

AGRICULTURAL.

One school district in Maine, containing eighteen farms, received over \$10,000 for apples last year.

Investigation shows that of the fiber in hay and straw, from 40 to 60 per cent. is generally digested by ruminant animals.

Corn is thought to grow better if the rows run north and south, so that the sun will shine equally on each side of the stalk.

There are more than 200 breeders of Short-horn cattle in Michigan, owning at least 4,000 cattle that are worth \$1,000,000.

Mr. H. C. Pearson, of Pittsford, N. Y., grows eight bushels of seed from three-fourths of a pound of seed, having only twenty-nine ears.

The only paying sugar-beet manufactory in the country now is in California. It has done a paying business for three years, and shows no signs of giving out.

In Ireland the sod cut on boggy ground is piled up in heaps until dry, then burned into a species of charcoal. This is then pulverized and mixed with well-rotted stable or hen-house manure or night soil in equal proportions. Placed in drills where turnips or carrots are to be planted, it is said to make them attain a monstrous size. The experiment is worthy of a trial by farmers who can get the bog mold without too much labor or expense.

Dr. Johnson, of Indiana, says: "In dairy products we in the West, with our method of using five acres of high-priced land to keep one dairy animal a year, can not compete with the intensified farming of the East, where they keep one animal a year on one acre of land, and that, too, of a natural fertility much inferior to ours, and more than that, where by means of silos and ensilage now they are keeping two animals to a single acre."

Prof. Arnold says the points in favor of dairying are: First, a dairy farm costs 10 per cent. less to operate than grain-growing or mixed agriculture. Second, the annual returns average a little more than other branches. Third, prices are nearer uniform and more reliable. Fourth, dairying exhausts the soil less. Fifth, it is more secure against changes in the season, since the dairyman does not suffer so much from wet, frost and varying seasons, and he can, if prudent, protect against drought.

The hog, like the horse, has no extra stomach to store away food, therefore if fed but twice a day and what he will eat, he overloads his stomach, and if the food is not pushed beyond the point where it will digest, the stomach is filled so full that a considerable portion of the food fails to come in contact with the lining of the stomach, and thus a very large proportion of the nutriment in the food is lost. Experiments prove that a hog thus fed wastes more than one-half of the meal given him. We have no doubt the same is true of the horse, when fed large quantities of hay and grain, and fed but twice a day.—Massachusetts Plowman.

We do not say this hastily, but with the conviction derived from feeding late-cut timothy and bright oat straw. With four feed racks in your yard—two well kept with timothy, one with prairie hay and one with bright-oat straw—the latter was consumed first, and the others neglected until the last vestige of the oat straw had disappeared. It was the instinctive act of the urchin repeated. He took his cake, pudding and pie first, and reluctantly finished off his dinner on the drier and less palatable bread and butter. Our late-cut hay was merely a "fill-up," to give their digestive apparatus the necessary distention so necessary to ruminants, and that is about all late-cut hay is good for anyway.—Chicago Herald.

The following are the points desirable in a practical farmer's hog: Fine short nose, dishd face, fine ears, good width between eyes, eyes not too prominent; a straight, broad back of uniform width from shoulders to ham, short legs and fine bone. He should stand well up on his pins, fat at any age, and, if well reared, make a weight of 250 to 325 pounds at 11 months. Now, does the foregoing description of a model farm hog fully describe the well-bred Berkshire? I think all will agree that it does, and I am satisfied that if the reader will notice the character of all the various breeds of swine he will find that the most popular ones are those which come nearest to the model farmer's hog presented above.—For. Farmer's Review.

The dairy cow must be good for milk, butter, cheese and beef. To get her, we need a grade Short-horn heifer—the higher the grade the better. She must be so fed and cared for as to produce a good growth of frame without excess of fat, and bred so as to drop her first calf at about 2 years old, the calf to be soon taken from her, and she milked by hand, and kept in milk as long as possible. Her pasture should be well drained and supplied with an abundance of good grass and pure water. Her stable should be warm and clean, and her feed liberal; corn meal, bran, oil meal and early-cut hay are excellent for this purpose. I am not certain but that feeding grain lightly the entire year would be profitable. A better quality of her product may be made on the farm than in the miscellaneous creamery. Increased fertility to the soil is an incentive for keeping her on the farm, and, finally, keeping such a cow is continually a source of pleasure and profit to the owner.—Dairy and Farm Journal.

Black Galloway cattle are in demand in Montana. This breed is hardy, but not otherwise remarkable except for hardiness. The mountain ranges of Montana are very like, in climate and topography, the section of Scotland where the Galloway cattle originated.

The common harrow can be applied to many more purposes than its common use of preparing the ground for seeding. It is one of the best implements for turning manure after it has been spread broadcast, more thoroughly mixing it with the soil and making the surface evenly effective.

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Mr. William Thomas, of Newton, Ia., says: "My wife has been seriously affected with scrophulous for twenty-five years, and this spring more severely than ever before. She had used many remedies without relief, and being urged to try Dr. King's New Discovery, did so with most gratifying results. The first bottle relieved her very much, and the second bottle cured her absolutely. She has not had so good health for thirty years." Trial Bottle Free at F. B. Meyer's Drug Store. Large size \$1.00. 35-6

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