

Farmer's Department.

[From the Germantown Telegraph.]

Experiment with Bone Dust.

Mr. FRANK... It has long been a mooted, and still remains an undecided question with some agriculturists, whether bone dust is of sufficient value to warrant its application in considerable quantities, or in the cultivation of those crops which require large applications of manure to sustain them.

In order to show the value of bone manure as a stimulant, I last season made the following experiment, and will give you the result. On a piece of light soil that had been pastured for a period of upwards of thirty-five years, and which had been broken up deeply, and with an even and strictly inverted surface, the previous autumn, I sowed the first crop of corn, wheat and wood ashes, half and half, after harrowing, and sowed on oats, two and three-fourths bushels to the acre, the surface being leveled by accurate measurement.

On harvesting and threshing the crop, I ascertained the following results:—The corn not manured, produced twenty-one and a half bushels; straw tall and very heavy. The acre manured with twelve bushels of wood ashes, yielded twenty-seven bushels and five quarts, with a thinner and more delicate straw, while the product of the boned and ashed manure, yielded twenty-four and a half bushels, the straw being fine and short, the principal difference being in the heads.

In another piece I planted beans. Four rows of one hundred hills each were broadcasted, the next four were manured with poddrette, the next four with wood ashes and gypsum, four rows on the side of the piece, but adjoining the other twelve, were planted without any manure whatever being applied. The after culture was in every respect precisely the same as that of the first piece. It was ascertained that the boned rows had produced double the quantity yielded by the four unmanured rows. The rows dressed with poddrette yielded somewhat less than the four treated with dust, but owing to a slight oversight, the exact quantity was not ascertained.

From these and similar data, I am persuaded not only of the value of bone dust as a manure, but of its economy as a stimulant to the extent of which it ought to be applied, and of which it is unquestionably economical.

I think that a little more liberality on the part of our agriculturists would be far more creditable, especially in the case of those who are engaged in the raising of the most scrupulous accuracy, corroborate the correctness of this opinion.

On a piece of light land, on the farm of one of my neighbors, one bushel of bone dust was sowed on grass land, rather light and thin. The surface was somewhat undulating, but not sufficiently so to be considered broken; the extent somewhat less than one-fourth of an acre. On an adjoining piece, in every respect similar in texture and constitution, one bushel of poddrette was applied, and on a third piece three bushels of ashes—all three of which articles being broadcasted at the time being the 21st of May. The land had been five years in grass without any dressing, and was rather poor. The first section, or that which had been dusted, produced seven hundred and eight pounds; the second, or that on which poddrette was used, yielded one hundred and thirty-six pounds, and the third, manured with the three bushels of ashes five hundred, eighteen and one-half pounds. The grass on the three pieces was cut on the same day, all cured alike, and weighed on the scales. The increase of yield, in consequence of the application of these substances, was considerably over thirty-five per cent.

Such facts are of importance and should be so regarded by all.

Near Dover, Dec. 19, 1855.

A DELAWARE FARMER.

AYER'S PILLS.

FAMILY PHYSIC.

There has long existed a public demand for an effective purgative pill which could be relied on as safe and perfectly safe in its operation. This is now supplied by Ayer's Pills, which have been prepared to meet this demand, and an extensive trial of its virtues has conclusively shown that it is easy to make a physical pill, but not easy to make the best of all pills—one which should be made the object of all the attention of the physician, and the daily incumbent upon every farmer, to make some effort to elucidate subjects which are of primary importance to the cause, even though by so doing he should be called to sacrifice something in pecuniary way. My own efforts have never been conducted on a large scale, nor is it necessary that experiments designed to bring out and establish facts, should be undertaken by farmers, who are too expensive to be made, and for that, if for no other reason, should never be undertaken.

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