

dairyman on that account. Sow ten pounds per acre very early in the spring, that the plant may become established before warm weather comes on.

The annuals seed the first year and die. The biennials and triennials seed the second or third year and have a tendency to last a few years, but they are gradually crowded out each year, become unprofitable as a crop after the second or third year. The perennial holds it own year after year.

Clovers are deep rooted and their roots are able to use mineral foods that seem to be too tough a combination for other plants. Besides being able to collect mineral foods, the clover plant is able to combine hydrogen and oxygen with the free nitrogen of the air, forming nitric acid. The nitrogen collectors do their work in little nodules or tubercles that may be seen attached to the roots of any of the pod-bearing plants. The clover not only furnishes a large crop of hay or green food, but also a heavy aftermath to turn under as a green manure which adds humus and nitrogen to the soil. A heavy crop of clover may be taken from a field and the field will be richer in available food elements than it was before the clover was sown. Grain crops are soil depleters, while clover crops are soil builders.

Clover hay is among the best for dairy cattle. Many farmers are wasteful in making hay. They do not seem to understand the difference between drying and curing hay. The aroma and nutrient elements may be destroyed if the hay is not cut at the right time and properly cured. It is worth while to learn the art of hay making and give up the hay drying of our forefathers.

The clover plant should be cut while all the functions of plant life are in full operation. Do not wait until the plant is matured and ready to die. Just when the plant is coming to full bloom is the time to cut and cure (not dry). If cut and cured at that time, much of the sap is retained; the elements of growth are held, and the hay will be very palatable; the stalks and leaves will be limber, and when such hay is acted upon by digestion, the animal will receive the nutrients the hay contained. When hay is dried, the stalks are brittle, the leaves are lost, and the elements are locked up, and the animal will have a hard time in digesting such hay.

We notice that grass is one of the most palatable and nutritious feeds we have for all kinds of stock. Why not feed cured grass, called hay, with the same results? We can if the grass is cured instead of being dried.

I will describe the method of curing clover for hay and the dairyman will vouch that no better clover hay ever went into his barn than was put in last season.