

Good Hybrid Corn Needs Good Soil

Better Varieties Equipped to Produce on Highly Fertile Land.

By A. L. Lang, Assistant Chief, Soil Experiment Fields, University of Illinois, WNU Service.

With farmers preparing to plant a record acreage of hybrid seed corn this year, they are advised that good hybrids need good soil. Because of the accumulation of the many desirable characteristics in the better strains of hybrid corn, the good hybrids are more adapted and better equipped to produce high yields on highly fertile soils than are the common open-pollinated varieties.

Good hybrids need good soil not because they are unable to produce on poor soil, but because they have the ability to utilize more effectively the materials found in fertile soil.

A corn grower can not expect to grow 90-bushel or 100-bushel corn on 30-bushel land, and he may be wasting high quality seed if he tries it. On the other hand if he has high quality soil capable of producing big crops, he is wasteful if he does not use seed good enough to make full use of the land.

One good feature of corn improvement by hybrid breeding, is that superior hybrids may make it possible to obtain much larger returns from good systems of soil improvement than has been possible in the past. In other words a farmer need no longer fear that he is getting his land too good for his seed.

However, hybrid corn can not be expected to take the backache out of spreading limestone nor to serve as a substitute for crop rotations and applications of manure and fertilizer.

Carry Over Filled Silo Is a Timely Suggestion

Many successful stock farmers have for years made it a practice to carry over a supply of corn or grain for their live stock; especially in this true in sections of the country where crop failures are not uncommon. "Carry over a crib of corn" has been a favorite slogan. The last two widespread and destructive drouths have proven the wisdom of carrying over feed. For so often in a drouth year, not only the corn and grain crops are short but pastures, hay and forage. Without doubt, we will find it a safe and sound policy to carry over especially from a good year, a supply of grain and forage, says a writer in the Missouri Farmer.

Experiments and experience have proven that forage can best be preserved by ensiling. About any kind of plant that stock will eat can be made into silage and in such a state will keep for several years. Now we need a new slogan for the stock farmer and "Carry over a filled silo," is suggested.

Since the early introduction of silos, some 45 years ago, much progress has been made and today we have something like 550,000 silos in use in the United States. When we compare states that have made a large use of the silo with those who have made small use of it, we find that we are still very short of this equipment. A proper economical use of the silo would require at least 1,000,000 more silos.

Prevents Ham From Souring

The first precaution to prevent hams from souring is to be sure that the animal is not overheated before killing and to bleed the animal well after killing. All curing vessels should be scalded and the water for the brine or pickle should be boiled before using, says an authority at the North Carolina State college. Rub each ham with salt before packing for cure and, if brine cured, examine brine every few days to see that it covers the entire contents of container. After curing, hang the ham from six to eight feet above fire and smoke to taste. If curing directions are followed and these precautions taken the meat will keep without souring.

Feed for Cow in Milk

A common rule for feeding a cow in milk is from two to three pounds of good quality hay for each 100 pounds live weight, or one pound of hay and three pounds of corn silage for a similar weight unit. A 1,000-pound cow would then require 10 pounds of hay and 30 pounds of silage daily, plus sufficient grain mixture to meet her milk requirements, which are one pound of grain for each three to four pounds of milk produced, according to an authority in the Rural New-Yorker. Any of the standard commercial mixed feeds from 18 to 24 per cent mixtures are generally satisfactory. Fodder may be substituted for some of the hay if desired.

Water Hemlock Poisonous

Water hemlock is one of the most poisonous plants known. It may cause death in any species, including man. Cattle and sheep are most often affected by it. The plant belongs to the porsnip family. It grows along creek banks, ditches, and in swales and other low, moist areas. It attains a height of 4 to 8 feet and has a broad umbrella-like flower with many small white blossoms on top. Most farmers are familiar with this plant.

Fun for the Whole Family

THE FEATHERHEADS

By Osborne



S'MATTER POP—Just Went Into Reverse, for a Moment

By C. M. PAYNE



MESCAL IKE

By S. L. HUNTLEY



FINNEY OF THE FORCE

By Ted O'Loughlin



BRONC PEELER—Whither Goest Withers

By FRED HARMAN



The Curse of Progress



Suggestion

Jim had spent his vacation with his indulgent uncle and seemed very disconsolate his first evening at home. "Feeling badly, son?" asked the father. "I fell so sorry for you, dad. Uncle Jack is so rich. He goes to the picture show every night," was the lad's reply.—Indianapolis News.

The Idea!

Pretty Stenog: "What's the big idea of your working steady 10 hours a day? I wouldn't think of it. You know what the code said." Equally Pretty Cashier: "I didn't think of it myself. It was the boss who thought of it."—Pathfinder Magazine.

Triumphal Demonstration

"The right is always triumphant!" exclaimed the idealist. "Eventually, perhaps," answered Senator Sorghum. "But it may refuse to be hurried and insist on postponing the big celebration till some subsequent election."

POSTPONING THE DISHES

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS

