



AGRICULTURAL TOPICS.

A FEW SUGGESTIONS FOR OUR RURAL READERS.

Work Should Always Be Done in Season
—An English Writer on the Management of the Horse—Simple Feeding Rules—Poultry Notes—Household.

Doing Work in Season

HERE is no more fatal habit among horticulturists than that of tardiness. Some men are always behind in their work, and when this bad habit, for it is really nothing but a habit, gets in its work on spring planting the result is a very serious one. More trees and plants are lost from late planting than from all other causes put together, and when a tree or plant, owing to some favorable conditions, does manage to survive transplanting, its growth for the rest of that season is but a very trifling and miserable one. For complete success, trees and plants must be put into their places while dormant and before the buds start, and to do this other and preliminary operations must be performed early, such as preparing the ground, etc. Thus, he who is behind in the first steps of his spring's work is, as a natural sequence, behind in the last, and he is fortunate indeed if he catches up by the close of the year.

A Big Help in Clearing Land.

I have invented an attachment to my stone-boat by which the team is compelled to do the loading of heavy stumps, rock, etc., which facilitates the moving of large quantities of rubbish, the leveling of knolls and filling of cradle holes. As will be seen in the engraving, the right-hand rail is removed from the common stone-boat and the boat-plank attached to the boat by a heavy hinge. This extra plank is drawn by a chain attached to the team the same as the main boat. We will suppose a heavy rock has been piled out of the sod or earth. The chain of the wing is loosened and attached further back on the main chain, while the block at A is inserted to separate the wing

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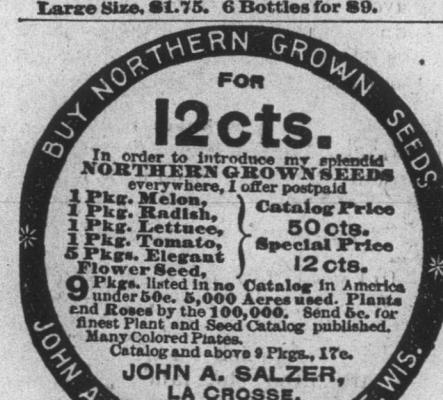


For Dr. A. Astor, of Refugio, Tex., writes: As far as I can ascertain, Judge, I think Pastor Koenig's Nerve Tonic is perfect success, for anyone who suffered from a most painful nervousness as I did. I feel now like myself again after taking the tonic.

Newark, N.J., Dec. 1, 1890. Since three years I have been suffering from extreme nervousness, dreadful pain in my head, sleeplessness, palpitation, horrible dreams, constant tremors at every slight noise. I was under the doctor's treatment for a year, and failed, when our Pastor handed me one of your bottles. After taking the first bottle of Koenig's Nerve Tonic, I felt it was helping me and continued improving wonderfully. * * * I expect to continue with the medicine.

Mess. I. F. RUSH,
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This remedy has been prepared by the Reverend
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which tends to the abnormal growth of the animal tends also to weaken it and render it liable to disease, and less able to resist disease when it comes. Hence the greatest precaution should be taken by the farmer to prevent disease, the principle, "Prevention is better than cure," being the invariable rule with him. Of the predisposing causes to disease, want of cleanliness may be placed first as most frequent and most unjustifiable; secondly, inefficient shelter; and lastly, contagion. The worst diseases which live stock are subject to are undoubtedly contagious; therefore, as in man, so in animals, the best possible thing when the least disease occurs in the stock is to thoroughly isolate the affected animals. So important to the general agriculture of the Kingdom is this subject of contagious diseases in cattle, that the Government takes it up, but not efficiently, for though something is done to prevent the spread of disease, little is done prevent the introduction of disease.

THE DAIRY.
Simple Feeding Rules.

The live weight of an animal decides its ration of support. It should be equal to 2½ per cent. in dry food matter; or not less than thirty pounds per day of good hay, or its equivalent in grain, straw ensilage or roots for a thousand-pound cow.

No definite details can be given for feeding a good cow. Her food will depend on the owner's supplies, her appetite, digestion, and the value of her marketable goods.

For a standard quality cow of 800 to 900 pounds weight at flush, making twenty-five pounds to thirty pounds of milk per day, or one and one-half pounds to two pounds of butter, it will be safe to feed her rich, digestible food. Her bran should be about ½ per cent. of her live weight, peas and oats ground, about 1 per cent., and cotton-seed meal or a mixture of linseed cake meal and cotton-seed meal in equal proportions, equal to ½ per cent. live weight, clover, 1 per cent., ensilage, roots, as carrots or mangels, or green feed in summer, according to their quality, such a quantity as will yield not less dry matter than 2 per cent. of live dry weight.

The above ration has been suggested because it represents a good variety of food, is rich, or has a close, nutritive ratio of about 1:5 to 1:5½, and will pay for a standard (fourteen-pound) cow.

The value of manorial residues must always be born in mind in choosing food. The richer the food the higher the manure value, and the greater the care required to preserve it.

The ration here given is a winter one, and a cow as good as the one in mind would earn from 60 cents to \$1 a day in milk, cream or butter.

How much to feed and how rich the food should be must always be governed by the produce and its value from calving to drying off. Intelligence and discretion must be exercised from day to day. Weigh and register every day, or at least every ten days, the cow's products. Reduce or increase her food supplies, according to her condition from calving and earning power of her produce.

The net food cost may be taken about two-thirds the value of the ration. The balance is the value of the manure.

Always give salt in the food, never less than one ounce per day, or ½ per cent. of the live weight per month.

The length of the milking period of a well-bred and well-fed cow depends on regular and persistent milking by her attendant. It should be 300 to 350 days, or within a month of calving.

Never feed turnips, cabbage, or anything which taints milk. Make changes gradually.

Birds.—These should be brought to a head by warm poultices of camomile flowers, or boiled white lily root, or onion root, by fermentation with hot water, or by stimulating plasters. When ripe they should be destroyed by a needle or lancet; but this should not be attempted until they are fully ripe.

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