RAISING THE SUGAR BEET.

A Farmer Who Has Done It Gives Some Details.

He Says the Business Kind of Beets Cannot be Raised for Less Expense than Those Which Have Been Tested.

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 21, 1895.

Editor Deseret News:

In your issue of January 19, 1895, I notice an article from a Farmington correspondent on sugar beet raising. I am afraid many of your subscribers may think, according to your correspondent's calculations, that there is nothing so profitable as raising sugar beets. For the benefit of your correspondent and subscribers generally I will endeavor to give you a correct statement of things, from my own personal experience.

In the first place, the farmer has to sign a contract with the sugar company, and this is the nature of the contract:

The Sugar company hereby agrees to purchase from _____ of _____ all the beets he may produce, from seed furnished by it, that are not weak, over ripened and soft beets, and that shall not have been injured by frost, at the price of $4 per ton, with a justly conditioned of eight per cent, paying him therefor at the rate of _____ per ton. All beets are to be laid down at the factory in a marketable condition, with the tops closely and squarely cut off, and are to be piled up in ordinary and a proper manner under our direction. All diseased, rotten or damaged beets will be refused, and all beets not properly topped or with dirt clinging to them will be subject to discount.

The land has also to undergo careful preparation before planting the seed or it will not germinate. Then the farmer has to take the chances as to whether he gets his seed planted in good time, as the sugar company employs outside men to do all the planting, and I can assure you that where you are one of the latters, will you be likely to have to wait until late in the season before getting your seed planted.

Well, we will suppose the farmer gets his seed planted at a reasonable time, which should be about the end of April. It takes the seed about ten to fourteen days to germinate in fair weather, and as soon as the plants are about two inches high they should be thinned right away. They have to be thinned be about eight or ten inches apart. The thinning takes considerable time, and any day during is a number of acres requires considerable help, as a man can only thin one eight to ten rows a day, forty rods long, and it takes forty rows to the acre. After the thinning is the cultivating, which has to be done by some sharp, and some horse power. I may say here that the farmer needs special implements to cultivate sugar beets which are not necessary in the cultivation of other roots (pumkins, carrots, turnips, beets, bigeets and beet pieces for digging the beets).

I may say sugar beets need more care and cultivation than any other root, vegetable or cereal grown. I have raised nearly every kind of vegetable, root or cereal grown either in this country or in England, so can speak from experience. It is also necessary to be more particular about irrigating, or the beets will not mature. The early beets ripen late in September. When the beets are sufficiently ripe for the factory then comes the trenching and digging, piling and topping, and the beets have to be handled five or six times before being finally delivered at the factory—gowned, pulled, topped, loaded, unloaded.

The factory people are very strict and unless the beets go a certain percentage according to the contract, especially in the earliest factory, the farmer is liable to have all his beets left on his hands, and no matter whatever he thinks, and all his time, labor, machinery, etc., is a loss. You will see, Mr. Editor, the farmer takes a greater risk in growing sugar beets than any other farm produce, and there is always a reduction on one of from two to seven per cent.

Now, last year I raised six acres of beets for the sugar company, and many of the farmers around me had a hard row of the prettiest stands of beets in Lehi Bent. But last year was a dry spring and wet fall, and I was not crowded on my beets nearly $20 when, after thinning my rows three times, I let up $3 per ton by beets delivered, but owing to the season my beets did not mature. Yet all my other vegetables, roots, etc., did. Many of the farmers lost no inconsiderable sum in this same way.

Now, gentlemen, I say it is hardly reasonable that if an acre of land costs to raise to produce 20 tons of beets. Yes, it certainly is reasonable enough, but where will you find land to produce twenty tons of beets? I say, that is for the company to prove, we see by the contract the factory will not receive beets weighing 20 ounces and a half pounds each.

The sugar company could therefore, at seven, with an outlay of $20 per acre, and their beets delivered, cultivated and they only raise from eight to twelve tons to the acre, sometimes less and which is indeed a very good crop, instead of a loss, leave to the farmer a profit. As you will see, Mr. Editor, this year, taking, as far as the farmer is concerned, is not as very profitable as usually after all is said and done.

Of course I know will come to know present prices of sugar the Utah sugar company can afford to pay a reasonable price or to give a good price for sugar beets, the farmer has had to raise the sugar beets at a loss, and the farmer has had to raise all the sugar beets should not be the case, and I am not sorry of the sugar is not going to grow for a profitable market for the manufacturer. F. FOSTER.

A ROYAL SCANDAL.

Marital at Bad Business Between the Prince of Montenegro and his Wife.

It is impossible for newspapers and people to ignore the scandal which has been talked about in every place in Europe for months past. The prince and princess of Montenegro, Prince Nicholas and Princess Milena, have been married for 25 years and have had nine children. The prince and princess are Prince Nicholas of Montenegro and his wife, the Princess Milena of Montenegro. The prince was married in 1860 and have had nine children. In the last year of the 25 years they have been

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