

GOOD SEED CORN TEST

"Rag Doll Baby" Pronounced as Greatest of Infants.

Cheapest Tester Which Can Be Made—All That Is Needed Is Few Yards of Sheet of Good Quality, Torn into Strips.

The Rag Doll Baby, scientifically known as the rag doll seed corn tester, has been pronounced the greatest infant of recent years. Also the most popular because it has been nursed by a majority of the school children of the United States.

Not only did this pet in its first year make two blades of grass grow for one, but it claims credit for last year's banner corn crop. It is said to have added millions to the crop's value.

This is merely an inexpensive arrangement whereby progressive farmers and their children test seed corn before planting. Half a dozen kernels of corn are taken from each ear of seed corn, the kernels are laid on numbered squares of cloth, the cloth dampened and rolled together and loosely tied. A score or more of "babies" are placed in a pail or tub of lukewarm water and left there for about 12 to 18 hours. Five to eight days later the cloths are carefully unrolled and the kernels examined



"Rag Doll" Tester and Rolls.

carefully. In all cases in which all the kernels are not strong in germination the ear should be thrown away, for no farmer can afford to plant seed that will not germinate.

For the rag doll test buy a few yards of sheet of good quality and tear it into strips 8 inches wide and from three to five feet long. If it is planned to use the strips a number of times, hem the edges, as otherwise the ravelings sometimes disarrange the kernels in unrolling. There is no cheaper, more convenient and accurate method of testing seed corn than by the rag doll tester. A few of its advantages are:

The cheapest tester which can be made.

Anyone can make the tester in a moment's time.

Corn may be placed in the tester and the test read approximately as quickly as any other tester.

If one wishes to use the "water" method, the construction of this tester is well adapted for this. If saturated atmosphere with moist cloth contact is desired, this may be secured by leaving the rolls in the water only long enough to become thoroughly moistened.

Less mold develops in this tester than in any other.

May be disinfected for mold most easily.

Very compact, and can be moved from one place to another without difficulty.

All parts of the kernel, roots, shoots, etc., can be readily seen.

Gives an accurate test, as indicated by field results.

Business Methods Needed. Few owners of the smaller poultry plant know what percentage of profits their flocks do yield. Many of these may know how much they spend for feed during the year, and how many eggs the hens laid within the twelve months, but further than that they cannot give any figures of the cost of production or the actual profits from the sales. Adopt business methods in your poultry plant.

GENERAL FARM NOTES

When the small weeds are killed there will be no big ones.

Give the team many breathing spells during the first weeks of spring work.

Whenever a farmer gets the auto fever he at once becomes a good-road preacher.

That producer is most successful who keeps himself best in the line of the works.

The ground for sweet clover seed should be prepared the same as for alfalfa or clover.

Go slow with the first few days' plowing; the horses are soft, and must be worked in carefully.

In a corn-growing territory cowpeas are mostly grown with corn, sowing broadcast or otherwise.

The clover seed crop depends very largely upon the condition of the ground and the weather.

To kill Canadian thistle in a field put the field in some cultivated crop and keep the weeds down.

Many growers say that weeds are as valuable as fertilizers as clover and cowpeas if they are turned under every year.

Soil taken from a well-established alfalfa field and spread on land to be sown to alfalfa is a very good way to inoculate it.

Rotation of crops is one of the simple, practical methods of increasing the productivity of the farm and distributing labor.

The farmer often makes a mistake by trying to do too much. Till less ground and cultivate it better and there will be more profit in it.

SHEEP REQUIRE MUCH SALT

Best Method Is to Keep Substance Before Animals at All Times—Only Mineral Needed.

Sheep on pasture are often neglected as far as salting is concerned. They are either salted irregularly or not at all. When salt is not supplied to them in sufficient quantities they crave it intensely, and, as has been demonstrated by experiments, will not make the gains nor grow the wool they will if properly salted, says the National Stockman. Salt is often considered a seasoning for the food of animals and not an essential. It is the only mineral which ordinarily needs to be supplied to livestock. No sheep can do its best without enough salt.

Salting every few days is sufficient for the needs of the sheep, but it is not as good a method as keeping salt before the sheep all the time, as when a rush of work comes or a visiting time comes salting the sheep is one of the things neglected. When salt is given after a period of neglect the sheep are so eager for it that they take too much and large quantities of water are needed to wash it out of the system, some of this being drawn from the tissues of the body to the detriment of the sheep.

VALUE OF FARMYARD MANURE

There Are Various Losses in Quantity Which Constituents Suffer Before Reaching Fields.

(By R. G. WEATHERSTONE.) Remember that the constituents of animal excrement are in the condition of greatest value as manure at the time when they leave the animals; after mixing with litter and piled in the barnyard their value is greatly reduced.

During the fermentation of the manure with the straw and refuse of the stable and barnyard, the constituents enter into new combination the ammonia produced, which contains the nitrogen combines with the humic acids formed from the decomposing litter, forming insoluble compounds. Thus they are not so quickly available to the plants as the original excrement.

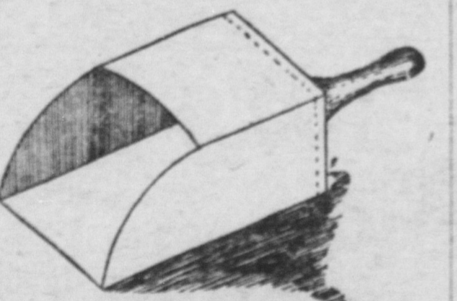
There are also various losses in quantity which the constituents may suffer before they reach the land. In the yard much urine may run to waste. Ammonia will disappear as gas in the stable during the decomposition of the urine, and further loss of nitrogen may occur in the barnyard.

USEFUL ARTICLES FOR BARN

Scoop Illustrated Made of Old Gallon Can—Convenient Size for Bran or Mill-feed Bin.

Half-gallon, gallon and two-gallon cans, such as those in which varnish, oils, paints and maple syrup are put up—any of these may be made into useful articles for house or barn.

The scoop illustrated is made of an oil can that holds one gallon. This is a convenient size for the bran or mill-feed bin, but for the oats bin I want



Grain Scoop Easily Made.

one made of a two-gallon can cut in the same shape. The dotted lines next to the handle show the position of an inch board that should fit the bottom of the can real tight, so that the can may be tacked to this piece of wood and the handle is fastened to the scoop by a large wood screw running through the bottom of the can into the end of the handle. Do not use these scoops in the salt barrel, as the salt will soon rust them so they will be unfit for use. For the salt barrel a scoop may be made of wood by nailing four pieces of boards together and cutting to a shape similar to the scoop shown in the drawing.

Neglected Artichoke.

This plant which can be grown in almost any garden makes a delicious change in the vegetable dishes for the table. The plant is perennial but declines rapidly and should be reset every three years.

It is propagated from seed and the suckers are set out producing edible heads the second year. The heads are from three to four inches in diameter and are ready to eat for the table just before they open.

For picking the heads are often taken when about half grown. The leaves are sometimes blanched and eaten and these form the salad plants which are seen on the market.

Weaning a Kid.

When one has sale for their goat's milk the kid should be taken from the mother immediately and fed from a bottle because cow's milk is cheaper than goat's milk. Dilute the cow's milk, sweeten slightly and the little fellow will soon learn to like it. Give a kid the bottle six or seven times a day and in four months wean him.

Have Object in Mating.

When mares are bred much will be gained if they are mated with some general object in view—that the colt shall be a draft horse, saddle horse, farm horse or something definite.

AL DEMAREE IS BEST OF YOUNG GIANTS



Pitcher Al Demaree.

(This is the way the baseball expert of the Cincinnati Times-Star sizes up the net results of the 1913 training trips in the National league, so far as the recruits are concerned.)

"Many are called, but few are chosen," is a motto which always verifies itself so far as the bush recruits are concerned—and the old adage seems to be given special verification this particular season. Out of the vast herd drafted last fall, only a few survive, and most of these are pitchers.

Very few infield or outfield sluggers have materialized, and very few star catchers. Even of the youngsters who will be there on April 10, 60 per cent will fall by the wayside ere June 1 arrives.

Cincinnati—It looks as if the Red percentage of wins has been unusually large. Of the autumn drafts, or absolutely new men, McManus, Smith and Dahlgren seem to be valuable. Packard, Kyle and Blackburn, of course, were with the team at the close of 1912, and cannot be counted as brand new.

Boston—It is possible that the Boston Nationals have dug up some good young pitchers, but nothing is yet assured in this particular. Metz, first baseman, who can hit 'em hard, appears to have caught on. Maranville, the shortstop, who was tried out last fall, has made good and will remain.

Brooklyn—May—possibly—have landed two live outfielders, Callahan and Myers, and may likewise have a kid pitcher or two worth retaining. Stengel of the 1912 reinforcements looked good in September and bids fair to keep his place.

Chicago—There seem to be no real prizes among the Cub drafts—not a single one. Berghammer is "so worse," but there were too many veterans ahead of him. Pierce, who is pitching nicely, was tried last season, and Powell is a veteran now, coming back after a season in the bush, so that these fellows cannot be classified as novices.

New York—Demaree, the best of the young Giants, was added last fall and was in a game or two at that period. McGraw thinks he has—maybe and perhaps—a good outfielder named Cooper. Back, back to the jungle with nearly all the rest.

Philadelphia—If Philadelphia has any real reinforcements, they are as yet modest, blushing violets, and probably not over one or two debutantes will appear in Dood's roster after the season is well started.

Pittsburgh—Has nothing in the brand-new line, a couple of new men, who look good, being really call-backs from the farm.

St. Louis—Miller Huggins thinks he

has actually bagged a fine infielder named Whalen. If so, he has about the only big infield piece secured by the entire National league. The rest of Hug's new birds all had a trial last fall, excepting a catcher named Hildebrand, just picked up and looking quite capable. In 115 games last year this Hildebrand had 161 assists—some thrower. Batting record, .252. Fielding, .972.

Out of all the novices who had their first glimpse of big league doings in the March training camps, the National league seems to have landed just about one first baseman, one general infielder, one catcher, two outfielders, and maybe ten pitchers. The rest are going back to the crossroads, disappointed. Few, indeed, were chosen this particular year.

STORIES OF THE DIAMOND

They say Frank Schulte, the heavy-hitting outfielder of the Cubs, breaks fifty bats a year.

McGraw has pledged himself to follow a hands-off policy in regard to umpires again this year.

Gonzales, the Cuban catcher, will catch probably a third of the Boston Nationals' games this year.

President Farrell's praise of Chance and his work is of the unstinted variety and pleasing to the fans.

"The Browns will finish in the first or second divisions sure," is the opinion of a well-known sport writer.

Catcher Tony James, who was the only hold-out on the Kansas City roster, was sold to the St. Paul club.

Ray Keating, the \$5,000 beauty secured from Lawrence by New York, has struck his gait and is showing a lot of stuff.

Do you know that the greatest number of stolen bases was made by Harry Stovey? While playing with the Athletics back in 1888 Harry pilfered 156 sacks.

Charley Comiskey killed a canard with these words: "I'll release Fournier to Sacramento the same day I sell Ed Walsh to another minor league club."

Acosta and Calvo, the Cubans with Clark Griffith's team, are remarkable judges of balls and strikes, and have not been known to offer at a bad one since joining the Senators.

HOT RACE PREDICTED

Stahl Does Not Claim Flag for Champion Red Sox.

Prepared for Hard Fight Which Is Sure to Come in the American League—Praises Callahan and Frank Chance.

Chicago entertained J. Garland Stahl and his world champions for a little over an hour the other day while they were changing trains on their way back to Boston.

"We are not claiming a world's championship nor even a league flag at this time," said Stahl. "This is not the time for claiming championships, but the time to prepare for the fight which is sure to come in the American league this year. We are ready for the opening, and I have cut the team down below the limit."

"In my opinion the coming struggle will be the hardest in the history of our organization. Looking over the field that is entered in the American League derby, I figure that to win a pennant we will have the most strenuous struggle with the White Sox, Athletics and the Senators. Any one of those three teams are pennant contenders, and I realize that to repeat our performance of last season we will have to go just a little better than any one of them."

"Jimmy Callahan has the strongest crew of talent that has represented the South side club in several years, and if the hitting strength of the team anywhere near equals the defense, I fear that they will be at or near the top from the start."

"I dread sending my boys against any team that has an Ed Walsh, and from all reports Edward Walsh is doing mound duty for Cal. Walsh is a thorn in the side of every manager in the American league circuit with the exception of Cal, and if he is able to perform as good and as often as he did in 1912 seven pilots in the circuit want to do plenty of worrying."

"Callahan was able to get his team out ahead last year, but when at the top his twirling staff went to pieces. If he can rely upon Scott, White and Benz to pitch in their regular turns with Lange and one other to step in when needed he will have a staff which will do its share to keep them out in front if they get there at the start."

"The Athletics are a strong defensive aggregation, and if Connie Mack can keep his pitchers in trim they will



Jake Stahl.

give us a great deal of trouble. Clark Griffith can always be counted upon to put nine men on the field who will fight until the last out in the ninth. His pitching crew, led by Johnson, is one of the best in the organization.

"Although I do not think that the New York team can be counted in the first division at the end of the season, I do expect that they will not receive call in the cellar. Frank Chance will bring the Highlanders to the top of the second division. From all that I have been able to learn Chance has succeeded in injecting a fair amount of pep into the team, and a New York team will be seen in eight cities this year.

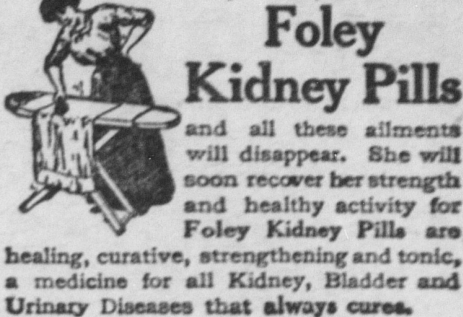
"The fans may think that it sounds funny for me to be predicting such pleasing things for Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington and New York, but I do not want them to gaily the opinion that we expect to walk away with the league flag. Boston will be fighting from the lead at the beginning, but made an uphill fight to obtain the honors. This season I think that my boys will get out ahead at the get-way, and if we get the break of luck that we are entitled to we will stay right around the place where all teams like to rest at the end of the struggle."

Steinfeldt With Lynchburg.

Harry Steinfeldt, once the pride of the west side, has signed to play third and captain the Lynchburg (Va.) United States league team.

Helping a Woman

Generally means helping an entire family. Her back aches so she can hardly drag around. Her nerves are on edge and she is nearly wild. Headache and sleeplessness unfit her for the care of her family. Rheumatic Pains and Lumbago rack her body. But, let her take



Foley Kidney Pills

and all these ailments will disappear. She will soon recover her strength and healthy activity for. **Foley Kidney Pills** are healing, curative, strengthening and tonic, a medicine for all Kidney, Bladder and Urinary Diseases that always cures.

A Hundred Years Ago. There were strong indications that Europe would become involved in a disastrous war.

It was feared by some people that the government at Washington was going to wreck things beyond the possibility of repair.

Hetty Green hadn't saved a cent. Indiana had less than twenty successful authors.

It was generally believed that the rich were getting richer and the poor poorer.

Old inhabitants were insisting that the climate had changed for the worse since they were boys.

No Englishman had considered it necessary to write his impressions of the United States.

May Have Cure for Neuralgia.

One never gets much sympathy for neuralgia—nor seasickness, presumably because they do not kill. But people have died from the results of seasickness and the list of those who have been driven to suicide by neuralgia would be a startling one.

Now comes Dr. Rudolph Matas of New Orleans with a statement that neuralgia may be cured by injections of alcohol into the nerve ganglions at the base of the skull. This gratifying discovery justifies the hope that the triumphant progress of medical science will presently enable our physicians to alleviate headaches and colds.

Important to Mothers. Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher*. In Use For Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria.

In Gay New York. "My dear," said the New York man, "where did you get the new waitress?" "She says she used to be in vaudeville," replied his wife.

"Good. Now we can have home dinners with cabaret features."

Paternal Wisdom. "Pa, what is a classic?" "That depends, my son. A classic in Kentucky is a horse race."

When a young widow gets on a bachelor's trail, it's only a matter of time.

A Weak Stomach?

Have you indigestion or dyspepsia, a torpid liver or any other of the many ills coming from a weak stomach?

DR. PIERCE'S Golden Medical Discovery for forty years has done a "lion's share" in eliminating these distressing ailments.

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