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No animal recovers so slowly from low condition nor is so apt not to recover at all as sheep.

Prime fat lambs cannot be produced by alternate grass and grain. They must be pushed to lay on fat from start to finish.

It will be a good idea to see that the spray tank is well drained before the freezing weather comes on, and the cylinders of the engine, too, if it is a water cooled machine.

It is absolutely essential that sheep be provided with the very best of drinking water. A sheep does not like filthy water, and it will suffer thirst a great while before drinking it.

It can be taken as a pretty sure sign that fall is at hand when of an evening the houseflies take to roosting on the upper part of the kitchen screen door to get the benefit of the heat escaping from within the house.

Experiments which have been made show that if a heavy residual oil is mixed in with the ingredients usually used in the making of cement it is absorbed by the cement and greatly increases its power to withstand dampness.

Some crop experiments conducted by the Italian government go to show that the application of iron sulphate to the soil at the rate of 100 pounds per acre tends to make crops produced more vigorous and therefore less subject to rust damage.

Down in Topeka, Kan., there has been a pest of blackbirds, tens of thousands of them roosting in the shade trees in the residence section of the city and making a thunderous racket. An attempt was made to scare the birds away by firing roman candles into their roosting places at night, but this produced little result.

In India the average span of the human life is about twenty-five years. The reason why this average is shorter with the Hindu than with any other people is due to ignorance of the laws of health and sanitation, and with-out question to the further fact that he is still in large measure a victim of the agricultural conditions under which he lives.

The sooner that bunch of cockerels that are not to be kept until next season for breeding purposes are fried or made into chicken pie or sold to the poultry buyer the larger the cash balance that will show on the year's poultry operations. They have made their most rapid growth, and whatever they eat now is to far less produce from the standpoint of meat production.

The "fool that rocks the boat" has been put in the shade the past season by that other fool, the half baked driver of an automobile who seems possessed with the idea of bending electric and steam cars to a given crossing. The similarity in these two types of fools is further painfully carried out in that there are usually innocent persons aboard boat or auto, who, with the "fool," have to suffer the consequences of his folly.

Synthetic rubber, that is, rubber that is made by putting its elements together artificially, is said to be a possibility of the near future. If claims of a European chemist may be relied upon. He contends that he has discovered methods whereby rubber may be manufactured chemically in the same way that a virtual stone-cement is made by mixing in proper proportions the elements from which natural stone is formed.

It is well to remember that the painting of shingles after they are laid contributes little if anything to their life. In fact, it is contended by some that shingles painted in this manner will not last as long as shingles not painted at all. To be most effective, whatever preservative treatment is given, should be given before the shingles are laid and be applied to the whole surface instead of to that portion which is to be exposed to the weather.

A series of experiments covering a number of years, conducted by the Ohio experiment station, has seemed to indicate that the most satisfactory time for the sowing of winter wheat is from the 23d to the 20th of September. Sowed as late as this the young plants escape in a large measure damage by the Hessian fly, while it is at the same time sufficiently early so that the plants get a good start before freezing weather sets in. Of course the date given will vary with different latitudes and localities, yet it is well worth remembering.

There is mighty little advantage-in fact, often actual detriment-in feeding spoiled grain or other feed. The slight food value that such foods may contain is often largely neutralized by putting out of condition the system of the animal or fowl to which they are fed.

If there were no other reason for early fall plowing than that of getting it out of the way so that other farm work can be attended to would be sufficient to justify it. Added to this is the further fact that when the soil is turned over early all kinds of weeds are disposed of and kept from maturing seed.

A New Jersey farmer reports to an eastern agricultural paper the destruction of his new alfalfa seeding of last year by reason of the green garden worm. He found little damage was done on that portion of the tract on which his hens ranged most freely, which seems to point that hens and alfalfa ought to make a pretty good combination.

Perhaps no one of the minor considerations in the selection of a horse for farm use or breeding purposes is more important than that it should have a broad, large and well formed hoof. Thousands of horses sell yearly for considerably less than their other good points would seem to merit simply because they have hoofs that are narrow and contracted and lessen their usefulness as roadsters and draft animals.

It seems to be quite a falling of m-lady who is injudicious enough to use face powder to excess that she seldom gets it on or gets it off evenly enough to conceal the deception. With eye-glasses and looking glasses as abundant as they are, there would seem to be no real good excuse why a woman should look as if she had just been snaked out of a flour barrel after completing her toilet preparatory to appearing in public.

The following is said to have been Martha Washington's own recipe for canning pears: "The pears should be very fresh. Wash and put them into boiling lye for a minute, then remove and put them into cold water. Next put the fruit into a prepared sirup of sugar and water. Use half a pound of sugar for every pound of fruit, with water to dissolve. Cook for a quarter of an hour. Remove and put on plates to cool. Boil down sirup to one-half its original volume. Put pears and sirup into jars and add brandy. Seal while hot."

Some experiments that have been conducted during the past two seasons by the Iowa experiment station show that quack grass can be completely and effectually eradicated by sowing sorghum. Infested tracts were put in good tilth and broadcasted rather thickly the latter part of May with sorghum. This made such a vigorous growth that it swamped and smothered the quack grass so that not a bit of it was in business when the sorghum was cut for feed in the fall. The advantage of this sorghum method is that there is no loss of a crop, the process that knocks out the grass giving a valuable and nutritious ration for the farm animals.

There is no use to which cement can be put that has more to commend it than when employed in the making of a feeding floor for the hogs. Years ago the idea somehow got lodged in the mind of a good many farmers that hogs would just as soon, or a little bit, rather, eat out of a dirty trough, standing in six or eight inches of filth or mire; but the truth is that a hog not only prefers a clean dry place in which to sleep, but also appreciates a clean trough and a firm and reasonably clean floor on which to stand when eating. A good many of these cement feeding floors have been put in and a whole lot more ought to be. They make it cleaner for the pigs and a whole lot cleaner for the fellow who has to feed them.

The international egg laying contest being conducted at Storrs college, Connecticut, closed its forty-first week the middle of August. The first prize for the last week for best pen was awarded to H. P. Deming, president of the Connecticut Poultry association, on a pen of single comb Rhode Island Reds, which laid thirty eggs during the period. The close of the forty first week of the contest showed F. G. Yost's pen of White Leghorns in first place with a record of 884 eggs, which gives them a lead of forty-seven eggs over their nearest competitors. Second, fourth and fifth places are held by other pens of White Leghorns with scores of 837, 830 and 829 eggs respectively, while third place was held by a pen of White Wyandottes with a score of 834 eggs.

Conditions found in the wood lot give sufficient direction and suggestion as to the proper method of treating the nuts of the forest trees which are desired for seed purposes next spring. As these nuts fall into the grass they settle gradually, and when the leaves fall a little later they are given a covering. The moisture which the nut absorbs from its usually damp surroundings, coupled with the winter frost, splits the shell, and the germ finds easy exit when the warm weather of spring comes. The conditions mentioned can be reproduced, if one desires, by gathering the nuts, removing the husks and storing them in a box of moist sand and covering with earth lightly. While freezing is necessary, it is best to protect the box so that there will not be repeated thawing and freezing. In the spring the nuts should be replanted the desired distance apart in the tract where the trees are expected to grow.

BUDDING PEACHES.

One of the finest as well as most productive peach orchards in the Yakima valley was propagated by the owner, buds being selected from a few older trees which have been marked as prolific bearers of fruit of exceptional size and quality. While budding is somewhat more difficult than grafting and requires more skill, one who is careful can get on to the process easily. The first requisite in the budding process is the little trees on which the buds referred to should be inserted about the 1st of August. To get the seedlings the peach pits should be secured and planted in nursery rows before the ground freezes. For this purpose it is best where possible to get pits from trees that have shown the greatest hardiness, the quality of the fruit being of no concern, as the top of the tree will be furnished by the bud to be inserted next summer. The seedlings should be given good cultivation, so that they will make as thrifty a growth as possible. At budding time the buds should be cut from the limbs as needed, with a small portion of the cambium or life layer of the bark attached above and below, and this, with the outer bark carefully removed, should be slipped into a little opening in the bark of the seedling a short distance from the ground made by a cut lengthwise of the twig and another crosswise. The idea should be to give it as nearly as possible a position which it would have had if grown where inserted. The wings of the bud should be slipped beneath the inclosing bark of the seedling, and when in place the cuts made to receive it should be carefully sealed with grafting wax. When the bud gets a good start the seedling should be cut off just above the point of union and shoots starting from the point of union kept pruned off.

THE TULIP BED.

There are very few of the spring or early summer flowering plants that are more beautiful or attractive than tulips, and the reason why more people do not have them is quite likely that the bulbs must be planted in the fall, six or seven months before the plants bloom. For outside use the bulbs should be planted early in October, though they may be put in any time before the ground freezes. The bed which is to receive them should be spaded to a good depth and made mellow and rich. It should then be smoothed and firmed with a heavy board. The tulip bulbs should be set about four inches deep, and the holes to receive them may be made with a round stick a trifle larger than the bulbs. They should be set stem side up, and after the earth has been filled in it should be pressed down. The bed should be given a good watering after the bulbs are planted and a mulch, which should be left for a covering during the winter and gradually removed in the spring as the weather warms up. It is well to put over the bed also boards or other protection to keep the bulbs from getting too wet. Tulip bulbs are not high priced, and the best that can be got will be found to give the greatest satisfaction.

A POINTER IN PRUNING.

While from the standpoint of the horticulturist tree pruning may be rightly termed an art, there are, nevertheless, one or two points in connection with the pruning process that even the novice should do well to keep in mind and put into practice. One of these has to do with the removing of large and therefore heavy limbs from shade trees, and consists in making a cut three or four inches deep on the under side of the limb to be removed and at a distance of a couple of feet from the trunk. A cut should then be made somewhat farther from the trunk and on the upper side of the limb and to such depth that the limb will fall of its own weight. The advantage of the under cut will then be apparent, for instead of splitting down and ripping a big chunk out of the trunk as is so often the case, the splitting will stop when it strikes the under cut. The stub left by this method of pruning should then be cut off close to the trunk leaving as small a limb projection as possible for the adjoining bark to cover in the healing process. If the scar is soaked in a blue vitriol solution and when dry given a good coat of white lead, decay fungi will be kept out.

HAILSTORM DAMAGE.

It may enable the orchard owner who has a valuable crop of fruit on the trees to sleep more soundly if he remembers that a destructive fall of hail rarely accompanies night thunderstorms. Whether this is due to the fact that the night air for some distance from the earth is of more uniform temperature than it is during the day after the sun has warmed it it would be difficult to say, but the fact noted has been verified in the experience of many a farmer and agriculturist. One season several years ago before the writer got on to this fact he lay awake at nights during a stormy spell with 900 barrels of apples on the trees and held his breath while for the fear that hail would ruin the crop. The one destructive storm that he does remember, that made much out of apples, pecked holes in green pumpkins, shredded cabbage and practically ruined a fine acre of onions for him—half in the windrows—came at 10:20 in the forenoon.

J. E. Trigg

DECRIES WASTE OF THE PEACH CROP

Colonel Allen J. Blithen, the veteran editor of the Seattle Times, in a speech delivered to Lewiston business men last Thursday, said: "This is my first trip into this inland Empire and I tell you frankly if 10,000 men had told me of the wonderful things I have seen on this trip with my own eyes I would not have believed one-half their story. What I saw at North Yakima and elsewhere and what I have just seen today at Lewiston and Clarkston emphasizes my reverence for the statesmanship of Thomas Jefferson. One thing impresses me sadly, however, but I feel sure that the people who have carried forward these great orchard enterprises to their present success will provide the remedy for the conditions which I observed. You must provide the means, through canneries and dryers, for the preservation of the peach crop, hundreds of bushels of which I saw going to waste in your orchards. It seems a shame, while so many of the world's people are in a condition of famine, that such wicked waste should exist. Care for these crops, put them into permanent preservation in cans and barrels and you will find ready market for them throughout the world. I hope you will co-operate with Seattle, Tacoma and Spokane in safeguarding the output of your orchards."

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