FARMERS' COLUMN.

Stock and Dairy.

Those who go to live-stock exhibitions can make object lessons of such fairs. The different breeds are before visitors to study. Never mind the horse races.

To grade up a herd always breed from the best and most valuable specimens and to do that you must know which are the most valuable. As to cows, you must know how much milk they give in a year.

To force a herd of cows into an open field during such weather as August and September of this year has afforded, with no shelter from the sun, calls for an admonition from the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. And in what condition will pasture pastured now be in the next year?

The managers of the Chicago Fat-stock Show require the exact age in days of each animal to be given, together with its weight on the scales. This is an excellent plan, much better than to say so many years. What we want in all such matters is exactness. The *National Live Stock Journal* very justly claims that the kind and quantity of food given should also be reported, so that the cost can be known.

If the advancing prices of grain result in educating farmers to better methods in stock feeding it will not be without its value, particularly at the West. Feeding whole corn to cattle, with a herd of swine to follow them and live on their droppings or starve is one of the reforms this drouth ought to accelerate. But drouth or no drouth, the man who starves his herds this fall and winter because feed is higher than common is not much of a farmer. He had better reduce expenses at his own table, and generally it can be done to advantage there.

Fruit Notes.

A good early pear is Osban's summer. It is larger and finer than the Doyenne d'Ete, and is a prolific bearer.

The yellow rust on blackberries, raspberries and wheat is said to be the same thing, and is produced by minute microscopic insects.

The country needs more fruit evaporators. But then the work should be done at a price within the reach of farmers, and not quite all the fruits used up in tolls.

A good sort of a drink can be made from pears, the regular name for which is "perry." Perry and cider mixed, and kept sweet for winter use by salecylic acid, is a fine winter drink.

The plan for keeping winter apples under water, so as to thoroughly exclude air and maintain a low temperature, ought to be thoroughly tested by experiment stations and such farmers as have the facilities for experiments of this sort,

When a grower has nice things to store away, put in shallow boxes deep enough for one layer and ventilated at the sides. One box covers the last one, and when you want to examine you can see every specimen without handling, unless to turn over.

A correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* put a tesspoonful of sulphur under his strawberry plants at planting to keep white grubs from eating them and succeeded, but recently he noticed his plants to be wilting and dying from small green lice on the roots, some of them so small as scarcely to be recognized by the naked eve. So if sulphur keeps one insect away it fails on another.

Blackberries can be grown year after year without manure (in a suitable climate), and will pay better than corn; but they will pay much better still to be regularly and thoroughly fertilized each year. The berries will be much larger, a greater crop can be carried, and if the manure is fine and rich the land will stand a drouth better. A yield of a hundred bushels per acre is much better than thirty or forty, and the berries sell better also. Fine fruit pays.

Clapp's Favorite is a pear deserving of more attention than it gets. It ripens ahead of the Bartlett, is about as large and more showy, and in the judgment of many is of better quality, and it brings, so far, better prices than the Bartlett's average. But it must be promptly picked when its growth is attained without being allowed to ripen on the tree, or it will rot at the core, and then all the grower's hopes are spoiled. But a little acquaintance with it will tell when it should be picked.

FARM NOTES.

The wool crops of California and Oregon are twenty per cent. better than last year.

The wet spring and dry July were favorable to oats, and people who grow this crop did well this year.

A boy out West recently cured a hen of setting by the aid of fire, but it cost the owner of the stable $300 where the operation was preformed.

Toads bring about $15 a hundred in Paris as insect catchers. The gardeners buy them. Perhaps the breeding of toads may yet become an industry.

Oregon is the State from which an increased wheat crop will be exported. The surplus is estimated at 300,000 tons. The California crop is estimated at one-third less than last year.

Tomatoes are better to be picked before full ripeness is attained, and for market they must be. But many sent to market are picked at too early an age, as the flavor is harmed by it.

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M. M. D. Goodwin, an editor in Chardon, Ohio, says he was not expected to live, being bloated beyond belief, but Kidney-Wort cured him.

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