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SENSIBLE MODERN SILOS.

A Familiar Talk on a Popular Subject by a New England Farmer.

The silo has ceased to be a craze. Its cost has also been cut down to the finest point possible. The use of mason work wells and expensive excavations has been tabooed by many experienced and economical builders. A strong frame is put up-preferably in a side hill, where There are several effective and harmless the green crops can be hanled by the teams nearly or quite to the top of the pit, or the same sized structure can be partitioned off in one end or corner of the barn. This structure should be sheathed or clapboarded on the outside and roughly boarded herizontally within. It should then be lined with thick tar paper of two or three ply, which in turn is covered in by matched pine or spruce lumber planed on one side and put on vertically. The planed side should be exposed to the contents of the pit after it has been thoroughly coated with the hard, brittle compound of coal tar. This makes a perfect surface and prevents the moisture from soaking the lumber. According to the assertion of a New England correspondent of The Farm Journal, who writes that for all sections nothing exceeds in usefulness the common corn crop of which to make ensilage, and after innumerable trials, experience has taught American farmers that for the best ensilage the method of culture should not differ from that be-

stowed upon the crop raised for grain. The time of harvest should also be the same or when the crop has reached maturity, in which the ears are glazed. For the sake of having the corn in the best ensilage that variety native to the local- it was put up, will make a ton. ity where the ensilage is to be made is widely preferred, because it is sure to

The more grain this crop can be made to produce the better. The ears may be picked and thrown in heaps as the ensilage is cut, or the crop entire may be run through the cutter and put in the pit. Perfect ensilage can be made withont cutting it into the silo, and the coarse is adapted to small farms, obviating the purchase of expensive machinery, which would be required otherwise. But where 10 to 50 cows or their equivalent in other stock are kept, experience teaches the profitable employment of machinery to cut the green fodder from a half inch to 14 inches long.

The old method of putting unripe corn fodder into the silo in midsummer, of rushing it in so rapidly as to prevent all possibility of heating and covering it with layers of earth, stones and other weights resulted in most of the feed souring so as to be truthfully compared only to pickles. This has been abandoned. Today the crop is cut when ripe. put in the pit leisurely at the convenience of the farmer and encouraged to heat to 120 or 180 degrees with little treading, often only two or three feet being cut in at one time and several days elapsing between cuttings. Not only is the corn matured, but it is frequently cut and left on the ground in heaps to partly cure before being hauled to the silo. In this way the labor of lifting and carting is decreased, and the value of the silage is in no way lessened. By inducfug high temperature through giving the oxygen of the air free access to the ensilage extreme souring of the ensilage is prevented. Thus we have sweet feed instead of that which is sour and so objectionable, and feed containing a greater per cent of nutrients because it is more perfectly preserved.

Sideboards are sometimes placed on the top of the pit and filled to help the settling, which amounts usually to nearly one-third the height of feed stored. After the settling the sideboards will be entirely clear. The only covering weight recommended today by most successful siloists is a foot of finely cut hay or straw, of uncut marsh hay, or of sawdust. The last is cheap, easily handled and excludes air the best of anything. Nobody understands today that we are to feed ensuage alone, nor that we can

to a run reed of the succurent product of the preserving pit. It is as foolish as to turn cows accustomed to drouth burned pastures into deep, rank clover for a full meal. Disaster follows both errors. Use with sense, which means a little dry, ground feed, a fair proportion of dry provender, and in small rations increased gradually at first, as is most economical and satisfactory.

Broody Hens.

So long as broody heas are allowed to have their own way the egg product may be expected to assume a vanishing form. These hens should be "broken up" at once-changed from setters into layers. ways of doing this. The very best method, because of its effectiveness and simplicity, is to provide a room without nests-any plain room with roosts to perch on-and put the broody hen there in, says a correspondent of The Ameri can Agriculturist, which adds: Give her a companion, an active, vigorous cockerel. Feed and water generously. adapting the feeding to the production of eggs. A week will generally suffice to break up the most persistent setter, with no special trouble. Sometimes three days will have the desired effect.

HOW TO MEASURE HAY.

An Easy Method to Ascertain the Number of Tons In a Barn or In a Stack.

It is not safe for the buyer to figure on less than 500 cubic feet to the ton, the average, whereas in a very large and apart. particularly well packed mow it will In the first cut is represented the of the nail by the careful introduction sometimes run as low as 400 to 410 cubic feet to the ton. Then sell at that measurement. To find the number of tons in a barn, mow or hay shed, multiply the length, depth and breadth together and divide by the number of cubic feet you think, considering the qualcondition to make the most nutritious ity of the hay and the condition in which

To measure a cone shaped stack, find the area of the base by multiplying the square of the circumference in feet by the decimal .07958 and multiply the product thus obtained by one-third of the height in feet, and then divide as before, cutting off five right figures. The correctness of this will depend somewhat on the approximation of the stack to a regular cone, and if the stack bulges out it makes the product too small. The better way is to estimate the area of the stack up to a point of tapering in and

apply above rules to cone shaped top. Another approximate rule for measuring a round stack is this: Select a place which is, as near as possible, to what the average size would be if the stack was of uniform diameter from the ground to the top point. Measure around this to get the circumference, add four ciphers to the circumference at the right and divide the whole by 31.459 to get the diameter. Now multiply half of the diameter by half of the circumference and you have the feet of the circular area. Multiply by the number of feet the stack is high and you will have the solid or cubic feet in the whole; then divide by 500, which will give the number of tons in the stack.

Earth Stable Floors.

Dr. William Horne, V. S., writing to Western Agriculturist, says: "Taking everything into consideration, the cobblestone or the brick floors are the best, Nearly all the floors of the best stables in Europe are of cobblestone, brick or some other similar material. All the livery stables nearly are cobbled. There may be situations which favor earth floors-a stable on a side hill is such a place-but generally Dr. Horne denounces earth floors.

Poultry Pickings It rarely pays to keep turkeys until late in the se

Avoid too much whole grain in feed-Eggs will keep better if no roosters are

allowed with the hens.

Save all the unmarketable beets, carrots and other root crops to feed to poul-

One of the easiest and best ways of supplying charcoal when needed is by



IN THE ORCHARD.

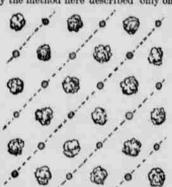
A Plan Suggested by Country Gentleman For Reducing the Closeness of Orchards. It sometimes happens that the owners of limited land desire to obtain all the benefit of closely planted trees during the early years of their bearing. Here

is one mode by which this is done which

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THE ORCHARD AS ORIGINALLY PLANTED. has been successful both in original planting and by afterward reducing the number in obtaining symmetrical orchards. The apple trees are planted 24 feet apart. When from this nearness the branches begin to touch each other, but in a well filled mow about 450 is they are reduced in number to 34 feet

> In Fig. 2 the dotted trees are those which are removed, leaving the remaining ones 34 feet apart and running diagonally. Where this experiment has been successfully performed it has been found that in a few years after the thinning the fruit would be both more abundant and better in quality in consequence of allowing more room for its growth and development. In the earlier years of this orchard, while there are a larger number of trees to feed, it is important that an annual top dressing of manure be given to compensate for the increased exhaustion of the soil. A mode sometimes proposed and adopted for thinning orchard trees is to take out every alternate tree in both directions, leaving only one-fourth to remain, but by the method here described only one-



half are removed, while the remaining half have all the advantages of plenty of space. Every tree will be surrounded by four others at equal distances.

When two kinds of trees are planted in the same orchard-such, for instance, as placing standard and dwarf pear trees alternately-it is advisable to mark out beforehand the places for the trees, so that in subsequently removing them those only will be taken which are shortest lived. It is sometimes the practice to plant peach trees in apple orchards between the apple trees, and by fixing beforehand the places for each no break will be made in their arrangement, the apple trees remaining in regular rows long after the peach trees are gone.

Rolling and Mowing the Lawn

While rolling is not really essential to beautiful lawn, it does help it considerably in fine appearance and greatly in smoothness. For croquet, tennis and other playgrounds frequent rolling in summer is also desirable, but in the case of plain garden lawns the mowing machine may give rolling enough.

In mowing one makes the prettiest

is thown when the grass is wet with rain or dew, the mowings gather in wreaths or clots. These should always be raked up and cleared away. And whenever there is a heavy cutting the mowings should be raked off.

There is an idea abroad that mowings should always be left where cut, so as to mulch the roots of the grass from the warm sunshine, but this is an erroneous notion. When the mown grass is thin, it soon withers up, but where at all heavy it lies in clots or mats and destroys the grass plants under it, and, too, it impedes the machine in the next mow-The finest lawns are always kept clean from old mowings, says Gardening in concluding the foregoing suggestions.

Cut Back the Flowering Shrubs

As soon as the flowering shrubs have finished blossoming for the season cut back the branches about one-third and thin out the old branches which were made last year by one-half if a good growth was made, and more if they need it, is American Cultivator's rule. This, with a little attention next spring to cut out the branches that are standing too close together, should insure good bloom next year, as the summer heading in will give a-plenty of strong and vigorous stalks, and the spring pruning will in-crease the size of the flowers.

How to Cure Ingrowing Nails.

When external pressure has been the cause of ingrowing toenails and ulceration exists, the soft parts should be carefully pressed away from the sharp edge orchard as planted and growing in its beneath the overhanging integument of earlier years, with trees 24 feet apart. a small strip of iodoform gauze, which should be well pressed down to the bottom of the sore and held in position by means of strips of adhesive plaster, applied so as to draw the soft parts away from the nail. This treatment, by removing the soft parts from the sharp edge of the nail, is almost always successful.

> Farmers in southern Wisconsin report a sad condition of affairs as regards the hay crop. Some grass that will stand freezing and drought better than timothy or red clover is greatly needed by Wisconsin farmers.



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