

Farm and Garden

FARM MANAGEMENT.

Agriculture Should Be Handled as the Merchant Handles a Store.

By ANDREW BOSS.

Chief of agronomy and farm management, Minnesota agricultural experiment station.

Farm management, in its best interpretation, means the application of progressive, scientific and business principles to the business of farming. The farm manager holds the same relation to the farm and its business as does the business manager of the store or other business enterprise—that is, he is the one responsible for the success or failure of the enterprise from the financial point of view; therefore he must know every detail of crop growth, of cost of production, of marketing, of operating and of all business transactions performed in connection with the farm.

Farming is a business, and the one who can grow the largest crops of the best quality and at the same time produce them at the lowest cost, sell them at the highest price and make the best investment of the money received should rank as the best manager. While farming has not commonly been regarded as a business, the fact remains that the successful financial operation of a farm presents even a more complex problem and involves at least as much business ability and tact as are required in operating a store.

A farmer must have a knowledge of the elements of soil fertility, of the principles of the movement of soil water, of soil bacteria and their action, of



SCENE ON A BADLY MANAGED FARM.

plant growth, of varieties and species of plants, of the effect of one crop on the crop following and of the care of the seeds and forage. He must also understand animals and how to feed and care for them, and in addition he must know how to buy and sell to advantage, to make contracts, plan his buildings and farm so as to economize labor and distribute it to advantage.

The farm manager who would successfully conduct his business may profit by the example of the merchant. The merchant takes an inventory of his stock, considers the demand for his goods, both present and prospective; notes the supply and cost of each article of commerce, the labor required to operate his business and any other items of expense that may be legitimate to the business, regulating his purchases and prices accordingly.

The farm manager should likewise take an inventory of his capital stock and equipment. He should consider the fertility of the soil and the demands that will be made upon it by the crops grown, the sources from which fertility may be renewed and at what cost; he must study the markets and demands for the various crops and the possibility of handling them at a profit, the cost of producing each of the crops and the probable net profit that will be returned; the labor supply, the interest on investment and similar expenditures which must be made that affect the final result. Large farms may likewise be organized into departments and accounts kept with the cows, the pigs, the grain crops, the garden and similar enterprises. The business statement at the end of the year will then show which lines have been most profitable and will enable the manager to drop out those that are unprofitable.

TIMELY POULTRY NOTES.

Cabbages, beets and mangels make ideal greens for hens during the winter. Small potatoes and specked apples are also relished, particularly when the fowls are confined to their indoor quarters.

To keep the hens healthy provide a dry floor, plenty of dry litter, plenty of dry air and no draft; keep the house clean, feed well, water regularly and provide a constant supply of artificial grit, oyster shells, cracked bone and charcoal.

Hens should be dusted with insect powder occasionally, but the presence of a good dust bath will make these necessary occasions far fewer. Mix about one pound of powdered sulphur with each bushel of dust for the best results. — A. C. Smith, Poultryman, University Farm, St. Paul.

ONE CAUSE OF WASTE.

It is stated on good authority that the annual loss to the apple industry of the country by the codling moth alone amounts to over \$12,000,000. The annual loss to our truck growers from insect pests amounts to about 20 per cent of the crop, but by judicious methods of control this might be reduced to 5 per cent. This shows the need of up to date methods to reduce the high cost of living.—E. P. Hitchings, Experiment Station, Orono, Me.

CORN SILAGE PAYS WELL.

Experiments Prove Its Great Worth as a Feed For Stock.

The South Carolina experiment station recently published a bulletin by Archibald Smith giving the results of tests to ascertain the value of different kinds of forage crops fed with cottonseed meal. The main findings are of especial value to the farmers of the south and of great value to farmers in any section of the country. The bulletin demonstrates anew the economy of corn silage as beef producing feed.

In this test silage, corn stover and cottonseed hulls were compared. The test demonstrated: That corn silage gave by far the best returns not only in economic production of beef, but also in the quality of beef and the shape in which it reached the market.

That silage fed steers produced beef from 15 to 20 per cent cheaper than the other feeds.

That silage fed beef lost less in shipping to market. This is a test which some shippers have disputed in the past, declaring silage fed beef lost severely in the shipping process.

That the silage fed group produced gains that would warrant a value on the silage of \$6.86 per ton—this earning on a very poor market, as the steers sold for only \$5.50 per hundred. Had they been sold on a good market the gain might have been increased 20 per cent.

That with a cost of \$2 per ton for the production of corn silage a fair average good corn should be made to earn from \$60 to \$70 per acre.

WHEN TO CUT YOUR HAY.

Some Pointers For Growers of Timothy and Clover to Bear in Mind.

Timothy may be cut in the forenoon as soon as the dew is off and raked into windrows immediately after dinner if the weather is dry and clear. Any hay preserves best its color, aroma and palatability by being shocked or placed in the stack in the greenest possible condition without being so green that heating or molding will occur.

If the timothy is very heavy and is exposed to dew or a light shower before it is raked it will frequently be necessary to use the tedder in order to shape it up thoroughly and get rid of moisture.

Except in the case of small fields under conditions which would not justify an outlay for machinery, there is very little of the hay crop which goes into the old time shock. This is undoubtedly a very satisfactory way of curing hay in its best condition, especially if protected by a shock cover, but where large amounts are to be handled it is better economy to place it in a mow or stack it directly from the windrow.

Clover is best cut when it is in full bloom, but it is better to cut it earlier than this rather than later. If cutting is delayed until some of the clover blossoms mature and turn dark there is likely to be a heavy loss of foliage and a consequent deterioration in feeding value.—Orange Judd Farmer.

Economy Bean Harvester.

To make a bean harvester that will do good work and yet involve scarcely any expense take a common hoe to the blacksmith. Have shank cut in two and take a piece of steel of the same diameter and have a piece about ten inches long welded in. This is to keep the handle from striking the beans and shelling them. Have the hoe sharp and cut just at top of ground, putting two rows into one when chopped off.

You can chop them nearly as fast as you can walk, and when the beans are dry take a common pitchfork and load on to a wagon. In this way much hard labor is saved with but little expense.—Farm and Fireside.

Test Cows—and Farmers Too.

One of the best effects of the cow testing associations is on the farmer himself. One of the men who look after the cow testing associations said to us once that he had repeatedly noticed that that farmer was a "gone case" who could not be aroused to better thinking and management by the work of the test. Too many farmers expect the cows to change for the better without doing anything in that direction themselves.—Hoard's Dairyman.

Give the Lambkins a Chance.

Lambs frequently experience a difficulty in finding the teats owing to the long wool surrounding the udder, and it is very important that the shepherd examine every ewe and use the shears to cut away any surplus wool. This will enable the lambs to feed with greater ease, and they are less apt to become victims of wool balls in the stomach, which frequently cause death.—American Agriculturist.

Be Careful About Cutting Wood

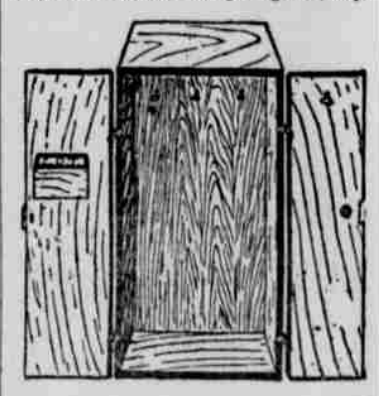
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and to have them settled upon. The only person who can cut and sell wood from these lands is the Carey Act settler who is clearing the land, who is allowed to sell what he can not use, or the developing corporation, who may sell what they cut when clearing lands for prospective settlers. No other person can take wood for his own use from such lands any more than he could from a homestead entry outside the Carey Act segregation, or from some privately owned land.

The practice of taking wood from Carey Act lands has been quite common in the past, but it was in violation of law, and it devolves upon me to report any such trespass to the Commissioner of the General Land Office at Washington that action in the courts may be instituted against the trespasser. A circular of instructions for those wishing to get wood from the vacant public domain may be obtained by writing to the local land office at The Dalles, Oregon, for Circular 223, which gives both the law and the regulations thereunder. As this department does not wish to work any hardship upon any settler I advise everyone to fully acquaint themselves with these regulations before attempting to get any wood or timber from unpatented lands of any kind.

LOUIS L. SHARP,
Chief of Field Division, 310 Custom House, Portland, Oregon.

A Handy Harness Box.
The next time a new set of harness is bought take a box and fit it with doors so that it may be closed tight. Hang the harness in this when it is not in use. It is a surprise how long it will look neat and stay in good shape



THIS BOX WILL PRESERVE THE HARNESS when cared for in this manner. A box 2 by 3 by 4 feet high is a good size. Screw harness hooks will make good hangers. A little box may be attached to the inside of the door for holding combs, brush, etc.

Plowing in Winter.
There is a diversity of opinion as to the advisability of plowing in winter. It is generally conceded, however, that sod lands should be plowed in the winter season. The freezing and thawing of the soil put it in much better condition than it can be put by the plow and harrow after the spring has opened.

Winter plowing also destroys many insects that would damage crops if they were allowed to live.

There will be much more moisture laid up in the soil and saved for the use of the growing crop the next year if the plowing is done during the winter season than there would be if it were left until spring.

The capillary connection with the subsoil will have time to be renewed if the plowing is done early.

It takes two pints to make a quart; but, on the other hand, you can get a peck of trouble out of a half a pint.

If you are unable to see any good in your neighbor try anointing your eyes with a little milk of human kindness.

Ice cream will be dear next summer. We congratulate those who have no other thing to worry about at this time.

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Notice of Final Settlement.
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned executors of the estate of Charles H. Foster, deceased, have filed their final account as such executors, in the office of the county clerk of Crook county, Oregon, and Monday, the 6th day of July, 1914, at the hour of 10 o'clock in the forenoon, has been set for the time for hearing said final account and any objections that may be made thereto, and for making an order of final settlement of said estate, and for such other and further order as may be just and proper in the premises.
Dated and published first time May 21st, 1914.

MELVIN M. FORTER,
ORA C. FOSTER,
Executors of the estate of Charles H. Foster, deceased.

Strayed
Light bay horse, gelding, weight 1020, rangy built, bald face, four white stockings. Small brand on left shoulder, also T F connected on stifle. Has halter on and sharp shod No. 2 shoes. Last seen near Roberts, Ore. Reward of \$12 will be paid for recovery of horse. Deliver horse to M. S. Mayfield. 4-9 Imp

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