

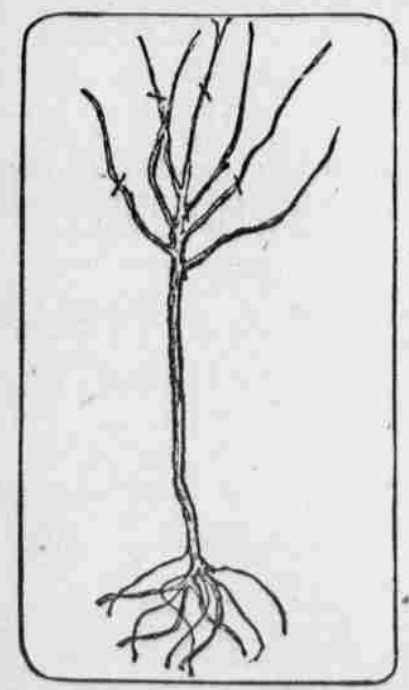
THE BACKYARD FARMER BY Prof. John Willard Bolte

We are frequently asked to give suggestions regarding the best way to utilize the ordinary city back yard for gardening purposes.

Dwarf cherries or dwarf apples may be planted against the other walls, where they will take up very little room, but care must be taken that plants near the north side of any wall are far enough away to get some sunshine.

Horticultural Advice

Care Should Be Exercised Not to Touch Lower Limbs When Not Necessary—Keep Low-Headed.



Cutting Back Trees. best to cut the entire top off about three feet from the ground and depend upon forming the top from limbs which come out below this point.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA. In Bankruptcy No. 2442. WHEELER, Bankrupt.

Peach trees can stand more severe pruning than either cherry or apple. Peach trees should generally be cut off about 18 inches from the ground, and if these are any branches below that point they should be cut back to the first or second bud.

CUTTING OUT USELESS CANES

Should Be Removed Soon After Bearing, as They Draw Sap That Ought to Go to New Ones.

It will pay you well to remove raspberry and blackberry canes soon after bearing, for they draw from the roots some of the sap that should go to the new canes.

TO RENEW STRAWBERRY BEDS

Soil Between Rows Should Be Loosened Thoroughly and Kept Entirely Free From Weeds.

To renew a strawberry bed that is in its second year, or older, plow up a good share of the old plants if the bed has been kept in such shape that it is at all easy to separate them.

This will not injure the roots of the plants seriously, and will kill a good many fungus spores. The soil between the rows should be loosened thoroughly and kept free from weeds for the remainder of the season.

Ashes for Grapes. Save all the wood ashes for fertilizing grape vines.

NOTICE OF INCORPORATION.

Notice is hereby given that application will be made by C. C. Lozier, L. E. Richardson and William Pennington to the Governor of Pennsylvania on the 19th day of April, 1913, at 10 o'clock a. m., under the provisions of an Act of Assembly entitled "An Act to provide for the Incorporation and Regulation of Certain Corporations," approved April 29, 1874, and the several supplements thereto, for a charter for an intended corporation to be called the

PENN CUT GLASS COMPANY, the character and object of which is to manufacture cut glass and articles used in making cut glass, and for these purposes to have and possess and enjoy all the rights, benefits and privileges conferred by the said Act of Assembly and its supplements. CHESTER A. GARRATT, Solicitor.

Crop Improvement

Treat your soil the same as you would a valuable animal—soil has life and limitations.

RATS DESTROY SEED CORN.

Twenty Million Dollars Annual Grain Loss Caused by Rodents—Great Loss Partially Prevented by Concrete Corn Cribs.

[National Crop Improvement Service.] The department of agriculture, at Washington, has frequently called attention to the tremendous annual loss to the American farmers caused by rats. This amounts to over \$20,000,000 each year.

According to Uncle Sam's experts, rats kill poultry in broad daylight, and have been known to kill lambs and pigs, when they were only a few days old.

Japs Show the Way.

The Japanese found shortly after their late unpleasantness with Russia that they were threatened with the "plague" and other highly contagious diseases which are carried by rats. They started in and killed them by the millions and, after reducing the number, figured out scientific methods to prevent the rats from obtaining food.

Apparently, however, the Japanese have not yet awakened to one of our most useful structures, the concrete silo. In a recent edition, however, of the American Guernsey Breeders Journal it was stated that a Japanese graduate from one of our agricultural colleges is taking a number of pure bred dairy cows, and is going to build a number of reinforced concrete silos in the northern part of Japan, and run a model dairy farm according to American methods.

Fireproof as Well as Rat Proof.

The prevention of waste by rats has almost overshadowed the more important fact that concrete structures are absolutely fireproof.

The fire protection in Japan is better in proportion to the area covered than that of the corn belt farmer, who generally has a house, barns, etc., in the center of a large area, the average farm in Illinois being 123 acres.

If American farmers would follow the example of the careful Japs in the use of concrete and build their own corn cribs, etc., of this material, they would quickly discover that they had obtained a permanent structure at a moderate first cost. There is nothing to rot or decay in a concrete corn crib. Rats cannot eat holes through the floors and sides and it is absolutely fireproof. It can easily be kept in a clean and sanitary condition. There are no heavy yearly expenses for repairs or paint.

Advantages of Concrete.

A concrete corn crib, like any other concrete structure, rapidly pays for its first cost. This is especially true when the farmer does the work during the winter. Feeding floors, fence posts, sidewalks and other conveniences of concrete, can also easily be built during the winter at a small cost. Plans can be obtained free from practically all Agricultural colleges or any of the large cement companies, showing how such structures should be constructed.

The shape of a concrete corn crib is not material, but the farmers should plan their crib for the greatest economy of space and convenience in filling, depending upon the method used by each individual farmer. A concrete floor five inches thick for a corn crib can be built at an approximate cost of ten cents per square foot. This gives a general idea of the cost of the whole structure, which may also be built of concrete blocks, provided that the floor and at least two feet of the walls are built of solid concrete. The cost would vary somewhat in different localities, depending upon the nearness of sand and gravel. Unlike many other materials, especially lumber, which now must be hauled long distances from Canada, the north-west or the far south, and excessive freight charges paid, in a concrete structure, Portland cement is the only material which need be transported any distance. Almost every farmer can obtain sand and gravel near his own property.

TEST-DON'T GUESS

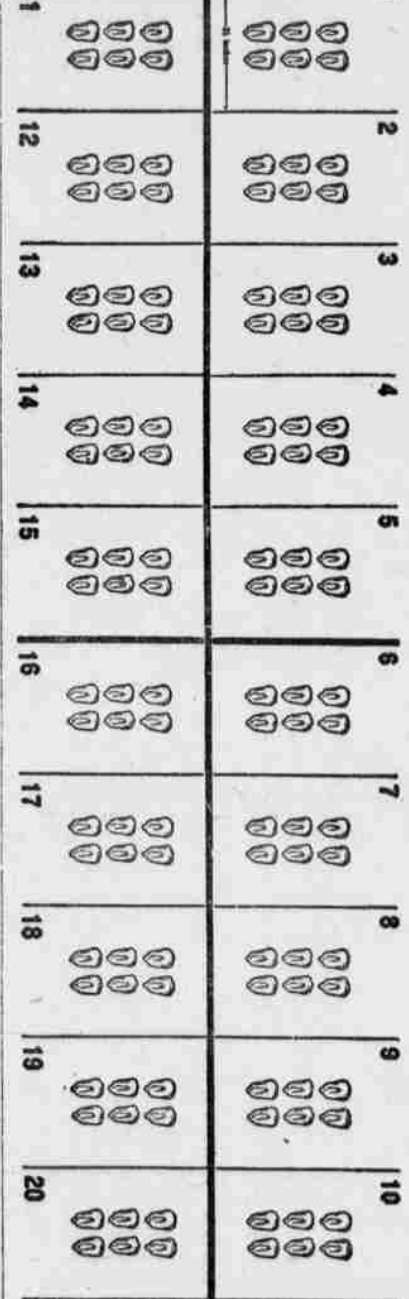


IMPORTANT Size of Cloth Quality of Cloth The germination cloth should be made of 9 inches wide from good quality of 60 inches long. This bleached muslin such as silvex about 18 inches at is commonly used for each end for rolling sheets and pillow slips.

FOR TESTING ON THE FARM Lay the ears out side by side on a board or table. Discard all ears which look too poor to plant. Arrange the remaining ears which are to be tested and number them as shown in cut No. 2. This method of separating with nails into bunches of ten will make it necessary to number only each tenth ear. Mark the numbers on the board or table at the base of the ears. (See Cut No. 2.)

FOR TESTING IN THE SCHOOLS The boys and girls testing in schools, should number the ears to correspond with the numbers in the squares on the cloth by fastening a small piece of cardboard or paper to butt of each ear with a nail. Always number the ears before removing the kernels. Moisten cloth by dipping in water. Remove six kernels from ear No. 1, taking kernels from different parts of the ear and place them in square No. 1, germ side up and with the tips of all the kernels pointing in the same direction. In like manner take six kernels from ear No. 2 and place in square No. 2 and so on until all the squares are filled.

When all the squares have been filled, again moisten the cloth and roll up carefully so that none of the kernels will be displaced. Tie a string around the roll just tight enough, and not too tight, to hold the kernels in place. (See cut No. 1 at top.)



Place the rolls containing the kernels into any sack or roll standing them on end with the tips of the kernels pointing downward. Don't pack the rolls in tight. Ten or twelve rolls in a ten quart pail are sufficient. Fill the pail with water, good and warm. Set the pail on several thicknesses of newspaper or wrapping paper, and fold over the bucket to retain the heat. (See cut No. 5) or kernels affected with mould, which fills the sprouts, after they have started. (See fig. 4) The sawdust is also an inexpensive and accurate method of testing seed. Full directions for same can be obtained from the Crop Improvement Committee.

Keep Rolls Moist—Don't Let Them Dry Out. In about two days it is always best to remove the newspapers and cloth. Fill the pail with warm water again and let stand for five or ten minutes until the rolls are thoroughly soaked, then drain off as before and replace the covering. Keep the pail in a room where it will not get too cold at night. Don't let it freeze under any circumstances.

How to Read the Test In seven or eight days when the stem sprouts are about two inches long, unroll the cloth carefully so as not to displace the kernels. Examine the kernels in each of the squares and save for planting only those ears the kernels of which show strong, vigorous roots and stem sprouts. (See cut, fig. 1.) Discard all ears the kernels of which show one or more dead kernels (See fig. 2); weak sprouts. (See fig. 3) or kernels affected with mould, which fills the sprouts, after they have started. (See fig. 4) The sawdust is also an inexpensive and accurate method of testing seed. Full directions for same can be obtained from the Crop Improvement Committee.

Furnished by Crop Improvement Committee Council of Grain Exchanges Address BERT BALL, Secretary, Room 1, Board of Trade, Chicago. PRICE LIST In cloth, 10c. each; in cloth, 75c. per doz. in cloth, \$6. per 100. Special prices on lots of 500 or more. Paper poster, fac-simile of cloth tester, \$3.50 per thousand.

Let's Quit Guessing and Go To Testing Start Rolling Cloth at This End. When ordering the scientific corn tester kindly mention The Citizen, stating that you saw an account of it in this paper.

IS YOUR ACCOUNT GROWING?

We can answer this question if you are doing business at the FARMERS & MECHANICS BANK, and are preparing for your future welfare. Our Deposits show gains of several thousands of dollars at each statement issued and so we take it for granted that your account is growing.

THE QUESTION ANSWERED.

Spring Time is the Best Time to Buy a Home

Below is a list of exceptionally fine and up-to-date residences and business places in Honesdale that can be purchased upon easy terms. Now is the time to buy.

Fourteen-room brick and stone dwelling, located on Main street, is one of the most aristocratic places in Honesdale. Rooms are spacious and spring water is in the house. Garage on premises, beautiful lawn and shade trees.

Two Good Lots—Located on Fair avenue, 15 minutes' walk from Honesdale. Will be sold together or separately. On R. D. route. Fertile ground. Lots have a frontage of about 600 feet and run from Derry river. Ideal place for party who desires small farm near town.

Modern House in Honesdale—Brick, contains steam heating plant, gas and other modern appointments. Lot 50x125 feet. Good garden, barn, and chicken house on premises. Property in first-class condition. Was recently improved. One of Honesdale's best properties.

Building Lot in Honesdale—Located on Court street in one of prettiest residential sections of Honesdale. Size 63x125 feet. Story and a half house on property. Property in good condition.

Honesdale—Two building lots and house on Sixteenth street. Size of property 100 x 100 feet. Situated in finest residential section of town.

Modern dwelling in Honesdale contains nine rooms and is equipped with all appointments of an up-to-date house. Located on Main street in one of the nicest sections of the residential sections. House has gas. New furnace recently installed. Lot 50x125 feet. Property in good condition. A bargain for a home seeker.

Honesdale—Ten-room house on Main street. Lot 50x200 feet. One of nicest locations for residence. Will be sold cheap.

Three-story brick building on West side of Main street between Sixth and Seventh streets. Building is rented. Lot 23x60 feet. Property in good shape. Will make 10% investment.

Buy-U-A-Home Realty Co. Licensed Real Estate Agents. Honesdale, Pa. Jadwin Building Both Phones

D. & H. CO. TIME TABLE---HONESDALE BRANCH

Table with columns for Stations (Albany, Binghamton, Philadelphia, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, Carbondale, Whites, Quigley, Farview, Steam, Lake Lodore, Waymart, Keene, Stewart, Prompton, Fortville, Seelyville, Honesdale) and times for P.M., A.M., and P.M. A.M. In Effect Sept. 29, 1912.

Advertise in THE CITIZEN TRY A CENT-A-WORD