

## THE SETTLER'S TWELVE COMMANDMENTS

(Revised)

Wheat Raising in a Nutshell:

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- (1) Break the land one or two inches deep; but as shallow as possible. Turn the sod right over so that the grassy side is lying down flat.
- (2) Breaking should be done before the end of June, and, if possible, by the middle of that month. THIS IS HIGHLY IMPORTANT, as late breaking will not produce profitable crops.
- (3) All such early breaking should be back-set during the later summer after the sod has rotted. In back-setting, the sod is simply put back into its original position, the grassy side up, and about one to two inches of earth brought up with the plow to cover it. Disc and harrow immediately after back-setting.
- (4) Frequently, the newcomer does not arrive till late in June. In the case of breaking done late in June, plow DEEP,—say, four inches,—and DO NOT BACK-SET; but, merely disc thoroughly, and then harrow. The more cultivation the better.
- (5) It is sometimes impossible to back-set Extra-Heavy land. In this case the land should be treated as per FOURTH Commandment, whether it be early or late breaking.
- (6) In Spring, harrow and sow as soon as the frost is out of the ground sufficiently to allow the seeder to go down the proper depth. Follow the seeder with a land packer, and the packer with a harrow. If this second harrowing is done after the crop is up about two inches, so much the better. The use of the land packer will add at least five bushels per acre to the crop.
- (7) DEPTH TO SOW: Scrape back the surface of the ground with the hand so as to ascertain the depth of the moisture from the surface. Adjust the seeder so that it will sow in the top of the moisture,—not above it, nor deep into it; but just in the top of it.
- (8) SOW THE BEST, THOROUGHLY CLEANED SEED OBTAINABLE and nothing else. Pay for the BEST,—and get it.
- (9) After harvesting the first crop, the land should either be plowed, disced and packed in the Fall; or, where the soil is clean, the stubble may be burned off in the Spring, the land disced without plowing, and a second crop sown, as per SIXTH Commandment.
- (10) Summer fallowing should start after the SECOND crop is taken off. Plow the summer fallow as soon as possible after seeding the other land you are cropping. NEVER leave this plowing till after June. Experience has proven that one early plowing is better than two. Weeds absorb much moisture. Keep down weeds by cultivation, and so conserve the moisture in your summer fallow. In the Spring following, put in your crop as per SIXTH Commandment.
- (11) After cutting the first crop from summer fallow, where the land is clean, allow it to lie until the following Spring,—then, simply burn off the stubble, disc up the surface, and put in second crop as per SIXTH Commandment. This second crop, if so put in, should be almost as good as the first. Summer Fallow land EVERY THIRD YEAR.

To clean land foul with couch grass, French weed, mustard, wild oats or other noxious weeds, burn off stubble early in Spring, and double disc and pack. Then let land lie for three weeks and disc and harrow, thereafter seeding heavy to barley.

- (12) Sow a bushel and a half of wheat on new breaking and on summer fallow; and a bushel and a quarter on stubble. Before seeding, all seed should be treated for Smut.

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