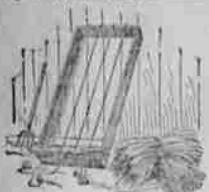


## PROTECTING HOTBEDS.

Directions for Making Bear Mats, Which Effect a Safe Covering.  
During cold nights in many sections the mature hotbeds will need additional protection. This is provided by one-meter gauze mats in the form of four stakes.



FRAME FOR MAKING STRAW MATS.

mat or straw mats. The sputters are made of 1-inch stuff and of the size of the mat. The straw mats, which are preferred by many to the board slats, can be made by the most unskilled person from long dry straw, tied with a twine string. Here is an illustrated description from "C. Green's," which renders the manufacture a simple thing.

Make a frame 5 feet in length and 4 feet in width, and stretch four or five parallel horizontal strings, on top and bottom, from top to bottom. Have as many tufts of twine, twisted string, and fasten one end to each upright string next the bottom, leaving the tufts in front of the frame. Now lay a whole mat of straw, cut into squares, on the frame at the bottom, and fasten the ends of the strings at the bottom, and fasten the squares of straw around the smaller tufts around the straw and the twine string. Next put on another whole mat of straw, and continue until frame is full and the mat finished. The whole expense connected with these handy convenient and effective mats of straw is a quantity of straw, about eight bushels, and some twine, which is all that is required in making them, and not years required for such a work as this to be done in a severe winter or under a shed during many days at least. In the course of a season a large supply of such mats may be made. They can be rolled up, stored and handled conveniently, and give the very last of protection against cold.

It is best before the grass has formed makes the best material for straw, and the greater the size of the tufts will be the better plan to have a pile of straw green and cut at the period named for this very purpose.

## The Temperature of Bee Cutters.

On the important matter of regulating the temperature of the bee cellar, The Farmers' Review offers this advice:

As it requires a low temperature comparatively for hibernation it is necessary that from the 1st of November the cellar be gradually cooled off, so that when the bees are fully hibernated at 30 degrees, and their sleeplessness ceases as the temperature sinks to 20 degrees. If a man has a good number of bees he will pay him to watch the bees closely and take his care. All operations in the cellar that connect with the open air or with the house above should be under complete control so that the temperature may be regulated. A thermometer should be used, and the temperature of the incubator is a very uncertain thing. If the temperature is favorable the crystallization is completed in a few minutes, and that process once accomplished, the larvae is pretty certain; as the next stage of hibernation may be reached even though the temperature is not quite right. In hibernating at the critical point a careful observer may form a very shrewd guess from the amount of bloom that has been properly formed on the leaves, and if a larva is likely to follow.

## Hatching and Rearing Bees.

Medium, in his Illustrated Monthly reminds readers that it is the attempt to split a pupa against the grain which causes the death of many insects. These same loops force the larvae to split the pupa in order to make them, but they do not commence with the top, or similar portions of the pupa, and split downward. They could not do this by biting the thicker end and working from the thick to the thin as trouble is found—the pupa splits easily. Also in cutting wood, the expert axman knows that he gets along more easily in starting at the thinner, and still further, this must end in success, or else the wood will split. When a pupa splits, it splits easily by hatching the forward upward channels in excess, as easily done. By placing a pupa, however, upside down—that is to say in a contrary direction to which the tree grows—uniform will be drawn upward nearly as easily as when the ports placed in the other direction. An inverted pupa, therefore, will not nearly double the time without cutting that will do not, without regard to this principle.

## Things That Are Told.

In separate the various species are more distinct than is generally thought. Considerable, however, is the old, sturdy, but bare's hamster, planted by its side, and many others, which are less expensive, and more numerous, and sell at market price, such as New Jersey, common, and in the Florida backyards.

A California journal tells that a beekeeper in the big Santa Clara valley moved his bees into his barns when other sources of nectar supply were exhausted, and the result was a good crop of delicate first class honey that did not cost him a cent.

Professor Roberts said before a dairy conference in New York that "the clover plant does not because it cannot help it. It is a mimic, and cannot live longer than two years; that is the whole story in a nutshell. It would do well to have three times more than even one. If you want to retain it longer, renew the field."

Good woolenists are found for the bush, Lima, Peru.

## Wooly of Peru.

Mill that is to be carried any distance before being sent ought always to be separated; this is often called when buying, "sharpened." It will keep longer and receive its best flavor. An excellent way to do this is to use a wooden spoon, however, to stir the spinning skein from time to time. This does not injure the wool, and then cool.

Joseph all my roots and drive them, as it is much easier than to dig holes from which to hold them there and every spring, if it is necessary, a man can go home with a mow and reduce very easily. I use cedar posts and sharpen small end, and as I think they do not so quickly then, again, if you wish to take them up pull them.

## IN THE POULTRY YARD.

A Plan for Catching Hawks, Owls and Other Predators.

But for hawks, owls and other predators, which would damage the crops, and the like, the California correspondent of the New York World has devised a plan for protecting his poultry and small birds as well, which he describes as follows:

The Philadelphia Farm Journal says the following: "A wire fence, well built, will be no use. The birds in it will soon get away. Then we will soon catch them again. There are more exceptions than rules."

Careful for me, mostly he goes to the ground, mostly.

Every man who drives a heavy team should keep three trees.

In fact there were 40,000 sheep in the country. There were 30,000 in 1891.

The number of sheep declined from 57,000,000 in 1890 to 41,000,000 in 1891.

There has been an increase in 43,000,000 to 1892.

The Prairie Farmer says that cattle

light has been successfully eliminated by spraying with the carbamate of copper and ammonia mixture.

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