

CALLING HIM



BLOW SOILS MAKE FARMING IN NORTHWEST SECTIONS DIFFICULT

Department of Agriculture Gives Hints on Proper Method of Cultivation on Dry Land in Windy Section.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 7.—Farmers of the Pacific Northwest who practice dry farming will find questions of vital interest to them discussed in Farmers Bulletin 1047, just published by the United States department of agriculture. The more progressive farmers of this region have developed methods of handling summer fallow that bring much higher yields than those that have been generally followed hitherto. This bulletin describes in detail these improved methods as applied on both "blow" and "non-blow" soils.

According to the specialists of the department, three methods are followed in summer fallowing, the land being plowed, respectively, at three different dates, April 1, May 1, and June 1, in each case the plowing being the first tillage operation performed. The purpose of the first method is to give no cultivation after the land is plowed, the weeds being allowed to grow and then removed with a hoe, disk harrow or knife weeder just before they form seed. The second method consists of giving the land a light harrowing the same day it is plowed, no subsequent tillage being practiced except to remove the weeds by hand just before they form seed. The third system represents the thoroughly cultivated summer fallow. The land is harrowed immediately after it is plowed. As soon as the weeds appear, usually in about three weeks, it is harrowed again. Sufficient cultivation is then given to keep the land free from weeds. The land plowed April 1 and May 1 usually requires 2 and sometimes three, cultivations. As few weeds grow on the land plowed as late as June 1, the usual cultivation given in this case is to harrow twice after plowing.

Early Plowing Gives Best Yields.

Since the main objects of summer fallowing are to prevent the surface evaporation of soil moisture, and to keep in check the weeds which rob the soil of water, early spring plowing is one of the most dependable practices, some farmers even double disk the stubble land before it is plowed. Dry plowing immediately after harvest is practiced on "non-blow" soils in certain localities where the rainfall is scant and where the Russian thistle occurs profusely in the stubble after harvest. The chief object is to turn the thistles under while they are green and before they produce mature seed, as where they are allowed to grow until the following spring they usually mat the soil so densely that it is necessary to burn them off. Right-lap plowing or double disk just after the grain is cut also holds the thistles in check sufficiently to make it unnecessary to burn off the weeds the following spring in order to plow. Land that has been treated in this way may be summer fallowed the following season by again disking or right-lapping once or twice, and then controlling the weeds with a rod weeder. Some farmers practice the combination of these systems where the land is adapted to such practice.

Cure All Soils That Blow.

Summer fallowing the "blow" soils is a more complex problem, as in addition to getting the seed bed in good condition and to providing as much moisture as possible, it is also necessary to leave stubble and trash or clods on the surface of the field, in order to prevent the soil from being scattered broadcast by the wind. All operations which tend to rub and finely pulverize the soil are avoided, as these conditions induce towards increased blowing. The aim should be to prevent the soil from blowing at all, but if a blow begins, prompt action should be taken to stop it. It usually is disastrous to attempt to handle blow soils, according to the same summer-fallowing system followed on soils which are not light and subject to wind shifting. Generally speaking, where dry plowing is run across his brother who was just

practiced immediately after harvest, the moldboards of the plow should be removed in order to leave the stubble and weeds on the surface of the ground so that the soil will not blow. As soon as the frost is out of the ground the following spring a mulch is formed with either the spring tooth harrow, the disk harrow, or the right-lap plow, this mulch being formed early in the spring, when the soil is wet, in order to make clods. After this surface mulch is formed the weeds are usually controlled with the rod weeder. Right-lap plowing or double-disking immediately after harvest also is efficient in controlling the "blow" soils which are infested with Russian thistles, as these practices also kill out the weeds. On the land which is not badly infested with thistles, the field is first double-disked in the early spring, and then later, when a crop of weeds has started, it is plowed with the moldboards of the plow removed, as such culture opposes wind blowing and yet prepares a good seed bed.

In the drier districts, land that is subject to blowing frequently is summer fallowed by double disking from two to three times during the spring and early summer. The first disking is done in the spring, and the second and third as successive crops of weeds appear. One of the advantages of this method is the large acreage that may be handled with a small force. One man with a large double disk and 10 or 12 good mules can disk about 20 acres a day, which means that in 40 days 400 acres can be covered twice.

Spread Litter Over "Blow" Soils.

When a soil begins to blow promptly and immediate attention must be devoted to its control. An efficient control consists of spreading straw or manure over the affected area as soon as the blow is discovered, beginning on the windy side of the field and working with the wind. The straw may be held in place by running a disk harrow over the area strawed, the disks of the harrow being set perfectly straight. By cultivation with a spring tooth harrow, shovel cultivator or meadow row drill, blows may be controlled in their early stages, the implements being driven at right angles to the direction of the prevailing wind in order to let the drifting sand fall into the furrows. However, if there are no clods to be brought to the surface, such cultivation will do little or no good. Land that has been blowing for some time may be controlled by plowing furrows across the affected area at right angles to the direction of the prevailing wind, the furrows being from one to two rods apart, thus operating to catch the sand and keep it from traveling on the surface of the ground.

Moves to Lone Wheat Ranch.

A. D. Sachter, who formerly farmed the Soukup ranch south of Heppner, has rented the Ball ranch near Lone and moved there during the past week with his family. Mr. Sachter lost 16 head of horses on the road while moving, and he is very anxious to find some trace of them.

Ad Sold the Cows.

A. C. Allison was in the city last Thursday and stepped into The Gazette-Times office long enough to ask us to lift the Jersey cow for sale ad. "I've sold all my cattle," said Mr. Allison, "and don't want to be bothered with buyers I can't supply." Mr. Allison is one of the large alfalfa growers of the Butter creek district.

Miss Alma Akers, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Akers, has returned to Portland to resume her studies at business college. She went by the way of Goldendale, Wash., and spent a few days visiting with Miss Gladys Davenport.

Carl C. Haynie, assistant cashier at the First National Bank, was called to Portland last week on business. While at the Union depot he

returning home after spending two years in the United States navy. The two brothers enjoyed a twenty-minute visit between trains.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben O. Anderson have just returned from a two weeks visit to Portland.

F. D. Cox has moved his family into town for the winter and the children will attend school.

E. P. Berry, prominent Lexington wheat grower, spent Monday in the city on business.

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F. & M. Bank Building,
Fort Worth, Texas.

Encouraging Bolshevism

Everything that falsely encourages unrest also encourages bolshevism.

Misunderstanding of American industrial organization, and of its benefits to mankind, leads to unrest, dissatisfaction, and radicalism.

For example, the Federal Trade Commission tells the public that the large packers had an agreed price for lard substitute (made of cotton-seed oil).

It reproduces letters taken from the files of one of the packers, showing that such agreed price existed.

But it failed to mention that the agreed price was determined at the request of and in co-operation with the Food Administration!

Even the Department of Justice, in its unjust attempt to create prejudice against the packers, has made public these same letters, with no explanation.

How long must this kind of misrepresentation continue? In so far as it is believed, it not only breeds discontent, but results in injustice to our industry.

Let us send you a "Swift Dollar."
It will interest you.
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MULES! MULES!

Auction Sale At Stanton Ranch on 8-Mile

TWO MILES EAST OF EIGHT MILE POSTOFFICE AND 16 MILES SOUTH-
WEST OF HEPPNER.

Saturday, Oct. 18

BEGINNING AT 10 A. M.

I will offer at public auction to the highest bidder the following list of property:

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| 8 HEAD OF MULES; 3 to 8 years old. All good heavy weight; all broke to harness | 1 harrow, steel, 2 sections. |
| 4 head of horses. (2 work horses and 2 saddle horses.) | 1 vitrol vat. 1 mower and rake. |
| 1 good Jersey Milk cow; fresh in 30 days. | 2 sets work harness and collars. |
| 1 double action 10-ft. disc. | 1 saddle in A-1 condition. |
| 1 Jones weeded, 20-ft. | 1 good McCormick 18-ft. header. |
| 1 Kimbal weeder, 13-ft. | 3 header boxes. |
| 1 26-ft. wooden harrow. | 1 combine harvester (good condition.) |
| 4 wagons: 1 3 1/2 Bains; others 3 1/4 Bains. | Equipped with Continental motor, 40 horsepower. |
| 1 Superior hose drill, 4-horse. | 3 dozen laying hens and bunch of young stuff. |
| 1 light hack with top. | Also quantity of household goods and a large number of other miscellaneous articles. |
| 1 fanning mill. | |
| 1 walking plow. | |

Free Lunch at Noon

TERMS

All sums under \$25.00, cash. Sums over \$25.00, six months' time on approved notes at 8 per cent.. 5 per cent discount for cash on all sums over \$25.00.

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