SEED WHEAT.

Western Farmers's Plan for Secuing the Best Wheat Possible.

Every grain dealer is interested in securing for his own immediate locality the best wheat possible. Very often the difference between the wheat raised in one localities is simply a matter of careful seeding. The following is from an exchange, and we commend it to our readers for the benefit of Utah farmers:

I take the wheat from the best half acre and run it through the fanning mill in such a way as to take out merely the screenings—the very small and badly shrunken grains. In much seasons there would amount to one bushel out of from twenty to forty. All grains of fair size are left in the seed. Perhaps you ask: Why not grade the wheat from the best half acre?

Well, which bushel contained the largest grains—the small one with a few screenings or the one that had twice as many? I have thought for some years that the former did, and I do not care to plant them to the exclusion of others. If it seems practical to select the best heads from the best half acre, and then the best berries from them, I would like to do so, but as for my present knowledge goes I do not care to grade my seed from the best of the field, except to take out the very poorest.

I have not jumped at this conclusion as a matter of theory, for it is the result of a great deal of observation, and still I persuade that some farmers out of ten who go out to buy seed wheat would select fine, plump grain from a field which had yielded twenty or twenty-five bushels per acre, rather than an inferior looking article, somewhat smaller, and perhaps a little shrunken, from a field which they knew had yielded thirty-five or forty bushels per acre.

Extreme Precautions.

Next to the weevils, and often fully equal to them as insect destroyers, is kerosene emulsion. It kills by contact scaling insects as well as those which bite and eat the leaves, twigs, etc. Bulletin No. 51 Professor A. J. Cook, of the Michigan station, gives the following formula for its preparation, which is one he has recommended and used for years: Dissolve in two quarts of water one quart of soft soap or one-fourth pound of hard soap by boiling to the boiling point, then add one pint of kerosene oil and stir it violently. This is best done by pumping the liquid into itself through a small nozzle, so that it shall be thoroughly agitated. Too, be careful, since the oil permanently so that it will never separate, and it can be diluted easily at pleasure by simply shaking or slightly stirring after adding the water to dilute it. When ready to use stir in enough water to make fifteen pints in all—that is, one-fifteenth of the liquid applied would be kerosene oil.

The Hubbard-Riley formula is as follows: One half pound of soap dissolved in one gallon of boiling water, when two gallons of kerosene are added and immediately stirred as before. Then dilute with nine parts of water to one of the emulsion. It will then be seen that Professor Cook uses four times as much water as Mr. Riley recommends and twice as much kerosene as water. The former also uses more soap.

Professor Cook hopes that all station entomologists and horticulturists will thoroughly try both these formulæ, that farmers and fruit growers may be easily advised as to their respective merits.

Use of Drill and Roller.

At a farmer's institute in Canada, J. W. Bartlett read a paper on seed and seeding, from which the following is gleaned: Various objections are made to the drill. Some people claim that weeds grow more profusely where the grain is sown with the drill. This is certainly incorrect, but it is quite possible that it might appear so. Others claim that drought affects the crop more if sown with the drill. I am, however, firmly of the opinion that this is a mistake, as where the seed is broadcasted some is deposited so near the surface that except in especially favorable years it must, of necessity, suffer for moisture, while if the crop be drilled in it is not any more liable to suffer from excess of moisture than if sown broadcast.

What about rolling? you would naturally ask. I answer, not as much as you please when the ground is dry enough so that it will not pack, but always before sowing, never after. If the grain be sown with the drill after the land is rolled a loss covering of earth of the depth the grain is sown is left as a mulch. If the land is rolled after sowing it is compacted tightly down to the surface, and so there is nothing to break off the capillary action the moisture comes to the surface and is taken up by the atmosphere instead of being saved to be brought in contact with it through the plants. It must, to make this plain, be borne in mind that water is nature's great conveyer and its chief use is vegetable economy, so as far as heat as plant growth is concerned, is to dissolve the plant food in the soil, and while holding this food in solution it is taken up by the plant which assimilates the food and gives off the water by evaporation to the atmosphere.

In recapitulation, then, let me say for the very best results select the very best seed. Clean it thoroughly, treat with one pound of blue vitriol to a pound pail of water for ten bushels of wheat; prepare the ground solid in the bottom, loose on top, and sow with the drill; that will deposit the seed most evenly and at a uniform depth; harrow two or three weeks after the crop is up, and again later if weather and crop will admit, and you can monetarily claim that you have done your part, and leave the result to Providence.

In cases of uncertainty it has been found that there are carpets to it and who are terminating liquors, soldiers take bulbs and shower their pressure some too often. In case of sunstroke remove the patient instantly to the shade, to the open air, if possible, and send for a doctor. Put on ice or cold water upon his head at once, and kind provided his or his cold water about his wounds, and try all ways to reduce his temperature. Do not give him any brandy and do not let crowds gather about him.

Yellow Hotels in Vienna.

Professor A. Weisermann, of Vienna, is investigating the permanence of water colors, finds the most unalterable to be yellow ocher, sienna atoms, sepia and various lakes. Chemical tables, and the carmine generally, based almost into untenable.—Current Literature.

PROFIT IN CAPONS.

The Advantages of Caponizing Fowls as Recounted by American Cultivator.

Raising capons is a profitable business, and they are now raised quite universally throughout the country, although for a long time "Philadelphia capons" were the only ones that were supposed to amount to much. This delusion, however, no longer holds. For good capons will be found in every large city. The French poultry-raise capons all cockerels designed for market, and the quality of meat there is always superior to that in this country. With the progress of the business here it will not be many years before the same practice will prevail in the north. If all cockerels were capon-ized the meat would be better, and the demand for it would be more general. Caponizing is very easily and safely performed now that such handy instruments are prepared for the work. A capon must mature thoroughly before it can be sent to market. The cost of raising them is no greater than for an ordinary cockerel, and the additional weight and price will always bring a larger return to the breeder.

But there are other advantages. Their food does them more good, and is not wasted by the bird running around; they are very quiet and steady, and never fight the pullets and hens, and they are seldom sick and ailing. They make fine nurses for small chickens, as one bird will hover over a brood of twenty or thirty chickens, allowing the hens time to lay and sit again. There is a little skill attending this work at first, but after one becomes a skillful operator, he need not lose a single cockerel during the whole year as the result of the operation. The best knives for capons are the large Dorkings or Aztecs, although the smaller ones may be improved or enlarged by the work.

Keep the Eagle and the Goddess.

Some newspaper writers, otherwise able, have been to Europe and got their ideas mixed about what is beautiful and the reverse. These editors declare that America has the ugliest looking money in civilization or barbarism; that even Japan beats us in artistic beauty of coins. Particularly these critics are hard on the American eagle and the Goddess of Liberty on our gold and silver pieces. They even shock the partisan of community by suggesting that the goddess and the eagle to left off the United States coin of the future.

Not in our time; that is to say, never, we hope. There is no handsomer money in existence than our coins with the splendid eagle on them, having only that disreputable looking bonzard dollar. The only trouble with coins bearing the goddess or the eagle is that people in general do not see enough of them.

It is really a lesson in patriotism, those coins with the American eagle on them. To change them will be to destroy a sentiment that has grown in the heart of the American people for a century. It will do nothing but harm to destroy that sentiment. The American citizen associates the memory of Washington, the Fourth of July and love of country with that eagle upon our coins. Change him and give him a new coin, in any way if you will, but let him stay forever and ever. And may that day never come when the Goddess of Liberty shall cease to be a national emblem and shine in the hearts and on the coins of the American people!

Jew and Czar.

Roman L. Zubel, himself believed to be a Jew who is inclined to deny his race, writes in the Russian Gleaner a paper explanatory of the Russian hatred of the Hebrew. Russian taxes are oppressive and exacting beyond description; they must be wrung from the stupid peasant under all circumstances. Sometimes the tax gatherers take all, even his house, and yet time to working on the roads to pay arrears yet remaining. But he could probably pay it more easily only for the Jew, who takes the Russian peasant's days time as profits, then as money lender, and gradually gets all his money away from him. Jews keep inns. The peasant spends first his money at these inns, then pawns his clothes, then mortgages his next year's crops. Then he turns around in a fury on the Jew and blames him for it all, even for the government's exactions.

The Jew in Russia still suffers from many of the persecutions he endured in all Europe during the Middle Ages. He is forbidden to own land, to hold any official position, or even to dwell in the Russian capital cities. He must do something for a living, therefore he turns to mercantile life as almost the only occupation left to him.

Besides getting the name of being a usurer, always nearly as bad as that of the devil among a children and unprovided people, the Jew takes no pains to assimilate himself to the Russians. He holds himself aloof from them, as one quite outside of them and of another country. He follows his own customs and his own dress. He is as much an alien in Russia as the Chinaman in America, and pitiles himself on it. Zubel gives us to understand. It may be that it is quite as much to carry favor with the Russian peasantry as from any other reason that the czar is using such severity against the Jews at present.

Notes.

Frequent change of food diminishes the waste of fat in the animal milk.

A cow is less liable to disease than almost any other farm animal.

A new invention for coiling butter is reported. It consists in suspending above the butter worker which is mounted a cone shaped pan filled with ice and salt. The ice water from this pan sprays upon the butter while the worker is working. The effect is to make everything about them as cool as the neighborhood of an iceberg.

It is not necessary to work butter twice, if you do it right the first time. Stop the cream when the butter is in the granular state. Rift the milk into it—that is, if you use the dry salt. Then let salt an hour work or roll the salt carefully and thoroughly in, and your work is done. There is less chance of streaking the butter or tainting it if thus salted and packed at once than if you leave it till next day.

MORE MILK TESTING.

New Professor Farrington, of the Illinois Station, Manages It.

Professor E. H. Farrington has found a method of testing, all at one time, samples of the milk brought by each patron during th seven days of the week. He has found a way to test each that ever think can be neutralized and tried with the rest. He writes of the process in Hoard's Dairyman:

The two points which I have not previously published, and which have developed during my work on milk testing, are 1. The use of potassic oxalate instead of potassic nitrate for testing. 2. The substitution of test for glass tubing in the centrifugal machine for those used for measuring the fat and with the Babcock tester.

The substituted pipette has already been found and tested in hundreds of Illinois experiment stations, and since then the practical outcome of it has been clearly demonstrated in the Babcock tester. The use of a test tube for measuring the fat with the other machine is being done continually. It keeps the milk always on top and in a convenient bottle or carrier, ready for immediate measurement or dilution, if thought by inserting measure from the siphon and measuring the quantity of milk into each test tube, accurately, and there is very little chance of spilling the acid on the hands or clothing.

My investigation on composite samples of milk showed that it was not necessary to add preservatives to the milk to be tested. With four cows a week old, and the cows not over separated, was tested with entirely satisfactory results. Bichromate of potash is the best preservative, and common chemical for this purpose seems to be "powdered lye" (98 per cent. caustic soda), which is sold by manufacturers for making soap from grease.

The details of my work on testing the composite samples of the milk brought to each patron by a creamery are now to be published in a bulletin of the Illinois experiment station. This work shows that a weekly test of the milk brought by each patron is a great deal better than no test. Too, when patrons are paid on the test plan, the test of a creamery during one week. The milk brought by him on the day of the test should be taken for the rest of better fat. Then does have the milk brought by the patron taken 14 per cent. but the fat he was paid by a weekly test for the milk he brought during the week, and this test had been made on Tuesday, his account stood about than the last Saturday's pay test, of 4.700 pounds, which is equal to 65.80 pounds of butter fat. But if the weekly test had been made on Friday, when his milk tested at 10 per cent. fat, his account would stand 14 per cent. of 5.500 pounds, equal to 77.00 pounds of butter fat. Or, instead of 23.20 pounds of butter fat in the total amount for the week as shown by the test made on Tuesday, the amount stood of this patron for the week was as follows:

	Tues. Butter		Fri. Butter	
	Milk.	Lbs.	Mil.	Pro cent. Lbs.
April 4	650	4.00	5.00	32.50
April 10	650	4.00	5.00	32.50
April 11	700	4.50	5.50	38.50
April 12	650	4.00	5.00	32.50
April 13	600	4.00	5.00	30.00
April 14	600	4.00	5.00	30.00
April 15	600	4.00	5.00	30.00
April 16	600	4.00	5.00	30.00
Total	4,850	Average 4.00	Total	232.00

This loss of the milk every day shows that the carrier brought that particular week a great deal more than the average fat to the creamery. Comparing the with the amount found by multiplying the total pounds of milk—4,850, by the average fat—4.00, we find that the daily pay amounts of the composite butter fat, which is the amount actually so found of the daily test.

If now the test of a composite sample of the milk corresponds with the average of the tests on daily tests, the variation in the milk from day to day does not vitiate the accuracy of the result. In this particular case the composite sample showed by the test 4.1 per cent. of butter fat. The same trial of tests with each of twenty patrons with equally good results.

I would suggest the following arrangement for holding the jars in which the composite sample for each patron is collected.

Two or more circular shelves one above the other, supported on the center, and revolving on this central support. One jar for each patron, distinctly labeled with his name, and these jars set on the outside edge of the circle, for shelves. These circular shelves revolving, the jars can be set near the weighing can, and the new sample poured in, and the shelves revolved the patron's jar is in waiting for same within his reach.

Sweet Potatoes.

The land for the sweet potato crop should be got ready at the first opportunity. Let it be well cultivated and broken fine. It should be light and strong, yet not over rich, as this has a tendency to make the potatoes too large, or to crack. The manure should be finely broken, well rotted and be worked well into the land. After the land is prepared, throw it into beds or ridges about three feet from center to center, and set out the slips, which should be previously hardened by full exposure in the hot bed to the air day and night, about two feet apart on the ridges. The plants always grow best when set out in newly prepared rows, and seldom make much progress until the ground is thoroughly warmed. The planting of them may, therefore, be well deferred until the first of the month or the beginning of June.—Southern Planter.

Facts With Remunerative.

The following notes in regard to spraying with poisonous substances for the destruction of insects and combating fungoid growths, are condensed from a paper read by Professor Maynard before the Massachusetts Horticultural society:

Of all the arsenites paris green gives the best results as an insecticide.

The longer the mixture containing arsenites stands the greater the injury from soluble arsenic.

The foliage of the peach, plum and cherry is more susceptible to injury than that of the apple or pear.

The injury varies with the varieties, some being more susceptible than others.

Young leaves are less injured than those fully developed, and are more injured on weak trees than on those that are vigorous and healthy.

Paris green cannot be used alone with safety stronger than one pound to six gallons of water, but with the lime mixture it may be safely used at one pound to from fifty to two hundred gallons.

The foliage is most injured when kept constantly wet by light rains or foggy weather, but heavy rains lessen the injury.

The least injury is done when the liquor dries off most rapidly.

The time of day when the application is made is unimportant.

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