

FARM NOTES.

Remove the old bark on the fruit trees. Scrape the trunk and large limbs and burn the scrapings to get rid of the insects hiding in the crevices.

An Ohio market gardener grows large crops of squash in his sweet corn. He plants the corn three feet apart, and leaves every fifth row for squash.

When hens pass their second laying year they are poor layers; also when they are crowded, having too many in the flock; also when fed too much corn, or when not provided with plenty of fresh water, or when their houses are kept in a filthy condition.

Hal B. Fullerton, of the Long Island Experimental farm, says the much-lauded "Burbank" cantaloupe creation turned out to be a fuzzy, slim, elongated curiosity, rather pointed at the blossom end, flat and insipid in flavor, somewhat like a cross between a raw citron and a squash.

In the garden do not miss having small patches of sage, mint, thyme and other aromatic plants. Parsley can be sown in the garden, or in a pot, and will last two or more seasons, if cared for.

Following is an approved formula for commercial fertilizer for sweet potatoes: Nitrate of soda, 100 pounds; bone meal, 100 pounds; acid phosphate, 550 pounds; muriate of potash, 250 pounds. Composition: Nitrogen, 1.8 per cent.; phosphoric acid (available), 8.5 per cent.; phosphoric acid (total), 11.2 per cent.; potash, 12.5 per cent. Application at the rate of 600 to 1200 pounds per acre.

The use of wood ashes is not now so general since potash salts have been introduced, and farmers should endeavor to learn more regarding both potash and phosphates. Experiments show that the sulphate of potash gives better results on tobacco than muriate, but strawberry growers give preference to the muriate.

The Maine Experiment Station has made some useful digestions with poultry. These experiments show that corn has a higher digestibility than any other grain tested. Wheat bran shows a low digestibility and at present prices is not an economical feed.

To restore fertility sow a mixture of oats and peas early in the spring, plow down just before the oats ripen and sow to the acre 15 pounds crimson clover and a half-bushel of oats. Plow again in the first part of October and sow to rye, adding such grass seeds as desired, and in March of the next spring broadcast eight pounds of red cloverseed to the acre.

The fibre in the plant cut green has the same food value as starch—when the plant is mature the fibre becomes largely indigestible as in starch. Fat serves the same purpose in the animal body as starch; it is more concentrated, having two and one-fourth times as much nutrient in a given weight.

The importance of shading plants should be thoroughly understood by horticulturists, and it is timely that the matter be considered now. Shaded potatoes produced weaker vines, but kept free from fungus growth longer.

Onions seemed to be little affected by shading. Shaded carrots produced more foliage but smaller roots. Shaded plants of the second crop of lettuce were much better and larger than unshaded ones.

An enterprising poultry dealer in Boston for years has had many carloads of geese bought and shipped to his large farm in Mansfield, Mass. When the writer visited the farm he saw 9,000 geese, Toulouse and African, but the majority were a cross between the wild goose and the African.

The geese are brought here in September and October and kept until Christmas. One man cares for the whole flock. They are fed twice daily on a mash of corn meal mixed with water. Sometimes whole or cracked corn is substituted for the mash. A brook and an artificial pond supply with water.

Mrs. Grundy. The first mention of Mrs. Grundy is found in Morton's clever comedy "Speed the Plow." Farmer Ashfield, at table with his jug and pipe, is talking to his wife on her return from market.

"Well, dame, welcome whom. What news does thee bring from market?" "What news, husband? What I always told you—that Farmer Grundy's wheat brought 5 shillings a quarter more than ours did."

"All the better for her!" "Ah, the sun seems to shine on purpose for him."

"Come, come, missus, as thee has not the grace to thank God for prosperous times, dan't three grumble when they be unkindly a bit."

No Mystery About It. The other night after Harker was safe in bed there came a mysterious tapping below his window.

With visions of burglars Harker picked up his revolver and slipped through the halls in his pajamas. Cautiously he searched the cellar with a lighted candle, but it was empty.

Announcements. The following are the prices charged for announcements in this column: Sheriff \$8.00, Prothonotary \$8.00, Treasurer \$8.00, Registrar \$8.00, Recorder \$8.00. All other offices \$5.00.

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Method in Her Breakage. "Augusta is an awfully bright girl, isn't she?" "Yes, indeed. When she is reading a novel on the front porch her mother never thinks of asking her to wash the dishes."

Conscience Versus Art. Shortly after Tennyson's poem "The Vision of Sin" appeared an eminent mathematician sent the poet a letter that ran like this: "Dear Sir—I find in a recent poem of yours, entitled 'The Vision of Sin,' the following unwarranted statement: 'Every moment dies a man, and every moment one is born.' I need hardly point out that this calculation, if correct, would tend to keep the sum total of the world's population in a state of perpetual equipoise, whereas it is an established fact that the said population is constantly on the increase."

That's the Way They All Do. An enthusiastic citizen about to visit Europe was rejoicing over the fact and the pleasure to come. "How delightful it will be," he said to his wife, "to tread the bounding billows and inhale the invigorating oxygen of the sea, the sea, the boundless sea! I long to see it—to breathe in great drafts of life giving air. I shall want to stand every moment on the prow of the steamer with my mouth open."

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