

# Alfalfa and Drouth

**This Legume Draws Moisture From Far Down But Does Not Flourish With Wet Feet**

The Harrisburg Bulletin tells of a garden in its city where alfalfa is flourishing while everything else is dried up, and thinks farmers may get a valuable lesson from it.

Alfalfa sends its roots to a depth of eight or ten feet and can survive a drouth that kills plants whose roots fail to go below the dried-up stratum of soil.

But standing water covering the lower roots of alfalfa will kill it. It likes a moist soil but cannot stand wet feet.

Where the water table is not near enough to the surface to flood its roots, alfalfa is a great soil renovator. With the proper bacteria in the soil it gets its supply of nitrogen from the air, and nitrogen is the most costly ingredient of commercial fertilizers. The long tap roots of this plant, with their feeders, also break up the soil and increase its mellowness far below the plow level.

Just when to cut alfalfa and how many times to harvest a crop in one season are questions which have received studied attention from experts in the United States Department of Agriculture and the various experiment stations in alfalfa-producing states. Ordinarily it is a good time to cut alfalfa for hay when the new shoots have started from the crown, and from one-tenth to one-fifth of the plants are in flower. But these two conditions do not always occur at the same time. However, the farmer with a little experience, and keeping in mind the flower and new shoots, soon is able to tell when his alfalfa crop should be cut. The farmer's best judgment will be called into play, with preference given to the welfare of the

plant rather than the size of the crop. Experiments on government plots seem to prove that cutting is not essential to the welfare of the plant, but is only a means of getting hay. Plats of alfalfa that have not been cut



An Excellent Stand of Alfalfa.

In six years are in better physical condition today than those that have been cut regularly. Government agricultural experts lean strongly toward fewer crops of alfalfa a year, holding that as large tonnage can be secured, for example, with three as with four cuttings, and with less labor. Emphasis is laid on the necessity of leaving time enough after the last harvest to permit the plants to get a healthy growth, approximately four inches, before frost.

and general appearance indicate non-production. The pelvic bones are also helpful in making this test as these two bones tend to close up when the hen stops laying. If the spread between these bones measures two fingers or less the probability is that the hen is not laying, while if the spread is greater, together with other indications mentioned, she is probably laying.

## GRAIN OF SUPERIOR QUALITY IN DEMAND

**Frequent Use of Cleaning Equipment Is Profitable.**

**Financial Loss Caused by Presence of Impurities, Foreign Matter or High Moisture Content—Elevator Not at Fault.**

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

While equipment for cleaning and conditioning grain is expensive, country elevators will find that its use frequently improves the quality of the grain and increases its market value, say specialists of the bureau of markets, United States Department of Agriculture. Sometimes grain comes to the elevator in poor condition, often being dirty, dusty, or with high moisture content, and unless the qual-



An Illustration of the Improvement Which May Result From Treating Seed With Formaldehyde as Smut Often Stunts the Plants.

ity is improved by cleaning or drying the grain cannot be disposed of advantageously.

Moreover, grain containing impurities, foreign matter, or a high moisture content is quite likely to become hot in transit, which greatly reduces its value and frequently results in serious financial loss. If the elevator is not provided with suitable equipment for this process, such grain must be shipped in the condition in which it is received.

The farmer should not place all responsibility for cleaning grain on the elevator. It is believed. It should be remembered that elevator managers do not pay grain prices for the dirt and water found in a farmer's grain. The price should be established by taking into consideration the necessary expense of placing the grain in marketable condition. The farmer who delivers clean, dry, sound grain should receive a premium over the price paid to the more careless farmer who delivers grain of inferior quality, specialists say.

## GUINEAS UTILIZE ALL WASTE

**Fowls Pick Up Material That Escape Chickens and Turkeys—Are Prolific Egg Layers.**

Guinea fowls utilize waste that would escape both hens and turkeys, say poultry specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture. Taking a wider range than chickens, and get not so wide as turkeys, keeping largely to thickets and weed patches, and committing fewer depredations against field and garden than either chickens or turkeys, requiring little feed at any time, being prolific layers during their season of eggs, that are thought by many to have a richer and finer flavor even than hens' eggs, the guinea fowl is well worth considering on any farm where a serious effort is made to convert all waste into meat and eggs.

## PROPER DRAINAGE ESSENTIAL

**Heavy Application of Manure Will Go Long Way Toward Correcting Alkaline Condition.**

Drainage is the most important factor in alkaline soils in nearly all cases. Good drainage is an absolute necessity in alkali correction. When drainage is assured, a heavy application of horse manure will go a long way toward correcting the alkali condition. It may be necessary to apply some fertilizer carrying large amounts of potash. Corn is not the best crop to consider in handling alkaline soils, and oats or rye bring better results until the soils are completely brought back to normal conditions.

# What About THE New Prices?

You no doubt have been disappointed in what some merchants have told you were new prices, when they were not. Many have tried to hold to the old prices as long as possible in order to sell the stock they bought at the peak price.

Again, some have held sales in order to make the public believe they were getting bargains when in many cases the new market price was as low as, if not lower than, the so-called sale price.

We have taken our loss and you can depend on buying clothing and furnishings here at the lowest possible price for quality merchandise. We are quoting below a few items out of each line with the old price and the new.

Look them over. They tell the story.

|  | Last Year's Prices | This Year's Prices |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| Men's All Worsted Suits                    | \$55               | \$30               |
| Men's Oregon Cassimere Suits               | 37.50              | 22.50              |
| Men's Oregon Cassimere Suits               | 30                 | 18.50              |
| Young Men's Suits                          | 60                 | 35                 |
| Mallory Hats                               | 9                  | 5 and \$6          |
| Good Fur Felt Dress Hats                   | 6.50               | 3.50               |
| Men's Brown Calfskin Shoes                 | 11                 | 7                  |
| Men's splendid quality Cotton Union Suits  | 3                  | 1.50               |
| Interwoven Lisle Sox you can buy no better | .75                | .40                |
| Arrow Collars                              | .25                | 2 for .35          |

**Fresh New Fall Clothing Arriving Every Day**



The store with a square deal for EVERY CUSTOMER

ALBANY

OREGON

## CANTALOUPE OF FINEST QUALITY

**Early Picking Is Reason Given for Melons Reaching Market in Inferior Condition.**

## AVOID BRUISING IN PACKING

**Load Immediately in Iced Refrigerator Cars and Furnish Ample Ventilation—Floor Racks Are Also Recommended.**



Unwrapped Melons Cool Quickly, Thus Preventing Mold.

jury caused by squeezing can be prevented if packers are careful not to force in over-sized melons when finishing the crates.

The reduction of serious market losses from over-ripe and decayed melons is dependent to a large extent upon the promptness with which they are placed under refrigeration. They should be loaded immediately in iced refrigerator cars, and, while being hauled from packing shed to the car-loading platform, should be covered to protect them from the sun.

Cantaloupes should preferably not be wrapped. They do not refrigerate so well in transit nor do they reach the consumer in so good condition as unwrapped melons. Loading different types of packages may obstruct air circulation and thus seriously retard refrigeration. In cars equipped with these racks, as well as basket bunkers, salt may be effectively employed to hasten refrigeration. The ability of refrigerator cars to cool melon shipments quickly and to maintain desirable temperatures in transit depends directly upon proper bunker and bulkhead construction, and upon the quantity and quality of the insulating material used.

## CULL POOR PRODUCING HENS

**Work Should Be Started in Summer and During Early Fall Months—Comb Is Indicator.**

The hens should be culled out during the summer and early fall months, beginning to cull out the poor producers just as soon as they stop laying, which is usually in July and August. When a hen is laying her comb will be large, full of blood and bright red in color. As she stops laying, the comb becomes small and shrunken, pale or dull in color, and is usually rather hard. Another good indication to use in selecting those hens which stop laying early is molting, as the hens that start to molt early—that is, in July and August—are usually the poorest producers.

While a hen which has molted most of her feathers is very easy to pick out by sight without examination, the only way to ascertain accurately when the hens begin to molt is to handle them. Before the body and wing feathers are molted in any great number you will find short pin feathers growing thickly on the back and in the feather tracts running back from the breast, indicating that these hens have started to molt and probably have stopped laying if their combs

Green melons have a depressing effect on both demand and prices. While it is necessary that they be picked before they are entirely ripe, in order to provide the essential keeping qualities in transit, they may be picked at a stage of maturity that will afford good flavor as well as keeping quality when they reach consumers, cantaloupes should be picked just after they will slip cleanly from the stem; that is, at the full-slip stage of maturity.

If properly handled and promptly loaded they will carry in satisfactory condition, even to long-distance markets. Allowance must be made, however, for a certain amount of rough handling and for some delay in transit. As a general rule, therefore, cantaloupes should be picked just before they reach the full-slip stage. Such melons possess not only the desirable eating quality, but also the necessary carrying quality.

The keeping and carrying qualities of cantaloupes are directly dependent on the care exercised to prevent mechanical injuries in harvesting and preparation for shipment.

## Use Care in Packing.

During the operation of packing, melons should be placed carefully in the crates, and not dropped or tossed into place, as is frequently done. In-

(Continued from page 1)

The following were omitted last week because too much of the copy reached the office late—Wednesday and Thursday:

Paul Green, who has been preaching in Pullman, Wash., will be a student in special work at Villamette University in Salem this year. Halsey friends will be interested to know this.

J. N. Smith came over from Brownsville Wednesday morning on his way home to Prineville Junction, where he owns a 600 acre farm. He has just purchased a new ranch from J. F. Verner a few miles out of Brownsville and will bring his wife and family there in time for the school opening. He and Mr. Verner are old acquaintances. Mr. Verner at one time had a drugstore in Prineville.

Karl Bramwell and family drove to Eugene Sunday, returning Monday. While there they were guests of Mr. Bramwell's mother.

Eldon Jew and family of Portland drove down Sunday to visit Mr. Cross' aunt, Mrs. John Porter of Halsey. From here they drove to Albany and visited Mrs. Sarah Bloom, another aunt.

Dr. J. W. Powell of Crawfordville passed through Halsey Tuesday on his way to The Dalles, where a brother died Tuesday morning. He was Rev. J. J. Powell, 77 years old. His wife died about a year ago. Several grown children survive him.

Mrs. Douglas Taylor and her son, Lawrence, will reside here

during the winter to enable Lawrence to attend the University of Oregon.—Eugene Register.

County School Superintendent Geer says eighth-grade examination papers have been coming in very slowly.

The men who serve on the next grand jury are J. B. Burch, Charles Walker, Theo. Hofflich, F. C.

Dannals, foreman, H. Stubbs, Hugh Leeper and R. A. Leach.

REGISTERED  
**Shropshire Bucks,**  
yearlings, and 1 registered 2-year-old  
**Oxford** for sale.  
DR. J. W. COOK,  
Brownsville, Oregon.

## Harvest is Over

Now is the time to begin another year by getting new implements, such as

**I.H.C. Tillage Tools & Tractors**

Now is the time to use them. Give us a call for your fall needs.

**G. W. Mornhinweg**  
Implement Store

**MAYBERRY & MCKINNEY**

LIVE STOCK BUYERS

Highest prices paid for Beef, Pork, Veal and Mutton. See Us before you sell. Halsey phone 179. Brownsville phone 37c51.