

# SUGAR BEETS CREATE A GOOD SOIL AS WELL AS A BANK RESERVE

## Some Practical Information on Beet Culture That Should Interest Every Farmer in This County.

(Continued from first page)

soil and first-class farm practice the moisture conditions should be almost entirely under the control of the farmer. Experience has shown that while sugar beets can be grown in many districts of the United States, the successful operations are confined to the area that embraces the inter-valleys and the eastern and western slopes of the Rocky Mountains. It will be noticed that these districts are more or less arid and semi-arid in their climatic nature and implies the necessary practice of irrigation to at least some extent. Many of the largest valleys and plains in this area are as yet undeveloped, and it appears that we are on the threshold of an area of unprecedented prosperity for progressive and intelligent capital on the one hand and the progressive and intelligent farmer on the other.

The experimental stages have been passed. Both the growing of sugar beets and the manufacture of sugar therefrom has now been reduced to a science, many valuable lessons have been learned, the most important of which is co-operation, and the greatest teacher is co-operation in irrigation. No man can isolate himself in a farming community where irrigation is practiced, and in no class of farming is co-operation so vitally necessary as in the beet sugar industry. The reduction of the beet to a produce so fine that it can be placed upon the table in any part of the world as a standard food requires a vast aggregation of lands and capital, an immense association of individuals skilled in various phases of industrial and commercial activities coupled with a continued "strong pull and a pull altogether of entire communities."

There are generally a few farmers who see the point of advantage given by the addition of the beet crop to their rotation system and they usually begin to forge ahead and prosper. They will learn:

First: That, take it one year with another it is the best paying crop that we can raise, that is to say we get larger returns from the land both in the gross receipts per acre and in net receipts per acre.

Second: The growing of beets has raised the cash rental values of our farm lands from about ten dollars per acre per year to eighteen and twenty dollars per acre per year.

Third: That we should select our very best soil for sugar beets and proceed to build up and prepare another piece of ground for rotation which process in time builds up the soil on the entire farm.

Fourth: That the careful attention which one soon learns is necessary to the success of the beet crop in the preparation of the seed bed and the cultivation of the beet field makes for clean farms and is gradually reflected in the better care and attention to other crops.

Fifth: That hay and grain crops following beet crops yield better than following any other crop.

Sixth: That only about one-third of the nitrogen in a crop of beets is taken away with the root and about two-thirds is left in the field in the crowns and tops and by plowing under these tops and crowns while they are

green (before they cure out), much valuable humus and about two-thirds potash required to produce the original crop is thereby returned to the soil. By a most favorable law of nature the sugar that is shipped to market is fixed in the beet in combination with the starch and cellulose and is converted from the carbon-dioxide which is inhaled through the leaves from the air. Thus it is seen that where the pulp from the factory can be fed to live stock so that the manure could be returned to the land upon which beets are to be grown, a very high state of soil fertility at a very low cost can be almost indefinitely maintained, all of which is appreciated when we see as many as eighteen consecutive crops of sugar beets grown upon the same land (without a single year of rest or summer fallow) with the aid of only a few tons of barnyard manure each year.

Seventh: That the price of the crop is known before the seed is planted and the fact that the price by inference or by actual contract is guaranteed for two or more years enables the farmer to plan the preparation of his soil and arrange his schedule of crop rotation in a manner which is sure to enhance the promise of greater returns. With one-quarter of the farm in sugar beets the balance of the farm can be devoted to grain and forage crop, which, if fed to stock produces in the resultant manure the best fertilizer known at a minimum cost.

Eighth: That the beet crop is sold in the fall and is a crop that deteriorates if kept later than harvest time, the price is established and no increase in price can be promised by the market if the crop is kept over. This "beet money," as we call it, is depended upon to meet all the pressing bills that are usually due in the fall, giving the farmer an opportunity to hold his hay and grain over until the following spring or until the price is satisfactory. Occasionally one keeps his produce long enough to pass the high market and run into a decline, but a careful observation of the writer convinces him that the prices of hay, grains and potatoes are higher by from 15 to 35 per cent in the spring than during the previous fall. This is easily understood when we reflect that nearly all the obligations for water, land, machinery, interest and taxes fall due in the fall and most of them within a period of less than fifty days. This was a most improvident scheme to begin with and it is being most religiously carried out with the inevitable result that about 90 per cent of these products are thrown on the markets and change hands within the short space of thirty or forty days each year, thus "bearing" the price to the lowest possible minimum, which responds only at about the half-way period between harvests.

Just as soon as the farmer learns to gauge the size of his beet crop so that this plan can be worked out, his prosperity is assured. Can you imagine a more perfect dovetailing of business in farm management? Twenty-five per cent of the farm in a crop that permits the other seventy-five percent to return as much money value as the one hundred per cent could return without the assistance of the beets.

Ninth: That while the hay crop, as such, is usually the poorest money crop in the rotation, when sugar beet culture is adopted, the hay ground, or part of it, is usually devoted to the beets. This, in course of time, en-

croaches upon the area of hay ground and added to the fact that the facilities offered by a sugar factory for feeding stock, there are thousands of cattle and sheep brought into the feeding yards every season, this creates an added demand for hay and straw.

Tenth: That the natural increase in the selling value of lands in a beet growing community is about four per cent per year. This alone will just about meet the annual interest on the ordinary farm loan.

The unfavorable part of this development is that the progress is so slow that it is scarcely noticed nor appreciated. The farmers, like any other class of people, are tenacious in their methods in social or business life.

The important thing at this time is to so hasten a beneficial change of methods that results that have required so much time heretofore, can be brought about more quickly. There is no good reason that a community should take ten years to develop a prosperous sugar beet and sugar industry. The methods of farming and dairying in the central states have been revolutionized for the better in an incredibly short time. Why can not the methods of the west be changed as well? In both old and new communities much can be done by an active co-operation on the part of the editors, the bankers and the merchants. Instead of being content as parasites these classes in many places are becoming real contributors to the welfare and progress of the people.

(Continued next week)

**Sugar Consumption Increasing.**  
The people of the United States are apparently using more sugar than ever before, for the increase of consumption has been greater than the increase in population. According to figures in Bulletin 473, recently prepared by the Bureau of Crop Estimates of the United States Department of Agriculture, the total consumption of sugar in this country for the decade ending with the fiscal year 1912-13 was 42.9 per cent greater than the consumption for the preceding decade, while the population for the same period only shows an increase of 21 per cent.


## THE CHEAPEST FOOD

When bemoaning the high cost of living do a little figuring and profit thereby. For one pound of Good White Wheat Flour yields more nourishment expressed in calories or fuel units than any other six common foods, and for less money even at the present price of flour.

	Retail Price	Calories
Wheat Flour	4 lb.	1632
Rice	7c lb.	1478
Beef Sirloin	20c lb.	1025
Eggs	25c doz.	936
Milk	7c qt.	619
Fish	20c lb.	325
Potatoes	4c lb.	296

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As to the Best brand of white wheat flour to use—

**Why, Mt. Pitt Flour, of Course!**  
Made by  The Central Point Mill,

## P. P. I. E. Medal of Honor Received By W.H. Norcross

This section of the valley ably demonstrated its capabilities as a fruit growing district by being awarded a medal at the Panama Pacific International Exposition. The recipient of the medal, W. H. Norcross, an orchardist south of town, was awarded the certificate and gold medal of honor for the best Bosc pears exhibited at the exposition in 1915. Mr. Norcross received the medal and certificate today.

## Hotel Dining Room Open.

The dining room of the Hotel Central has been opened up since the first of the week and Mrs. Betts, the genial landlady of the hotel is already doing a nice business.

Following deductions have been made from the registration of voters, and cancellations made, by reason of electors failing to vote during two-year period in accordance with Section 12, Chapter 225, of General Laws of Oregon for 1915:

Republican: Male, 192; female, 142; total, 334.  
Democrat: Male, 127; female, 112; total, 239.  
Progressive: Male, 5; female, 3; total, 8.  
Prohibition: Male, 8; female, 13; total, 21.  
Socialist: Male, 26; female, 10; total, 36.  
Miscellaneous: Male, 30; female, 36; total, 66.  
Totals: Male, 388; female, 316; total, 704.



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