

FARM ORCHARD AND GARDEN

BY **FETRIGG**

CENTRAL POINT, OREGON

Correspondence Solicited

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INOCULATION FOR LEGUMES.

Considering the value which attaches to the growing of legumes as a means of restoring soil fertility much practical interest will attach to circular No. 63 issued by the bureau of plant industry at Washington under the title "Methods of Legume Inoculation." In this pamphlet are discussed the two methods which are at present followed in soil inoculation preparatory to the growing of leguminous crops. There is pointed out the fact—conclusively demonstrated in this and foreign countries—that each species of legume may be inoculated more successfully by using the bacteria isolated from that species than those isolated from some other species. The two methods of inoculation are by transfer of soil from an established field of the legume which one intends to grow and by the use of pure nitrogen fixing cultures. In the former case from 250 to 300 pounds of soil from a healthy old field of the same crop or a thrifty new field are mixed with several times its weight of ordinary soil and the mixture drilled or broadcasted on the land to be sowed to the legume. If broadcasted the field should be harrowed immediately, and, if possible, this should be done toward evening or on a cloudy day, as sunlight is very harmful to the bacteria. In the second case a bottle of the pure culture of the proper kind of bacteria is opened shortly before the seed is to be planted and mixed with the proper quantity of water and this applied to the seed in such a way that all of it will be moistened, though not soaked. Drying of the seed may be hastened by adding sufficient dry, sifted earth. Attempts to inoculate soil by either of the above methods may not be successful if climate or other conditions are not suited to the growth of the crop in a given locality. However, the department of agriculture is anxious to add in this work of introducing the growth of the legume in new sections and will furnish the pure cultures free in reasonable quantities, requiring only the filling in of blank reports, which are forwarded for the purpose from time to time.

A SERIOUS CORN PEST.

The large cornstalk borer is an insect pest that does much damage annually to the corn crop from Maryland south and as far west as Kansas. It is originally an enemy of the sugar cane and is supposed to have been introduced into this country with cane cuttings from the West Indies, Central and South America. It is also found in British Guiana, Java and Australia. The damage by the worm is of two kinds—that done first in the tender, growing stalks when the larvae bore into the crown and often riddled and that which is done later in the season when the worm bores into the base of the stalk just above and below the surface of the ground. This damage is not always apparent—in fact, seldom so unless the weakened stalk is broken over by the wind, which prevents the maturing of the ear. In some southern cornfields losses from this source have run as high as from 30 to 50 per cent. As in the case of other pests which work injury to grain crops, the work of the stalk borer can be largely done away by a system of crop rotation in which small grains and legumes are used, as the pest does not persist unless there are stalks in which it may spend the winter. In case corn follows corn the damage done by them may be reduced by plowing the corn stubs under to a good depth early in the spring or by removing the whole stalks from the field and burning them.

THE CHINESE WAY.

An entomologist of the Rural New Yorker gives a very distinct account of Chinese agriculture as followed in the province of Shantung, one of the most densely populated of the empire. One farm which he visited consisted of 25 acres and supported a family of twelve people, besides one work cow, one donkey and two pigs. A few acres of corn, a few acres of wheat and a few acres of soy beans as densely populated would afford a living for 100 human beings, sixteen cows, sixteen donkeys and thirty-two pigs. The crops which were grown on this Chinese farm were wheat or barley (both of which crops were kept hard headed, millet, soy beans and sweet potatoes. Instead of hauling their manure field, as here, the Chinese farmer takes considerable quantities of soil from the field to his premises and there enriches it with stable manure, night soil and every possible kind of refuse which, decomposed, will nourish plants. When this is thoroughly composted and its fertilizing elements brought to the right condition it is dried, pulverized and applied to the soil as in the case with our concentrated commercial fertilizers. The Chinese man is behind the American in a good many ways, but the latter could learn many a lesson in soil conservation from the orient.

Owing to the difference in the amount of gluten in flour made from hard and soft wheat, the housewife moving from the east to the west, where she soft wheat flour prevails, should increase the amount of flour used in her recipes close to a third to get the texture of bread or cake which she has been used to.

Estimates of the 1919 cotton crop received by the department of agriculture place the average at 33,000,000 as compared with 32,282,000 last year, which is an increase of 718,000 acres, or 2.3 per cent. The condition of the crop on June 15 was placed at 92 of the normal as against 81.1 per cent a year prior and 80.9 per cent the two years average.

These school directors who receive school when the big circus comes to town—practically after they have a year—give practical recognition of the fact that attention to the subjects in hand on the part of an active boy is a prime requisite to the acquisition of information. Incidentally they make a very warm spot for themselves in the hearts of the promoters of the community.

TESTING SUGAR BEET SEED.

Upon It Rests Ability of Roots to Produce Maximum Quantity of Sugar.

Testing the roots is one of the most important steps in the production of beet seed, since the value of the seed depends not only upon its quality from the standpoint of germination, but also upon the ability of the roots produced to store a maximum quantity of sugar with a minimum quantity of salts. With our present knowledge of seed production the standard of high grade seed can be maintained only by the most careful and rigid testing and elimination of all roots that are not of a satisfactory quality. Having selected roots of suitable size and shape, a typical core is removed by means of a drill which is passed through the beet at an angle, as shown in the illustration. This core is tested for sugar by the usual polariscope methods. The ability of a seed grower to maintain high quality in the root is one of the most important conditions in the establishment and maintenance of the beet seed industry, says the year book of the department of agriculture.

There is a great deal of confusion in the minds of plant breeders regarding the real purpose of the selection of the roots from the standpoint of sugar content. Careful observation would seem to indicate that breeding and selection for high sugar content have to do mainly with the elimination of those individual roots that will not respond readily to favorable conditions of soil and climate with respect to the formation and storage of sugar and the preservation and perpetuation of those roots that will respond to those conditions. High sugar content, therefore, does not seem to be a fixed character in the same sense as color, form, etc., but will vary to a marked degree when the conditions of growth are changed. For example, seeds from the same plant when planted in different parts of the country have been known to produce roots having a difference of



SEED BEET SHOWING METHOD OF TESTING FOR SUGAR.

more than 7 per cent in the sugar content, while the shape, color and general habit of the seed may be the same. The importance of selecting the seed for sugar content cannot be overestimated, and, because of the importance of this work and the difficulty attending it, sugar beet seed growing can be carried on successfully only with special equipment, by the exercise of the greatest care and consequently at considerable expense.

Charcoal as a Fertilizer.

Charcoal has but little plant food, yet it usually shows results. It gives light soils a darker color, thus making them warmer. It also makes soil porous and increases their power to hold water. Charcoal is a fine adsorbent for gases. When worked into the soil it will no doubt prevent the escape of some of the ammonia formed when organic substances decay. For these and other reasons charcoal will help, especially on light soils.—Rural New Yorker.

Planting Watermelons. Watermelons should not be planted until all danger of frost is over and should be planted in hills about two feet apart each way. The more modern method of watermelon culture is to plant out the rows and fill the trenches with manure, thoroughly mix the manure with the soil in the trenches by running back and forth with a scotch plow, then throw the soil back again and plant the seed on the bed thus formed.—Orange Judd Farmer.

FARM NOTES.

Few farmers know the names of one-tenth the weeds and grasses that grow on their farms. More knowledge in this direction would help.

When you give the boy a calf to raise don't pocket the money as soon as it is sold. That might teach the little fellow to be dishonest.

A prominent dairy journal declares that the dual purpose cow is a failure in the dairy herd. The dairy type cow is decidedly the most profitable.

It is better for both manure and colt for the latter to come in the spring. It is the natural growing season and causes less friction and hardship.

A hog that weighed 1,608 pounds alive and 1,336 pounds when dressed was recently slaughtered in England. It was a Jersey red boar, two and one-half years old.

Market products must be viewed from the buyer's side and not your own. You think to sell a two pound male chick is waste, but the customer will pay more than that after he is fed two or three additional months.

That cleanliness is a very important factor in the keeping quality of eggs was proved to the writer quite conclusively the other day (June 15) when he found six eggs in his new of alfalfa hay which were laid prior to Jan. 15, when the hens on the place were removed by the former owner. In the interval of five months there was a range of temperature from 20 degrees to 95 degrees F. The eggs when broken were not even musty, the only deterioration noticeable being a slight weakening of the membranes enveloping the yolk.

The easiest money made today is not by tilling the soil, but by the class of schemers who promise guileless folks returns from mining or other investment enterprises which are more than a fair return on a business proposition honestly financed. When these such fabulous returns from the operation of the mines as the promoters usually give their victims to understand there wouldn't be a dollar of the stock for sale, let alone peddling it around at 12 to 15 cents a share (this for a short time only, as the price will be advanced in a few days).

Farm and Garden

NEW AMERICAN INDUSTRY.

Widespread and Rapidly Growing Interest in Pheasant Rearing.

In an interesting bulletin on "Pheasant Raising in the United States," issued by the department of agriculture, it is stated that within recent years a new industry, the rearing of pheasants, has begun to engage attention in the United States, and, particularly in the western states, the pheasant has become a popular game bird. The English ringneck pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus* × *torquatus*), a



RINGNECK PHEASANT.

hybrid between the English and ringneck pheasants, has been brought from Europe in large numbers. It is generally correctly named, but is sometimes designated as English pheasant, ringneck pheasant and even Mongolian pheasant. It often has more of the blue of the blood of the vesicular pheasant of Japan (*Phasianus versicolor*). In England both the English pheasant and the English ringneck are referred to as the common pheasant.

It is the Mongolian pheasant (*Phasianus mongolicus*), which has a more or less complete white ring about the neck, but in other respects resembles the English pheasant more than it does the ringneck and is rarest of the four kinds in American preserves and aviaries. It is a native of the region about Lake Balkash, central Asia.

A pheasant may be started with mature birds or with eggs. The latter is the better method, but many are tempted to begin with eggs because of smaller cost, but the uncertainties attendant on hatching the eggs and raising the young are such that it is probably cheaper to secure full grown birds at the outset. If eggs are to be tried they should be ordered in January or February, to be delivered in April or May. They should be placed under the hen as soon as possible.

Pheasants may be obtained from reputable dealers or they may be imported from Europe or Asia. If stock be imported trouble may be saved by securing it through experienced and reliable bird importers who are familiar with the business. A pen should be provided and supplied with food and water. On the arrival of the birds the crate should be placed in the pen.

Handy Little Farm Boiler.

Here is a handy portable boiler for light uses on the farm, says the American Agriculturist. It consists of a beer keg screwed to a wooden base, a loop



BEER KEG BOILER.

of three-quarter inch iron pipe about the kitchen or other fire, a screen of asbestos to protect the keg from the heat, a safety valve and a three-quarter or one-inch discharge pipe leading to a one-quarter horsepower engine. The boiler is capable of running a one-quarter horsepower engine for turning a grindstone, a churn and other light machines. It thus can be made to save little drudgeries where larger engines and boilers would be too costly.

As soon as the breeding season is over the hens will endure the hot weather and shed their feathers just as well if the coverts are put in a yard by themselves or into poultry.

Experiments carefully conducted show that calves and pigs, like growing plants, make the most rapid growth when they have abundant sunshine. It is a cheap tonic and should be used without stint.

The expenditure of the same ingenuity and energy will give larger financial returns from the raising of poultry than from raising of hogs and from the growing of "unprofitable" than monkeying with mushrooms.

It is little wonder that a good many cows contract tuberculosis when one takes into account the poor light, poorly ventilated, dusty and filthy stables in which they are housed during several months of the year. Human beings who existed under similar conditions wouldn't live as long as the cows.

Young brooding animals of whatever kind should be given roomy and comfortable quarters by themselves where they will be quiet and unsolicited and have conditions which will be most conducive to the development of the vigor and vitality which are so essential to their usefulness as breeders when they have arrived at maturity.

It is a bit strange that the chief movers for the repeal of the present oleomargarine law before the recent congressional session were representatives from southern states, where for every dollar which cotton belt farmers receive for cottonseed oil made into lard they receive \$197 for bona fide dairy products. It looks as if these beef trust allies from the south were putting a small cart before a pretty good sized horse.

Some figures that are worth while

Careful protection must be provided against various enemies. The bulletin gives many details of interest and importance to persons intending to rear the birds.

POULTRY AND FRUIT.

One Man Found the Combination a Good Paying Proposition.

By the natural association of ideas one thinks of some opposite or related thing when another is mentioned. Thus white suggests black, the sun the moon, summer suggests winter, clouds suggest rain, and growing fruit suggests poultry as a natural and in available combination necessary for success.

Years ago one man started in to grow fruit. The trees thrived, fruit plentifully, but there were worms in the peaches and apples, and the grapes were denuded of leaves, and bugs of various sorts worked in the strawberries and blackberries.

Professional horticulturists advised spraying with some of the many fungicides and poisons. But his small amount of fruit would not justify the cost of such spraying outfit, and the hand power sprayer was a back breaker, besides proving costly and inefficient.

As the damage to his fruits came principally from insects, he determined to get after them. In one corner of the grounds was a sweet pea trench with plants perfect in leaf and bloom and the hand power sprayer was a back breaker, besides proving costly and inefficient. If they kept the bugs from the peas enough of them would keep down the insects in the fruit yard.

A strong argument for the fruit and poultry combination is immediate returns. Under the most favorable conditions you must wait for from two to five years for a good crop. Strawberries alone pay well the first year. Grapes, blackberries and raspberries yield well the second year and heavily the third and fourth. Peaches and plums should begin to yield well in three or four years and apples in from five to seven. But the hen pays the next day after her purchase—pays in eggs, pays a few weeks later in chicks and pays all the time in the destruction of insects.

If the poultry investment is made as it should be, when the trees are planted, the results are much better. But an old orchard may be cleaned up and greatly benefited by cultivation, giving the poultry a chance to get the grubs that develop later into injurious insects or feed on tree roots. The hen in her capacity to do good by destruction of insects and to grow into money in eggs and meat has the greatest possibilities in the way of a money maker of anything on the farm. Without cash returns, the United States census of 1907 shows that poultry brought in 400 per cent per annum. Their worth to the farm because of insects and weed seeds destroyed is equal to another 400 per cent. The health and pleasure made possible by fruit on the farm table the year round are fully another 400 per cent. No other combination on the farm can come within hailing distance of this combination.

A Mr. Archer, who received first prize for the highest yield of corn at the Virginia state fair in 1900, raised 14 bushels to the acre on his farm one mile south of Richmond, on the James river flats, the land raising corn year after year and not having been re-enforced with any kind of fertilizers. The variety grown was Cooke's Prolific, the rows being three feet apart and the stalks averaging twelve inches in the row. The seed was planted early in May. The weather during the season, the dirt being thrown to the row with a turn plow the first time, the cultivator being run close and deep the second time, while in the last tilling the earth was ridged up to the corn with a turn plow. To mature the crop in question required 125 days.

Kerosene emulsion, which is an effective remedy against sucking insects, such as plant lice, red spiders and the thrips, and which will also kill the cabbage worm, is easily made, as follows:

Dissolve a half pound of hard soap in a gallon of boiling water, remove from stove and add two gallons of kerosene, then churn or beat this until the oil is thoroughly mixed through the solution. Before using, this solution should be diluted to fifteen times its volume. While the solution may be applied with a fine sprayer, much better results are had by using a small hand or power spraying outfit, as one's needs may be. The spray should be applied once a week until the pest disappears.

With peach growers of the country sustaining an annual loss of \$5,000,000 from peach brown rot (\$1,000,000 of this in Georgia alone), the following is a bulletin lately put out by the department of agriculture on the use of the self-bolled lime-sulphur wash as a simple and inexpensive remedy for the trouble. Experiments which have been made seem to indicate that this remedy is also effective in checking the peach scale, which affects the peach crop in most sections east of the Rocky mountains. Being applied as it is to the trees as in the leaf, great care should be taken to see that the solution is sufficiently diluted. Peach growers a few miles from where the writer lives defoliated their trees by using a lime-sulphur spray that was stronger than it should have been.

That the federal pure food law, which went into force in June, 1906, is accomplishing the object sought is shown pretty conclusively in the large number of judgments in the shape of condemnation of misbranded food products, drugs, etc., and fines assessed against guilty parties which the government has secured. The hand of the law has fallen on makers of flour, patent medicines, oils and extracts, soothing syrups and desiccated (rotten and dried) eggs. In all cases against offenders the government has aimed to promote the public health by forcing the makers of products offered for sale to be clean and wholesome and sold for just exactly what they are, the facts in brief being stated on the label or wrapper of the inclosure. The pure food law is one of the most directly beneficial laws which have been put on the federal statute books in years.

Fifty dollars' worth of palm fruit judiciously applied will often add five times that amount to the value of the premises in case one wishes to sell. And it's not a bad idea to get some of this point on before the folks who have been living in the house move out.

A work shirt made of black or other dark stuff is much warmer when worn in the sunshine than lighter colored shirts of the same weight for the reason that instead of reflecting the rays of the sun it absorbs them, thereby greatly increasing the heat. It is true that the black shirt doesn't show the dirt as do shirts of lighter color, but this is the only thing that can be said in its favor.

One who has had extensive experience in the matter of trying to improve a cow by adding tea or twelve drops of carbolic acid to an ounce of distilled or rain water. Another who has also had experience suggests a paste made by moistening sifted wood ashes with water and applying to the affected parts. Both the remedies are cheap and can be easily tested and compared.

Best Varieties of Oats. Among twenty-five best varieties of oats grown at the Ohio experiment station, Silchester, N.Y., is improved American, Illinois German, Jonestown, Green Mountain and Big Four and in productive capacity. The range in yield of grain on the average for the five years was 34.34 bushels for the last mentioned variety to 20.60 bushels for the first mentioned.

Forest Grove has a rest room for country people.

Struck a Rich Mine. S. W. Bender, of Coal City, Ala., says he struck a perfect mine of health in Dr. King's New Life Pills for he cured him of Liver and Kidney Trouble after 12 years of suffering. They are the best pills on earth for Constipation, Malaria, Headache, Dyspepsia, Debility. 25c at all druggists.

One hundred Union county goats sold at \$3.95 a head.

The Best Hour of Life is when you do some great deed or discover some wonderful fact. This hour came to J. R. Pitt, of Rocky Mt., N. C. when he was suffering intensely, as he says, "from the worst cold I ever had, I then procured a bottle of Dr. King's New Life Pills, and after taking one bottle, I was entirely cured. You can't say anything too good of a medicine like that." Its the surest and best remedy for Croup, Croup, Hemorrhages, La Grippe, Asthma, Hay Fever, any Throat or Lung Trouble. 50c. \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by all druggists.

River business at Astoria has increased much lately.

CRESCENT

RAISES THE DOUGH AND COMPLETES WITH ALL PURE FOOD LAWS.

CRESCENT MFG. CO. MAKERS OF MAPLE SYRUP.

Considerable building is going on in Myrtle Point.

Staggers Skeptics. That a clean, nice, fragrant compound like Bucklen's Arnica Salve will instantly relieve a bad burn, cut, scald, wound or piles, staggers skeptics. But great cures prove it a wonderful healer of the worst sores, ulcers, boils, chancres, eczema, skin eruptions, as also chapped hands, sprains and corns. Try it. 25c at all druggists.

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Foley Kidney Pills

Tonic in quality and action, quick results. For backache, headache, dizziness, nervousness, urinary irregularities and rheumatism. For sale by Conrad Stafrin.

Through a hole in a pocket a Station man lost a \$235 ring.

They Have A Definite Purpose

Foley's Kidney Pills give quick relief in cases of kidney and bladder ailments. Mrs. Rose Glaser, Terre Haute, Indiana, tells the result in her case. "After suffering many years with a serious case of kidney trouble and spending much money for so called cures, I found Foley Kidney Pills the only medicine that gave me a permanent cure. I am again able to be up and attend to my work. I shall never hesitate to recommend them." For sale by Conrad Stafrin.

Second good crop of alfalfa cut in

Polk county last week.

For Quick Relief From Hay Fever

Asthma and summer bronchitis, take Foley's Honey and Tar. It quickly relieves the discomfort and suffering and the annoying symptoms disappear. It soothes and heals the inflamed air passages of the head, throat and bronchial tubes. It contains no opiates and no harmful drugs. Before substituting, for sale by Conrad Stafrin.

Sixty bushels of barley an acre was

threshed near Sheridan.

From Sickness To "Excellent Health."

So says Mrs. Chas. Lyon, Peoria, Ill.: "I found in your Foley Kidney Pills a prompt and speedy cure for backache and kidney trouble which bothered me for many months. I am now enjoying excellent health which I owe to Foley Kidney Pills." For sale by Conrad Stafrin.

Many merchants of San Francisco

will visit Klamath Falls.

Acute or Chronic—Which?

No matter if your kidney trouble is acute or chronic Foley's Kidney Remedy will reach your case. Mr. Claude Brown, Reynoldsville, Ill., writes us that he suffered many months with kidney complaint which baffled all treatment. At last he tried Foley's Kidney Remedy and a few large bottles effected a complete cure. He says, "It has been of inestimable value to me." For sale by Conrad Stafrin.

Fruit display at The Dalles pleases

and astonishes all visitors.

DAIRY NOTES

The work required to sponge an animal's flank and udder is but a trifle, and great improvement can be made on the milk and its products.

Poor Mixing.

Warm cream should never be mixed with cold. The result of mixing is always quick souring. The bacteria in cold cream are dormant or inactive and will remain so if kept chilled.

Butter Sticking to Utensils.

The stickiness of butter utensils made of wood may be avoided by washing well in very hot, clear water and scouring with salt, says a Rural New Yorker correspondent.

Real Reform in Farm Life.

There can be no real reform in farm life unless the farmer grows as well as his crop. He can grow only by self-reliance, by accumulating something of which he may be justly proud. As soon as he begins to rely on others to grow he will become wastefully handicapped with his unnecessary hardships and limitations. He will want a better home in which to live, a better school for his children and better public roads. Quick.

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