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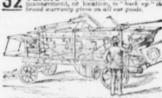
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The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PA

AGRICULTURAL. NEWS, FACTS AND SUGGESTIONS.

THE TEST OF THE NATIONAL WELFARE IS THE INTELLI-GENCE AND PROSPERTY OF THE FARMER.

Every farmer in his annual experience discover's armer in his annual experience discovers something of value. Write it and send it to the "Agricultural Editor of the Demogram, Bellefonte, Penn'u," that other farmers may have the benefit of it. Let communications be timely, and be sure that they we have for mental the constraint of the constraint and the sure that they are brief and well pointed.

A Constant and Honored Place for Rye.

endent of New York Teiber It has been a favorite practice with me to sow rye on every available space unoccupied by a regular farm crop, or as soon as such crop is takfrom the ground, except where wheat or grass was to follow instead. This I do either to preoccupy the ground to prevent its growing up to weeds or to raise a green crop to be ploughed under, or for pasturing, or for a crop, or for both the latter purposes. I think rye is preferable to any other grain for these uses, be ing the most hardly and reliable of all. I have sown it any time from July to and through December, and had it to do most equally well; have sown in corn at the last cultivating; pastured it all the fall after the corn was taken off, and the next May ploughed under a heavy green crop to plant potatoes. Have sowed it the middle of August, then pastured all the late fall and early spring, then saved it for a good harvest crop. Have sowed it the first of September, and after the ground was frozen; in winter it would furnish the stock quite an amount of green feed.

At other times I have sowed rye just before winter set in, either November or December, when it would come up very early in the spring and give a very fair crop. No weather or treatment or insect seems to affect it much. Have ploughed a heavy growth of it under in November and in December, when every inch of earth in the furrow-slice would be permeated with the white rootlets of this hardy growing crop, and such a dense body of it as to keep the frost out, allowing it to be ploughed after other ground was frozen hard. Have ploughed it under in May, when it was three and a half feet high, using a chain, and the hoed crop on that ground would resist the drouth, as the land seemed to hold the moisture better than any other. It is sometimes thought to be better, when designed for a crop, to have rye pastured rather close until say the 10th of

On this same principle I have heard of some mowing the early growth off before its heading, and after that obtain a fair harvest crop, but I would not recommend this except on strong, rich land. Some would not sow rye on their farms, for they say they never get rid of it, but it would come up in crops for years afterward; but I pay no attention whatever to such complaints, for in making them such men ac-knowledge that they are not masters of their profession, and if it was not rye they would let weeds, or thistles, or some other foul growth take more or less of the space and of the plantfood which should have gone to make a good clean crop for the husband-

Houses for Hired Help.

H. T. Brooks in the Home and Farm,

find few comfortable houses to live in. village to shelter their families. This and why their saloons and almshouses find customers, while the country depopulates, and the farmers suffer from the lack of help.

Country rents should be cheaper than city rents. Country tenements should be more pleasant, convenient, healthful and every way desirable than city tenements. There is abundant opportunity to make them so, and it is a shame and a disgrace to farmers if they are otherwise. Country employment should be as agreemand of our agriculture is more labor to the acre, and this is the way to get it—give workmen comfortable

This will enable workmen to board themselves, when required, to the to thorough cultivation and good fergreat relief of many overworked tilizing as kindly as does corn, and farmers' wives. This will supply commands about the same price in children's help, often very convenmade up to the great advantage of every party concerned. Let us have houses for farm laborers.

It forty bushels can be raised on an acre, it is a penny wise and pound foolish policy to raise only fourteen and a half.

From the Bural New Yorker.

a row of corn, etc." The above, using phosphates and other artificial from a recent editorial in the Rural, will be accepted as true according to the value each individual places on the value each individual places on the merit and thoroughness of the hoeing and the object sought. The term "to hoe" covers a wide range of soil manipulations, and the operation is one of the most important of all the small labors in the garden, and if but "little skill is required to the most important of and if but "little skill is required to The next spring at planting time suhoe a hill of corn," in my experience that little is more than one in ten ordinary laboring men possesses. hoeing corn consists merely in hauling the earth to, and making a mound up around, the stalks to shed off the rain, then I yield the point at once and where the cultivator has been freely and properly used, the area about a hill of corn, for the skillful exercise of the hoe is, I confess, very limited, and in many cases is regarded as not existing. Aside from the destruction of weeds, hoeing corn, as I use the term, embraces breaking the crust, loosening and pulverizing the soil close in and about the stalks and roots of the young plants for the free passage of warmth, air and moisture, and leaving the ground nearly

level. In the finer and more varied operations of the garden or field culture of small fruits, the hoe plays a more important part, and in strawberry culture especially it is the most im-portant of all implements used, and requires more skill to use it expertly than many people are aware of. In all my long experience I have never found a hand who, after years of trial and repeated showing, could or would hoe a row of strawberries so nearlike one of my own-which he was to imitate-but that I could tell at a glance which was his. From this I conclude that skill and imitationthe former being the successful application of the latter-are qualities seldom found or successfully developed in such material as we have to rely on for help on the farm or in the garden. In other words, com-petent and skillful hoers are like angels' visits-few and far between.

Care of Stock in Warm Weather.

From the American Cultivator,

As the days grow warmer the ticks will increase upon the sheep, and become more troublesome. A strong decoction of tobacco in water, used as a dip, or poured along the back, will destroy them. There are several sheep dips advertised in our col-umns; these are effective and safe, and ready for use. As the lambs in-crease in size the dams suffer, and the lambs must either be fed some May, or thereabouts, after which it meal daily, or the ewes must be given will grow not quite so tall but even, an abundance of rich food. Lambs can begin to eat at four or five weeks, and thus relieve the ewes.

Pigs need a clean place, and breeding sows should be by themselves, with an abundance of cut straw or chaff for litter.

coat begins to loosen the skin is irritated. An ounce of equal parts land, and his manure could be apeach of sulphur and cream of tartar, given with the food for a few days, good. will correct this. Good grooming with a soft brush should not be neglected. Ground feed, mixed with cut hay, is the best food in the spring for working horses. An occasional feed of cut beets or potatoes is use-With many experienced horseman an occasional feed of half a peck of potatoes is regarded a remedy for worms in horses. However this may be, they improve the gener-One chief reason why farmers are all condition of the animal in a most short of hands is, that laborers can positive manner. The main point is should be turned loose in a box stall upon this.

Many of the growers of buck-wheat, says Mr. Hyde, in the New York Times, act as though the crop was hardly worth raising, putting it out on poor land, half plowed, and fertilized not at all. The consequence is a small, unprofitable yield. Fourteen and a half bushels were the average per acre in Massachusetts by able, constant and renumerative as the last census. Now, while it is time. can be had elsewhere. The great de- true that this grain will grow where other grain would scorn to grow, it is poor policy to plow and go through all the other motions for raising a houses at fair rent, and ample gar-dens with current bushes and fruit buckwheat is worth raising, let us trees; they won't resist the tempta-tion. raise a decent crop. Forty, fifty and even seventy bushels are reported by some growers. Buckwheat responds market. If forty bushels can be

A MODERATE sized garden, well en The two implements which do the most towards liberating the fertilizing minerals from the soil are the harrow and cultivator. The more these are used the less weeds we shall have, and the more fertile will be the land.

The two implements which do the most towards liberating the small fruits and vegetables in abundance for a large family during the six months of summer and autumn, and partly for the rest of the year; and I know no "greater general economy and thrift," than in this. Potatoes Without Manure.

"It requires but a little skill to hoe toes can be profitably cultivated by "A. B.," Derby, Vt., asks if potahill or drill, mixing it with the soil before planting. At the last hoeing —or just before, so that it may be mixed with the soil—a generous handful of wood ashes is applied to the hill, or in drills to each plant. Excellent crops have been raised in this manner, without manure, but the clover is an important part of the preparation, and should not be omit-

> PEAS IN Succession .- A kitchen gardner, writing to the Journal of Horticulture about the 20th of July, gives the information that he has been gathering Peas from the same rows for five weeks. "As soon as the first few blooms were open the plants were topped, which caused lateral growths to issue from bottom to top of each stem, and these are now blooming and fruiting most abundantly-in fact, the crop is much larger than from the first main stems."; This practice, he remarks, will, in good soil, more than double the pro-

A PRACTICA' New Jersey farmer writes to the Farm Journal: "The average yield per acre of the corn crop of the country should be in-creased at least one-third could the farmers be brought to see the importance of thorough cultivation, and act accordingly. Most of us pride ourselves more on how many acres we farm than of how well we have cultivated them. Corn delights in a warm soil, and the roots do not penetrate the cold subsoil to any great extent in search of plant food, consequently we should plow soil intended for this crop shallow—not more than three or four inches."

Brood mares that are worked with care are apt to do quite as well as those who do nothing but eat. In all cases they should have a roomy box stall or small yard to run in when not at work for at least one month, before they are expected to foal. When the foal is four or five days old, the mare can be safely put to work again, if she is well, but should not be kept from the colt more than a few hours till it is at least a month old. Never let the colt follow the mare.

THERE are a great many farms and fields that can never be cultivated at a profit. These, if planted with forest trees, such as chestnuts, oaks of different varieties, pines and larches, Horses that have had good care would produce a growth of timber will come out in the spring in good which would be a source of profit, trim for the season's work. As the and then the energies of the farmer might be concentrated upon the best

> In setting out current bushes care should be exercised not to place any buds under ground, or they will push out as so many suckers. Currants are great feeders, and should be highly manured. To destroy the worm, steep one tablespoonful of hellebore in a pint of water, and sprinkle the bushes. Two or three sprinklings are sufficient for one sea-

To be a farmer on the noblest keep the horses in good health and scale is to be first and continually at a fair rent, convenient to their business. They must take the vows great part of the spring work. As man on a large scale, alive to all huggest part of the spring work. As time approaches, brood mares be turned loose in a box stall great march of the times by keeping is why the villiages and cities grow, and receide the most gentle treat- himself informed of all its movement, as the temper and disposition ments and in sympathy with them; of the colt is thought to depend much | making in short, the most of himself and his opportunities.

THE liquid waste from many barnyards, if properly utilized by mixing it with soil or muck, and made into a compost, or rather a phosphate, by adding about twenty per cent. in bulk of finely-ground bones, and mixing and turning the mass over until it is done heating, will be a substance of great value for corn-hills at planting

ONE of the oldest and most successful corn growers in the country says that he invariably obtains more shelled corn to the acre from the eight-rowed than from the twelverowed varieties.

THOSE who desire good, large currants should trim the bushes, cutting out the old wood. The present is also a good time to work in some manure. Currants will pay for extra care and culture.

FRESH blood should be mixed yearly with the breeding stock to ensure health, size and stamina.

A HANDFUL of copperas to eight quarts of water cures poultry, and keeps them free from the disease

MANURE will do the most good near the surface, where it is subject to the influence of warmth and air.