; if delicate, wait a week or so until they are stronger.

The separator is an absolute necessity upon the modern dairy farm. It safeguards the health of the calves and the pigs and increases the profits.

No cow can properly digest and assimilate balanced rations and economically convert them into milk unless she has been properly developed.

The keeping of goats for milk is not a fad; and the breeding of dairy goats is coming to the front most rapidly in both the United States and Canada.

A well planned garden is one that will allow as much of it as possible to be cultivated with a horse. Hoeling in the garden doesn't set well with most of us.

When pigs are six weeks old they may be turned into grass, and clover pasture if the weather is warm. If cold and ground wet, keep them in dry, roomy pens.

When water is given a short time before feeding it passes out of the stomach quickly and leaves that organ free to deal with any food consumed afterward.

Expert truckers and market gardeners apply, in connection with manure spread in the drill or hill, 600 to 800 pounds of some standard bone phosphate to the acre.

Young pigs should have the best of care and get to eating nicely while on the mother. They should not be weaned until they are nine weeks old if good results are obtained.

A vicious old mare in a herd of horses, in the pasture is likely to do great harm by biting and kicking. She should either be hobbled or kept entirely away from other horses.

A field of rape makes an excellent summer pasture crop for sheep pasture during the dry summer period when the regular pastures are either too short or burned entirely down.

Experiments made at the Pennsylvania experiment station show that hill strawberries are not larger and better formed than those grown in matted rows, provided the matted row is a narrow one.

It is important that every drop of milk should be drawn from the udder for the richest milk comes last and in addition to this, if the cow is not milked dry she will fall off in her flow more quickly.

When selecting a cow for the dairy look and see if the eye of the animal is large and full. The largeness of the eye indicates a strong nervous system. Digestion and milk secretion is the work of the nerve system. The nerve system is the power that drives the animal's milk machine.

LITTLE PEACH ORCHARD IS NOT DIFFICULT TO ACQUIRE

Long Island Women Secures Good Crop at Third Year and Bumper the Fourth—Her Success Is Attributed to Summer-Pruning, Spraying, Cultivation and Humus.



Branch From Four-Year-Old Tree.

(By ANTON WAGNER.) It is so easy to have a little peach orchard on the farm, and how very few have them. Nothing more is required than some good trees planted right, a bit of cultivation now and then, a little watchfulness to see that the insects do not attack the youngsters, liberal pruning, and there you are.

The picture shown here is from a photograph of a branch from a peach tree four years old, grown by Edith Fullerton, on Long Island, N. Y. The trees were summer pruned—and how Mrs. Fullerton does prune her trees is a caution to people who do not

know what liberal pruning means. These trees produced a good crop the third year, and a bumper crop the fourth year.

Mrs. Fullerton says she lays her good crops to summer pruning, spraying, clean cultivation and nature's own fertilizer, humus. Experts who visited this little Long Island farm were quite certain that the trees on which these peaches were grown had been planted at least seven years, and it took the records of the county seat to show that the land, which was waste pine barrens, was not bought until four years before the maturing of this crop.

IMPORTANCE OF TREE-PLANTING

Enterprise of German Foresters Strikingly Shown in Two Recent News Items—To Try Larch and Pine.

The enterprise of German foresters and the importance of tree-planting for forest purposes are strikingly shown by two items of news which come, the one from Montana, the other from Ontario. It is reported that a demand has developed for Montana larch seeds to be used by German nurserymen; while white pine seedlings are to be imported from Germany by the town of Guelph, Ont., for planting a 168-acre tract of land belonging to the municipality.

The Germans recognize that the introduction into their forests of valuable trees native to other countries may be decidedly to their advantage. Although as a rule the forest trees best adapted to each region are those which naturally grow in it, there are many exceptions. Norway spruce and Austrian and Scotch pine have been carried from their native home to other parts of Europe and to America and have been found well worth the attention of the grower of timber. Several of our own species have met with favor in Europe and flourished there, such as the Douglas fir, black walnut and others. The Australian eucalyptus is proving a great find for America and South Africa.

Our own white pine long ago crossed the Atlantic in response to the needs of Europeans, whose forests are comparatively poor in tree species, and is now grown commercially on such a scale that when it is wanted for planting in its own native habitat the German nurseryman is often ready to deliver young plants here for a lower price than our own nurserymen will quote. Now the Germans are going to try the western larch, also. The request from the German nurseryman instructs the collectors to gather the choicest seeds when ripe this fall. One nurseryman on Flathead lake has offered to exchange larch seeds for seeds of desirable German shrubs, which he intends to cultivate and sell in America. In the same region, four or five months ago, foresters of our own department of agriculture gathered seed for use in the neighboring Lolo forest, where a new forest-planting nursery was begun last year.

The objects of the Guelph planting are, according to local accounts, to protect the town's water source by a forest cover over its springs in the hills, to make a beautiful woods for a public park, and to provide for a future timber supply as a municipal asset. In foreign countries, forest tracts are often owned and managed by towns and cities as a paying investment and to insure a permanent supply of wood for local consumption, but in America planting by municipalities other than for parks and for watershed protection has scarcely been thought of. The kinds of trees to be grown in the Guelph park have already been decided upon by the Ontario Agricultural college. The proposed forestation promises to be of so great economic and sanitary value that the estimated cost of \$8 per acre for importing and planting the seedlings and caring for the growing trees is regarded as well worth while.

Building a Hothouse Trade.

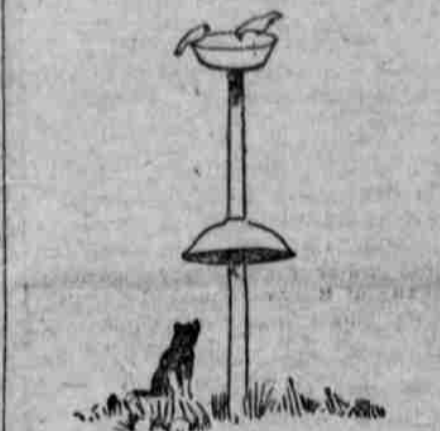
One of the prominent truck growers of Erie, Pa., was 12 years ago a telegraph operator earning just enough to support his family. He built a small greenhouse, peddled his first lettuce from store to store from a basket on his arm. He now has a beautiful home, rides in an automobile, has 125 acres in truck crops and fruit, and over 50,000 square feet of vegetables under glass.

PROTECT BIRDS FROM THE CATS

Suitable Drinking Place for the Little Songsters Should be Provided on Every Farm.

A drinking place for birds which offers protection from cats should be on every farm and every suburban home yard should contain one.

The water is furnished in an ob-



A Drink in Safety.

tin fastened to the top of a post, below which is an inverted pan which should extend out at least six inches from the pole. Such a drinking place is cheap and easily constructed.

RAPE SUPERIOR FOR PASTURAGE

Crop Can be Sown Any Time During the Summer and the Farmer is Always Sure of Getting Money's Worth.

(By J. BAILEY BRUCE.) You can sow rape most any time during the summer and get your money's worth. It is a fine thing to sow in corn as a catch crop as it grows faster than cow-peas, soybeans clover or any of the catches.

As pasture it is far superior to cow-peas or soybeans as it lasts till nearly Christmas in the southern states and in many places all winter.

The seed is cheap. It can be bought for about five cents a pound and two pounds will sow an acre so that you can get \$5 or \$10 worth of feed from as many cents' worth of seed.

It is pretty certain to make a crop, and then if it is pastured there is no loss of fertility to the soil, but on the contrary it is benefited.

As it grows long after corn and oats is matured it saves the nitrogen that would otherwise be wasted. There is no extra plowing, harrowing or harvesting and you may get a profit of one dollar or ten dollars per acre.

Have Timothy Grass.

Every farm of any size should have its timothy fields. A 40-acre farm should have at least five acres of grass, and larger farms in same proportion. An acre of good timothy will give more clear money than will two or three acres of other grasses or clovers. Ease of curing is seen in the fact that if in right condition for cutting it can be cut in the morning and put in the barn in the evening. Outdoor stacking is not to be commended.

Fruit for Market.

It pays to pack fruit in clean baskets for the local market and it pays also to wrap them in paper. Not for protection but to increase their market appearance.

Strawberry Plants.

If desired potted strawberry plants may be rooted now and then planted late in the summer. Every plant should grow when propagated in this manner.

IMPORTANCE OF ATTENTION TO MEMBERS OF SHEEP FLOCK

Extra Care Must be Constantly Exercised During the Hot Summer Months if Good Condition of Lambs Is to be Maintained—Should be Given Separate Pasture.

(By ELMER HENDERSON.) Of all the things that should merit the attention of the farmer at this time none are more important than the lambs.

The Saviour's oft repeated admonition of "Feed My Lambs" always has been and always will be the slogan of the truly successful sheep farmer.

No matter how carefully you care for the ewe during the trying period of lambing, nor how well you feed her during the raw, chilly months of early spring, if now, during the hot months you neglect the little ones, all your work has been in vain. For it is then that the really trying time comes.

Until summer climatic conditions have been fairly conducive to the best health and growth of the young lambs. Grass has been abundant and the ewe has been liberal in her flow of milk. Now, however, a change occurs in the life of the little one.

Our days, which before have been cooled by cool and balmy breezes

scantiness of pasture, it too often ends in what we too often see in market circles—a poor, dwarfed and rusted lamb.

Right here is where the sheep farmer shows whether he is capable and efficient. If he is, he will attend to them at once. In fact, the best of them anticipate nature a little by weaning earlier.

If it has not been done before, the really capable and efficient farmer attends to it now. He may be, and often is, right where his fields need him the most, but he knows that here is something that will pay him immensely. He knows that a little brains and forethought exercised now will take the place of a lot of work and feed later on.

The best thing to do is to separate the ewes and lambs entirely. If possible give the lambs a fresh pasture on which no sheep have been grazed for a year. This is to avoid the dreaded stomach worm.

One way that has been found good is to turn the lambs into a patch of rape and allow them to graze it down. Some like to let the rape get six or eight inches high before turning in on it, but for my part I think it is too tough by that time. I much prefer the three or five-inch plant to the larger and woodier growth.

Often after the rape is eaten, the meadows have started up afresh so that the lambs can be turned into them and allowed to eat the fresh, tender herbage that springs up with the first shower.

Sometimes when nothing better is offered, I have turned the lambs into the uncut hay. They tramp down some of it, but they more than pay for what they destroy. Then, after the hay is cut, there is always a lot of good feed on the ground that is just what will do them good.

It may be that the ruinous crop of weeds is just starting up. The lambs will eat these, and with what new grass starts up will do well, to say nothing of the great good they do as scavengers in keeping the fence corners all clean.

If carefully handled during summer there is no reason why the lamb should not come on in great shape and make a great big lusty ewe or wether by Christmas.

I say ewe or wether, I wonder if all come under this classification or whether, despite all that can be said and done, there are not a lot of untrained rams in the sheep pens of the corn belt to-day; but that is another story.

IMPORTANCE OF FARM HORSES

Animals, in Combination With Modern Machinery, Have to Great Extent Replaced Human Labor.

(By THOMAS P. COOPER.)

At present the horse is practically the entire motive power of the farm. In combination with improved farm machinery, the horse has, to a great extent, replaced human labor. And the modern farm depends as much upon the efficiency of the horse that is kept to perform the labor as it does upon the use of the human labor upon the farm. In fact, the efficiency of human labor upon the farm, and in many instances the proper operation of the farm, depends entirely upon the farm horse. We may readily understand, therefore, that the farm horse is often the greatest single factor in the success of the farming operations. It is essential, then, that the farm horse be so cared for, and the farm so organized, that a maximum return on the horse's labor can be secured annually.

It is true that horse owners generally are not accustomed to look upon the horses of the farm, or their labor, as costing anything. The horse has been considered so much of a necessity, and so much a part of the farm, that the question of the cost of the horse labor to the farm, or of the methods by which such cost may be decreased, has been very largely neglected. The question of economy of power on the farm is only brought up at those times when consideration is being given to some other form of motive power than the horse. It is a question, though, that—with increasing cost of feed, of care, and larger investment in horses—will constantly become of greater and greater importance.

The cost of horse labor depends upon many conditions that vary on each farm, so that costs are not similar on different farms. However, the items that make up cost are similar on all farms, and only vary in amount. It is essential, then, that the farm operator have an accurate knowledge of what comprises cost, and what average costs are, that he may institute such economies in his management as seem desirable. Carefully-kept records and accounts with the farm horse, show that the average cost of horse labor on the farm is about eight and one-half cents per hour. The rate seldom averages less, and generally runs higher. This means that the actual cost, on the farm, of a horse's labor for a ten-hour day, is 85 cents, or \$1.70 for a team.

HOW ENGLISH TRAIN HOP VINES

Ingenuous Farmers Arrange Stilts, Fastened to Legs, Enabling Them to Reach Wires.

How growers of Kent, England, have discovered a novel way of fixing the wires on the tall poles on which the hops are trained to grow. The poles are about 12 feet high, and



Stilt Hopping for Hops.

placed in rows at intervals of four or five feet in the fields. Upon these, wires must be stretched, and for this operation the ingenious farmers have devised long stilts, which are fastened to their legs, enabling them to stand at a height of seven or more feet from the ground.

Picking and Packing Pears.

Many growers pick pears when they are quite green, but this is a mistake. It is better to pick pears when they are fully matured. Wrapped carefully in paper they will reach the market in fine condition.

If pears are picked green they will remain green. They do not ripen as many people suppose. It is necessary to pack pears, plums and peaches just tightly enough so they will not bruise by jarring in the packages.

Injurious for Pigs.

When the sow is given a warm, rich slop, or other milk-producing feeds just after her pigs are born, a strong milk flow is forced. The new-born pigs get too much and have diarrhoea which often kills them.