

FARM GARDEN

HORSE COMFORTS.

Stable Devices For Hot Weather, Easily and Cheaply Made.

The poor horse, the work horse of the farm, usually receives little besides food, water and an occasional brushing off of the coarse dirt which covers his coat. Yet all horse owners will agree that the sturdy, faithful beast of burden of the farm of all animals on the place deserves good care. The practice of watering horses engaged in heavy farm work between meals adds greatly to the comfort of the animal and makes them more willing in the performance of their tasks. Not any great quantity is necessary or desired, but a few mouthfuls to relieve the



FIG. 1.—BARN DOOR IN TWO PARTS.

mouth and throat from dust, just as you want a swallow or two from the spring between meals. Then there is the excellent practice, not so common as it should be, of using a sponge and water freely, especially on the parts of the horse covered by the harness, at the close of the day's work. One can scarcely imagine the comfort and the cleaning of these parts gives to the horse, as well as the washing out of mouth and nostrils and the sponging of his neck and forehead.

The chief discomfort of the horse, however, is found in the dark and poorly ventilated stables and especially on hot summer nights. The illustration shows how stables with doors and windows can be arranged to provide good light and ventilation without admitting flies or mosquitoes and all at a small expense. As a rule stables are too dark.

The illustration of the barn door, Fig. 1, shows that the door is made in two parts, a plan of construction quite popular in some sections. The screen frame is made of inch stuf and is about three inches wide, braced at the corners. Upright pieces of the same material are screwed on as shown in the illustration. The distance apart these upright pieces should be placed depends upon circumstances—whether there is danger from thieves or if the horse should get loose in the stable, breaking the netting with its head. In such cases the upright strips should be placed closer together, otherwise four over the space will be ample. The wire cloth or netting is used, which can be bought at hardware stores at 2 cents a square foot, and varies in width from 18 to 36 inches. The screen is made to swing inside and is bolted when closed. The upper half of the door proper swings out in most cases and can be fastened to the side of the barn with heavy iron bolts. In the event of a strong wind or rain storm this door can be closed and bolted from the inside without removing the screen.

Fig. 2 shows how the same plan of screening the windows may be carried out. Most barn windows are made to slide, so that in this case the screen is also made to slide, but in the opposite direction from the window. It is thus very easy to slide either the screen or the glass and whichever may be needed over the opening. It will be noticed that the artist has covered the window of glass with wire netting such as is used in poultry yard building. This is a good idea, especially if the window is in the form of a door where he can readily reach it, for

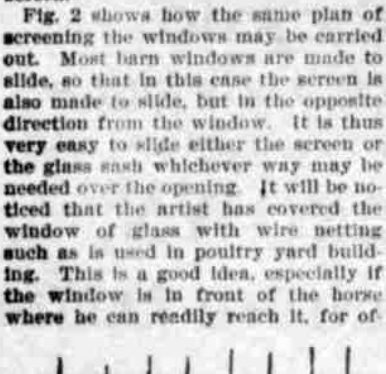


FIG. 2.—SCREENED WINDOW.

tentacles he will throw his head against the glass with sufficient force to break it and usually catch his face more or less.

Add to the small expense for material the little time and labor necessary to construct the screens, and you have a comfortable stable during the summer for which the farmer would not be any grateful thanks if they could not speak, concludes the author of the foregoing suggestions, originally made in Farm and Fireside.

IRRIGATION METHODS.

Furrow and Flooding Systems—In the Case of Fertile Soils.

Under the furrow method of irrigation parallel furrows are plowed leading from the ditch through the field between the rows of the crop to be irrigated. A small opening is made in the ditch to let the water into each furrow. A dam of canvas or earth is placed in the ditch just below the lowest furrow into which water is being run at the time, thus holding the water nearly level in that part of the ditch from which it is being drawn. Where the slope of the ground is excessive these furrows must be run diagonally or irregularly in order to reduce their grade. In the case of fruit trees it is generally found desirable during very hot weather to prevent the water from coming into actual contact with the trees. Flooding the surface also results in some soils in baking and compacting the earth about the trunks and roots of the trees. To avoid these consequences the furrow system is employed, one or two furrows being plowed along each side of a row of trees at a distance of two or three feet therefrom, and the water is turned from the ditch into these furrows and permitted to traverse them slowly from end to end, thoroughly soaking the ground as it progresses and reaching into the roots without coming in contact with the stems above the surface. The necessary moisture is thus imparted without the wetting and subsequent baking of the surface which might result from flooding. When the trees are sufficiently irrigated, the water is turned out of these furrows and into

others, the process being thus continued until the whole area has been served. The furrows are then filled with a plow, the whole surface worked over with a cultivator and no traces left of either the furrows or the application of water.

This method also requires the attention of an irrigator to see that the proper amount of water is kept in each furrow and it does not break out and flood the surface in places, leaving the furrow beyond the level without water. One man can take care of a



FURROW IRRIGATION.

considerable number of these furrows at once and under favorable conditions of surface and water supply can accomplish the irrigation of great area in a given time as by the flooding system.

This method is also applicable to the irrigation of corn and in fact of any crop whatever, which is planted regularly in rows, a single furrow between each two rows being generally used for such crops. When applicable, it is the favorite method both for its convenience and the economy of water there by effected. But where the ground is very irregular this plan is often impracticable, for the reason that the furrows paralleling the rows of crop would upon such surfaces be up and down hill and would therefore not carry water. To make this method applicable in such cases it would be necessary that the rows follow approximately the contour of the ground in order that the parallel furrows might carry water throughout their entire length. The irrigation of irregular surfaces, however, is generally conducted under the flooding system except in localities where, as in parts of southern California, the value of the crop frequently warrants the expense of leveling off or terracing irregular surfaces or the application of water through buried pipes, as it is arranged in the water supply of cities.

A modification of the flooding method is the compartment or check system of irrigation practiced in some localities, particularly in portions of Arizona. This consists in dividing the field to be irrigated into squares or compartments by levees or dikes of such height as to cause the water to stand over the entire area of the compartments at one time, the water being admitted to each compartment by means of a gate in the levee. The water is allowed to stand until the ground has become properly saturated, the time depending largely upon the character of the soil. The compartments or squares vary in size according to the slope of the ground, but are not usually more than an acre or so in area.—J. C. Urie.

Securing a Watering Trough.

Many pastures and farms have watering troughs are half hogheads set upon the ground. They are in constant danger of being upset by the cattle, which also fight each other away from the water. A plan to obviate, in part, at least, both of these evils is shown in the cut from The Farm Journal. Two posts are driven beside the wide board nailed across, as shown. This holds the trough firmly to the ground, and also separates the cattle while drinking. The same plan can be used with any shape of trough.

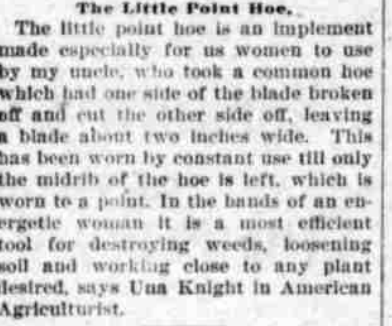


FIG. 3.—WATERING TROUGH.

The Little Point Hoe.

The little point hoe is an implement made especially for us women to use by my uncle, who took a common hoe which had one side of the blade broken off and cut the other side off, leaving a blade about two inches wide. This case been worn by constant use till only the midrib of the hoe is left, which is worn to a point. In the hands of an energetic woman it is a most efficient tool for destroying weeds, loosening soil and working close to any plant desired, says Wm. Knight in American Agriculturist.

Clover Growing in Kansas.

The farming area of the prairies is too large to ever be covered by manure in time to reclaim anywhere near the former richness of the prairie sod. Clover is the only remedy I can see that will bring about the desired result. The first yield of clover that I sowed was of course an experiment from beginning to end, yet later trials proved that I had found the best method first—Prairie Farmer.

News and Notes.

Europe not only produces more than one-half of the world's wheat crop, but consumes almost the entire world's surplus. North America, on the other hand, raises between one-fourth and one-fifth of the world's crop and is the world's great surplus exporter. Between these two great wheat producing regions is transported the bulk of the intercontinental wheat trade of the world.

The horticulturist of the Utah station tells of a digger wasp which destroys the apple worm and says it is beyond doubt that this insect keeps the orchard in order. He has found it free from apple worms.

Pennsylvania and New York, with 42.1 per cent of the total winter wheat acreage of the country, report conditions 11 points and 4 points respectively below their ten year averages. Kansas, which ranks third in the scale of acreage, reports the high average condition of 107, the highest average report on May 1 of which there is any record.

The reduction in acreage in the principal wheat states, owing to winter killing and the ravages of the hessian fly, is reported as follows: Indiana, 1,008,000; Ohio, 928,000; Michigan, 317,000; Pennsylvania, 108,000, and Illinois, 127,000 acres.

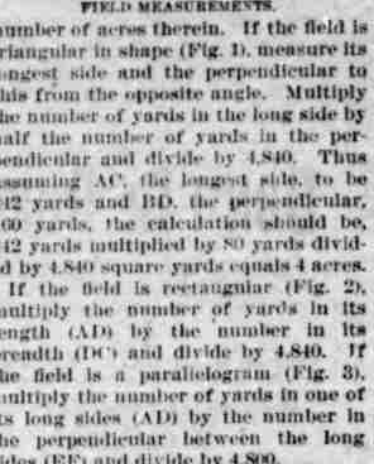
German scientists have decided that the amount of sugar used by individuals may be increased without hesitation, as it has many valuable properties, and is an excellent article of food, quickly assimilated in human and animal bodies, producing warmth and force. As a developer of strength it has long been used, especially by mountain climbers. It is also a good fattening food.

FARM GARDEN

MEASURING LAND.

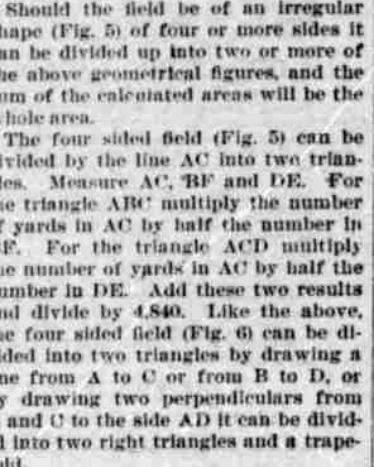
How to Calculate the Area of Fields of Various Shapes.

The following methods of approximating by means of simple measurements and calculations the number of acres in fields and farms have been prepared by General J. H. Lane of Alabama, a professor of civil engineering. An acre contains 4,840 square yards. In every case therefore the number of square yards in a field when determined is divided by 4,840 to obtain the

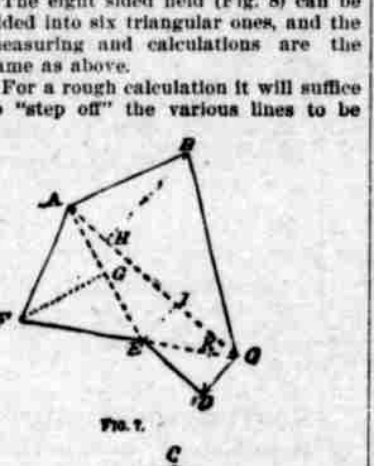


FIELD MEASUREMENTS.

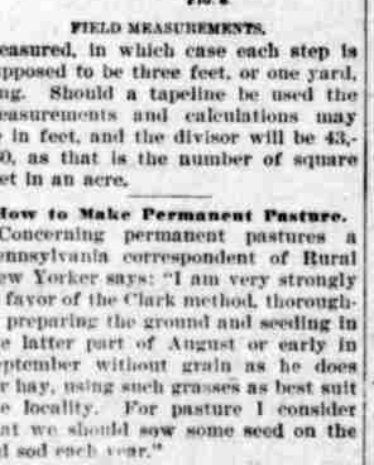
number of acres therein. If the field is triangular in shape (Fig. 1), measure its longest side and the perpendicular to this from the opposite angle. Multiply the number of yards in the long side by half the number of yards in the perpendicular and divide by 4,840. Thus assuming AC, the longest side, to be 212 yards and BD, the perpendicular, 100 yards, the calculation should be, 212 yards multiplied by 50 yards divided by 4,840 square yards equals 2 acres.



If the field is rectangular (Fig. 2), multiply the number of yards in its length (AD) by the number in its breadth (DC) and divide by 4,840. If the field is a parallelogram (Fig. 3), multiply the number of yards in one of its long sides (AD) by the number in the perpendicular between the long sides (EP) and divide by 4,840.



If the field is a trapezoid (Fig. 4), add the number of yards in the two parallel sides (AD and BC), multiply by half the number of yards in the perpendicular between these parallel sides and divide by 4,840.



Should the field be of an irregular shape (Fig. 5) of four or more sides it can be divided up into two or more of the above geometrical figures, and the sum of the calculated areas will be the whole area.

The four sided field (Fig. 6) can be divided by the line AC into two triangles, measure AC, BE and DE. For the triangle ABC multiply the number of yards in AC by half the number in BE. For the triangle ACD multiply the number of yards in AC by half the number in DE. Add these two results and divide by 4,840. Like the above, the four sided field (Fig. 6) can be divided into two triangles by drawing a line from A to C or from B to D, or by drawing two perpendiculars from B and C to the side AD it can be divided into two right triangles and a trapezoid.

The six sided field (Fig. 7) can be divided into four triangular ones—viz. ABC, AEC, AFD and DCE. For ABC multiply the number of yards in AC by half the number in BE. For AEC multiply the number of yards in AC by half the number in EI. For AFD multiply the number of yards in AC by half the number in FI. For DCE multiply the number of yards in EC by half the number in DK. Add these four results and divide by 4,840.

The eight sided field (Fig. 8) can be divided into six triangular ones, and the measuring and calculations are the same as above.

For a rough calculation it will suffice to "step off" the various lines to be

My experience and observation have led me to believe that replacing an usually practiced, does not pay. The question has a strong bearing directly to the farmer who takes it into his head to buy a new plow, or to get a good stand in the start and let it go at that, concludes an Orange Field Farmer correspondent.

Hot water treatment for oat smut must be done just right, and all farmers do not have the facilities. Forwards is easier to use, one pound to 50 gallons of water. This is either applied on with a watering pot, one gallon to a bushel of oats, or the oats are dipped in the solution. In such cases they should stand two hours, before being dried out 1917 on exchange.



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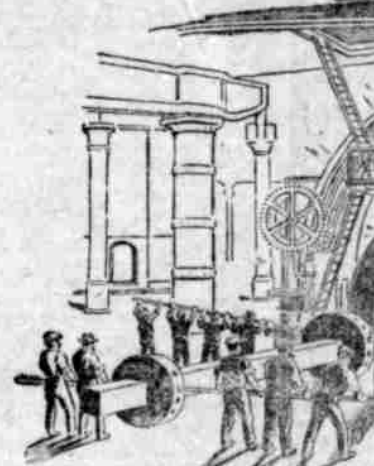
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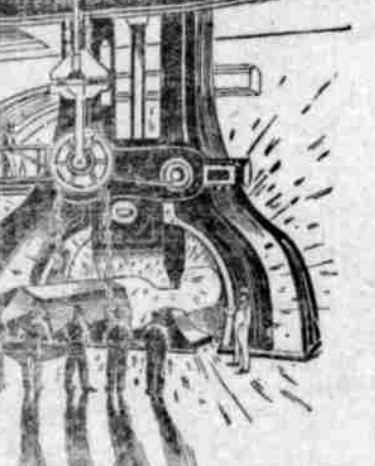
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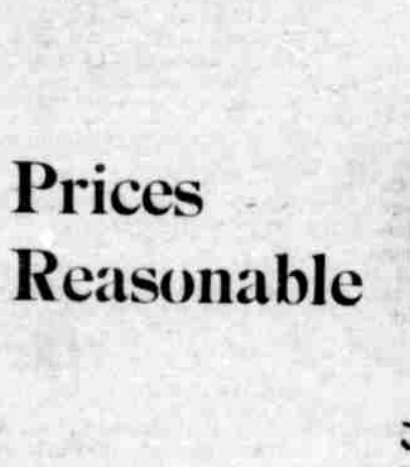
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Dairy Points.

At the Dairy Institute at Springfield, Mass., Professor Cooky said: "The food does not affect the richness of the milk. You cannot tell by the looks of milk how rich it is. We cannot afford to run cows on half time. To get high grade milk brush the cows before milking, and it is advised by many that the udders be clipped. Manage to have the cows come fresh, so as to maintain a uniform supply throughout the year. It is claimed that summer silage will stop summer shrinkage. Overalls should be clean. Don't have them stiffened with dairy starch. Don't make a strainer do too much work. Have a fresh one for every two or a dozen cows. Cool the milk and keep it at a given temperature. Care, cleanliness and cold are the three 'C's' of milk production. The German dairyman leaves a stall which seems nearly perfect. The platform is just the right length for the cow, and behind it is a deep ditch of six or eight inches, with a ledge part way down, so that the cow in slipping off does not slip clear to the bottom. The cows soon learn to stand out of the ditch and keep perfectly clean."