

FARM, FIELD AND GARDEN.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURISTS.

How and When to Make Good Cider - The Best Cider Apples and the Best Machines for Grinding Them - Suggestions to Buyers of Commercial Fermenters.

As a rule the fruit of seedling trees, or natural fruit, as it is called, is better for cider than any of the popular table varieties. The best ciders, therefore, are rather small, hard and sound late-leavers.

Among the best are Haver's cider, Waugh's crab, Harrison apple and some red rats. Golden russet, Newcomb pippin and any other apples, sound and hard at the time of grinding, will make good cider, but such varieties are usually more valuable for other purposes.

The best machine for grinding apples for cider is one that rasps or grates them into fine pieces. The object is to get out the juice and have as little pulp as possible in the pomace.

When ground, the pomace should remain in the trough over night before it is pressed. Straight, clean straw is the best straining material for laying up the cider, and all this material should be thoroughly cleaned before and second using.

Cider should never be filtered with water in any way that will dilute it, and the colder it can be kept, without freezing and thawing, the slower it will be turning to an acid condition.

In addition to placing in large casks as soon as made, it should be cleaned by skimming the scum from the top and drawing off the clear liquid from the sediment at the bottom.

The principle of fruit preservation lies in excluding it from contact with the germs of fermentation and decay, microscopic organisms floating in the atmosphere.

The value of milk for laying hens has been frequently urged and now poultry yards call attention to its use for fattening purposes.

What Others Say. In regard to being stings as a relief for rheumatism, as has lately been claimed, a bee keeper writes: "I have suffered with rheumatism for three years and have handled bees every season, and this summer I was badly stung while living a swarm, and I am sure I never get any relief from the stings."

The Annual Days of a Tree. In a recent work by Professor Hogg it is stated that a count of the annual rings of a tree when cut three or four feet from the ground will not give the accurate age of the tree.

AMONG THE BEES.

The Workers Which Dominate the Hive. The Queen and the Drones.

In the New England states the races of bees are the Italian, black and gray. The middle states generally have Italian, black and their crosses. Farmers in the south, who have only a few hives, keep generally the common black bees, but advanced beekeepers have Italian and their crosses almost entirely.

As persons in general have rather imperfect ideas of what constitutes a colony of bees, a few facts in regard to them, gathered from different sources, may prove interesting.

The queen, the mother of the colony, consists of a queen, several thousands of workers and, during a part of the year, a few hundred drones. The queen is the mother of the whole colony, and while she is called a queen, she is really more of a reproductive machine than a monarch.

Practically the workers dominate the hive. As stated by Mr. W. McLain in a report to Dr. Riley, the United States Department of Agriculture, the queen, the drones and the workers, each have their own special duties to perform.

ALL ABOUT GLANDERS. A Veterinary Surgeon's Opinions - Preventive Measures - The Good Safeguard. Equine glanders and farcy are probably the most widely diffused of all the diseases that affect our domestic animals.

The disease is caused by a bacillus, which is found in every state in the Union. It is not a disease common to a warm climate. It is unknown in India and was unknown in Mexico until it was introduced there by the horses of the United States army in 1847.

It is a disease of the respiratory tract, and is characterized by a discharge from the nostrils and a swelling of the glands under the lower jaw.

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ASHES AS A MANURE.

The Valuable Ingredients Contained, with Directions for Applying Them.

It has been abundantly demonstrated by analysis and experiment that ashes of mineral origin are practically of no value as fertilizers, although the use of them in stony soils is sometimes recommended as beneficial.

With the ashes of wood the case is quite different. They are divided into soft wood and hard wood, and the soft wood is the most valuable of fertilizers.

The valuable ingredients of wood ashes are potash, lime and phosphoric acid, potash leading in importance, according to the analysis of the ash.

The soft wood, however, is not so rich in potash as the hard wood, and is sometimes difficult to decide to which of these ingredients the useful effect exerted by wood ashes is due.

In general, it may be said that a dressing of from twenty to forty bushels of wood ashes is sufficient for an acre of land, and that the best time to apply them is in the fall.

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5A HORSE BLANKETS. ARE THE STRONGEST. SUMMER CORSETS!

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