

NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM

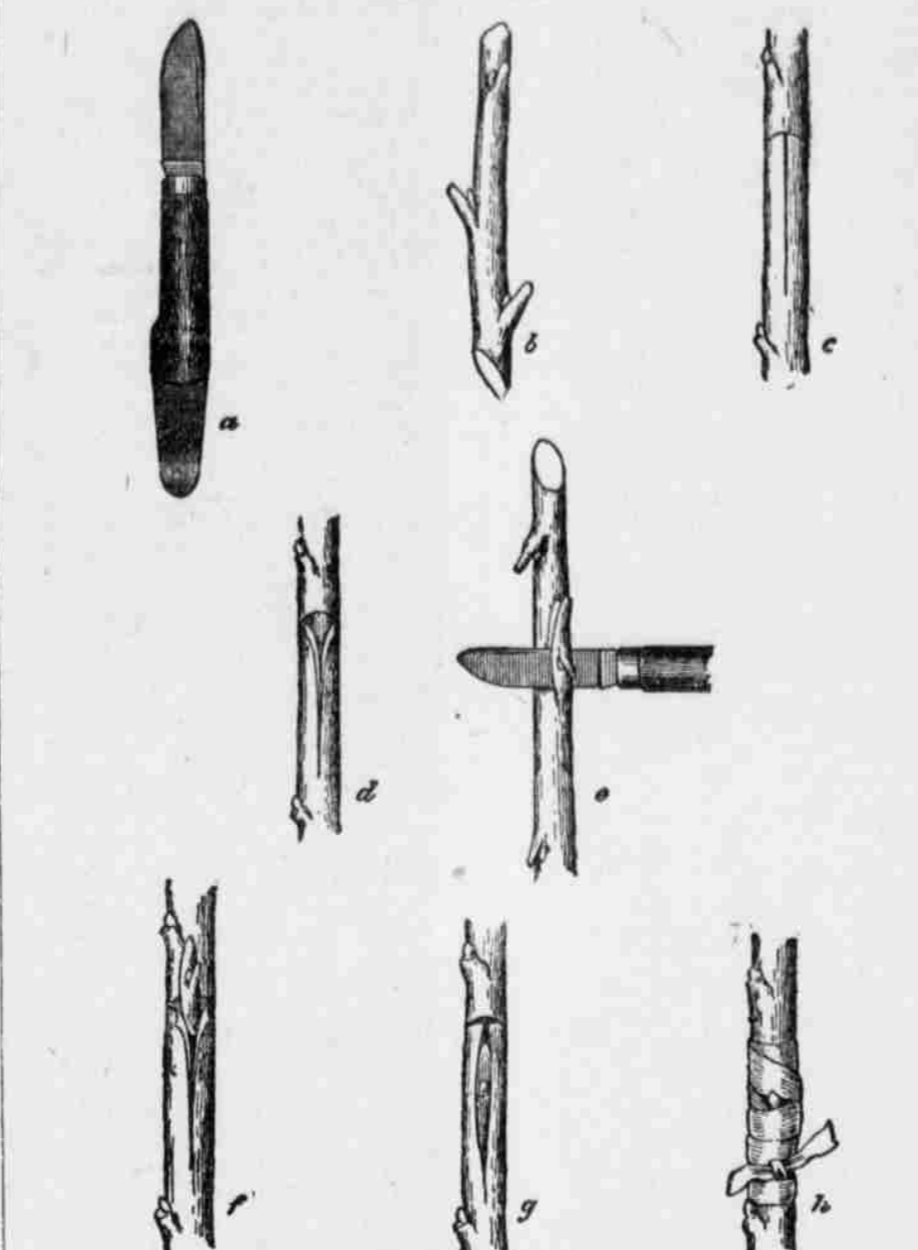


Every farmer needs a silo. Are the cattle well housed and fed? Keep the sheep healthy and vigorous. Feed for egg production should be rich in protein. You cannot get heavy egg laying without heavy feeding. To improve the dairy herd, keep the best, and sell the rest. Clover should be young to make pigs thrive at top notch. Judge not a hen by her beauty, but by the way she does her duty. Trap nests eliminate drones with accuracy from any flock of hens. Food plays an important part in the growth and development of the colt. Many young boars are ruined by being allowed to run in lots near the sows. If you intend sowing clover or alfalfa this spring get your seed right away. Clover is the greatest pasture for hogs—provided it is not allowed to mature. The successful feeding of poultry is among the most difficult of feeding problems. Most farmers have learned before this that it is expensive to haul green corn fodder. Rape seed is cheap, it germinates strongly and furnishes plenty of palatable forage. If a hog seems to be ailing, separate it from the herd at once and give watchful care. One advantage in feeding steers on the farm is the maintenance of the soil fertility. Deal gently with the cow of nervous temperament. She usually is one of the best in your herd. If you get an incubator, assign the running of it to one person, and let him have sole charge. A chill brought on by the under coming in contact with frosty ground is apt to ruin your best cow. Clean, dry bedding spread about thickly will make cold, hard floors more endurable these cold nights. Sunflowers are just the thing to raise next season for the fowls but don't grow them for the sparrows. The good dairy cow usually is wide in the forehead, the face dished between the eyes with a strong under jaw. Never salt the horse's feed in the box. Place a big lump where he can reach it, and he will take it when he needs it. The three essentials for a successful dairy cow are vigor, capacity for food and well-developed organs for milk production. Goslings will thrive if fed on grass alone, but will not make such rapid growth, of course, as when they are given a little grain. The cow must have a good breathing apparatus, indicated by a large nostril, wide breast and good width across the floor of the chest. Never jump from the wagon when the horse is running away. More lives and limbs are lost in that way than by remaining in the wagon. Until we raise all the hay we need for our stock, and have all the stock and all the manure we need, it will pay us to save the whole of the corn crop. Feeding cattle gives not only a profit on the feed produced on the farm, but it supplies the farm with manure which is greatly desired in progressive farming. Calves should not be turned out to pasture unless they have had a little green feed before, as it is liable to cause scour. Give all the fresh, clean water the calf will drink. A daily record should be kept of each cow in the stable. In a year's time a dairyman will know by practical demonstration what cows are paying him and those that are not. A few sweet apples or lumps of sugar is likely to prove much more effective than a whip in securing obedience from an intelligent, spirited highly bred colt, or even a mature animal of the horse kind. Preventive measures in warding off sheep troubles not only eliminate tedious treatment, but sustain the physical state of the animals in the most natural and desirable condition for breeding purposes. The setting hen must be protected from lice. She offers a splendid breeding place for these, parasites, and unless something is done to check their growth in the nest the chickens will be hatched under serious handicap. Some dairymen believe that if the feed of their cows is changed it will have a bad effect upon the milk flow, but repeated scientific experiments show that changing from one feed to another, and frequent additions to the regular feed helps the milk flow.

PEAR ONE OF MOST LUSCIOUS FRUITS UNDER CULTIVATION Trees, However, Are More Difficult to Maintain in Healthy Productive Condition Than Apple—Neglect in Many Instances Becomes Prime Cause of Ultimate Failure.

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Budding: a, Budding knife; b, bud stick; c, lengthwise incision with cross cut at top; d, opening of bark for insertion of bud; e, removing the bud; f, inserting the bud; g, bud inserted; h, bud properly wrapped.

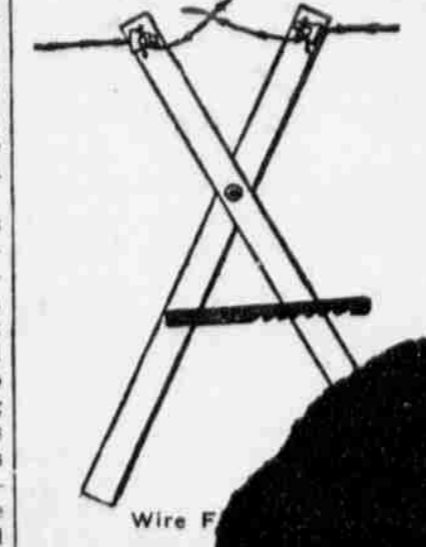
(By G. B. BRACKETT, United States Department of Agriculture.) The pear has long been regarded as one of the most luscious of the many kinds of fruit brought under cultivation. The choice varieties excel most apples in rich, juicy texture and delicacy of flavor, and for both desert and culinary purposes, either canned or in the fresh state, the pear is considered a great acquisition. With a proper selection of varieties and with careful handling and storing of the fruit its season of use may be extended from midsummer to late winter without resorting to artificial means of preservation. Pear trees are more difficult to maintain in a healthy, productive condition than apple trees and can not be grown with the same degree of success over so wide an area of country. Such has been the uncertainty of success in growing pears in many parts of the United States that few farmers have the needed confidence to plant even the few trees necessary to provide fruit for home use. This lack of confidence too often leads to neglect, which in many instances becomes the prime cause of ultimate failure. The operation of budding, which must be performed during the growing season, consists in removing a bud from a twig of the desired variety and inserting it beneath the bark of the stock or young seedling which is to be changed. The inserted bud is held in place by wrapping it fast with soft cotton twine, bark, or raffia. In about ten days the bud will have united with the stock and the wrapping may be removed. Then by cutting back the stock or limb to near the inserted bud, the sap is forced into the newly transplanted bud and the growth of a new tree of the desired variety is promoted. A budding knife and the successive stages of budding are shown in the illustration. The main requisites for success in budding are (1) a healthy growing condition of the stock on which the work is to be done and (2) a certain state of maturity of the buds. The bark of the stock must separate freely, so that the bud may be forced under it without injury to the cambium layer of either bud or stock. The bud sticks or scions for budding should be of the current year's growth and should have well-developed buds. When the scions are taken from the tree the leaves must be cut off immediately, leaving only a short stub of the leaf stem for convenience in handling during the operation of budding. The bud sticks should be kept in fresh condition by means of damp moss or a wet cloth, and not more than one or two scions should be withdrawn from the package at a time. Although budding may be done as early as well-developed buds can be obtained, the common practice of nurserymen is to insert the buds as late in the season as the bark of the stock will separate freely. By this method of late budding the bud is allowed to remain dormant through the following winter. In the spring the wrapping is removed and where the bud appears to be sound the top is cut back as already indicated. All buds on the stock below the one inserted should be rubbed off as they start to grow, so as to throw all the sap into the growth of the bud inserted. It is as important with the pear as with any other kind of fruit tree that the land, whether for standards or

dwarfs, be well and thoroughly prepared by plowing and stirring the soil and subsoil deeply before planting. An excellent plan is to plow the ground in lands in the direction that will afford the best drainage, backfurling with a heavy plow and leaving the dead furrows where the rows of trees are to be set. It is well to break up the bottom of this dead furrow by running a subsoil plow through it two or three times, giving it a good stirring. This method affords a deeper tilth under the trees and allows a partial underdrainage in heavy clay subsoil, if the rows are laid out with reference to this object, and is preferable to digging holes which would form basins that would hold water during rainy seasons, to the injury of the trees. A good distance for planting standard pear trees is 15 by 30 feet; that is, the rows are 30 feet apart and the trees 15 feet apart in the rows. The object of this method is to obtain larger crops of fruit from the same ground until the trees become large enough to interfere with each other; then each alternate tree in the row is cut out, leaving the trees in the entire orchard at a distance of 30 feet each way. This system has the advantage of more fully utilizing the land for fruit production until the thinning out becomes necessary. Another plan is to plant the trees 20 feet apart each way. This distance will afford free circulation of air and abundance of sunlight, both of which are essential to well-developed and highly colored fruit.

USEFUL FENCE MENDING DEVICE

Illustration Shows Contrivance That Will Be Found Satisfactory—Made of Tough Wood.

For mending a wire fence the device illustrated herewith will be found very satisfactory. It consists of two sticks of tough wood, say 4 feet long, and bolted together at a point about two-thirds the length from the upper end, says the Orange Judd Farmer. A steel clamp at the upper end of each stick is fastened for holding the wire. In each of these a loose end of the wire to be mended is fastened



Wire F... and the legs of... toward each o... one leg enga... other. Then... the device... ratchet and

LESS EXPENSIVE FATTENING SYSTEM SUGGESTED BY FLINT

Buy Cattle in Thin Flesh, Feed Plenty of Roughage and Then Turn Them Out on Grass Pasture—Prime Corn-Fed Animals Are Scarce During Summer Months and Bring Good Prices.



Excellent Bunch of Feeder Steers.

Choice beef can be produced with less high-priced feed, and at a lower cost, than it is produced by most feeders, thinks P. N. Flint, assistant professor of animal husbandry at the Kansas Agricultural college. Professor Flint believes in a less expensive method of fattening, in which grass is the principal diet. The common feeding practice of many of the farmers of the corn belt is an expensive process. The cattle are fed during the winter months. Sheds have to be provided for shelter. The cost of hauling and feeding the roughage for the cattle when in a dry lot is not a small item. Bad weather is another objectionable feature—more feed is required by a steer to make the same gain. The feeding practice for more profit is this: Common feeders—Cattle in thin flesh—may be bought at a low price. Get steers two or three years old. Feed them plenty of roughage to keep them in good condition until they are turned out on grass. A few hours a day on pasture is long enough at first, until their systems get accustomed to the change. Feed the steers running on grass a ration of 8 to 14

pounds of corn. Begin with a light ration and work up gradually to the maximum. They should be ready to market the latter part of July. Prime corn-fed cattle are scarce during the summer, as most of the feeders in the lots are finished and shipped out before this time. The packers must have cattle with some finish, and they pay a good price to get them. Coming on the market at this time, the steers fed on grass will bring almost as good a price as stock fed a full grain ration in a dry lot. The success of this plan of feeding is due to the low price at which the cattle can be bought and the thin condition of the animals coming in the common class of feeders. Making economical gains is not a breed but a type characteristic. Often the best and poorest gains made are by individuals of the same breed. Less labor is required with summer feeding. The cattle gather their roughage, and the manure produced by them is distributed, and evenly. In winter, dry-lot-feeding steers are fed a ration of 18 to 22 pounds of grain and 8 to 8 pounds of hay apiece, when on full feed.

YOUNG WOMAN GOT HER EGGS

Small Flock of Pullets Installed in the Back Yard in Portable House Furnish Medicine.

A young lady living in a small city had impaired her health by too confining work in a city office, says Christian Herald. Her physician ordered her to a sanitarium for rest and rebuilding, and when she returned to work he instructed her to eat four fresh-laid eggs daily; two eggs for breakfast, and the others raw, in milk. Finding it difficult to obtain dependably fresh eggs, she persuaded her mother to permit her having a small flock in the home yard. A portable house was purchased and fifteen pullets installed in it. A small brother was paid 10 cents a week to feed and care for the flock, two bags of ready-mixed food were bought, and the result of the venture was not only all the eggs the young lady needed and a supply for the family, but there was a surplus which found a ready market at the corner drug store, bringing 10 cents a dozen above the market price.

HOGS REQUIRE GOOD PASTURE

Every Farmer Having Swine Should Sow Patch of Rape Seed to Make Suitable Grazing.

Hogs require green food along with a moderate amount of grain; but the will keep in good, thrifty condition during the summer months on clover and grass alone. Every farmer who hogs should sow a patch of rape seed. Sow four pounds of new crop seed to the acre; this must be deep, finely pulverized and good order. In ten weeks of good grazing this makes a good good grazing. The rape seed and will be kept on rape the pigs ashes, mixed one of s... The fat... probably... clove... en...

ALABAMA MAN HAS NEW TRACE

Wheel in End of Whistle Holds Trace so That There Is No Danger of its Loosening.

Considerable cleverness in the designing by an Alabama man the trace connector shown. The end of the whistle is attached to the parallel sides, at the ends. Pivoted sides is a wheel, with and lateral passages slots. To us this... inserted in the whe... of the slots of the... notches in the end...

