

FARM TOPICS

HINTS FROM THE HIRED MAN

Good Hustling Farm Hand Tells of Qualities Necessary to Make Himself Valuable.

An Illinois man taught me how to raise and cure sorghum. He puts in two bushels of seed to the acre with a wheat drill. This gives a uniform growth; the plant is small, and the yield is about as heavy as from a thinner seeding.

I never worked on a farm until I was 18 years old. I had always worked in a beef-packing plant in a large city, and I suppose that is where I formed a habit of hustling, which has stuck to me ever since. When I commenced farming I used to listen for the sound of the whistle at dinner time, but I soon learned that in the busy seasons a man cannot put in too many hours.

Some of the boys in my neighborhood told me it was a mistake to do any more than I really had to to hold my job, but I take notice that I am now getting \$85 per month and my board and washing all the year round, while the other fellows get about \$13 and are laid off during the winter.

Farm help is becoming scarcer every year, but I think the farmer himself is largely to blame. Too many farmers regard the hired man as a beast of burden, and give him about the same treatment that they do their mules.

How can a farmer expect to keep a good man if he only pays him a \$20 per month, makes him sleep in a hot loft in the house or in the hay-mow, expects him to work 15 hours a day seven days in the week during the summer and fires him in the fall? I notice that the farmer who keeps his hired man all the year round and treats him with the consideration that is due him generally makes money and seldom kicks about the scarcity of labor.

The farmer who leads and does not drive is the man who gets the most work and the best service out of the hired man.

The hired man who does not keep himself neat and clean has no right to expect to sit at the family table.

Soap is cheap and the well is usually handy.

HOW TO MAKE CHEAP ROLLER

A Good One Can Be Made Economically from Cast-Off Farm Machinery.

The frame of the roller is made of 4x4-inch scantling. The brace extending from frame to tongue is made from an old wagon tire. The drums are 3½ feet in length and are made of old mower wheels on which are bolted 2x4 scantlings. An iron shaft extends the entire length of the two drums and is made stationary in the frame. The drums revolve on the

main floor and three double ways for hay and grain.

When this barn is built on a farm of 1,400 acres, there are many small farms that could be much benefited by a barn like this. The day has long since gone by when progressive farmers can get along without good barns in which to store the produce of harvest time and give farm animals protection from the cold storms of winter.

Do not wait for the corn to get much above the ground before beginning cultivation. A harrow put on just before the plant appears above the surface or immediately afterward kills millions of weeds and prepares the soil for the tender plant when it comes through.

Then the weeder and cultivators should be kept going from this time until the corn is too big to be cultivated with safety. If the season is dry more cultivation is necessary, because it has been demonstrated that the average rainfall is not sufficient to grow a full crop of corn without keeping the moisture under the surface, and the importance of thorough cultivation in dry seasons is therefore apparent.

The first cultivation may be deep, but after cultivations should be shallow. The old-fashioned plow ripping along between rows four or five inches deep, tearing and cutting off the roots, has destroyed millions of bushels of corn in times gone by. Most farmers know better now, but there may be yet some unenlightened man, and to him this warning applies.

When the corn plant is three or four feet high the fibrous roots extend from one row to another and form a mat from three to five inches under the surface. When six to eight feet high these roots have formed a complete connection between the rows, and it can easily be understood that a cultivator set five or six inches deep will tear this mat apart and thus greatly injure the growing plant.

Care of Cultivator Steels.

Take fine brick dust, mix with a little water, and scrub the rust spots, using a stiff brush. After the bad spots are well moistened, mix one-half pint of sulphuric acid in one quart of water; mix well, then apply with brush. Moisten the rust spots. When dry, polish with brick dust or fine sand. One or at most two applications will remove most, if not all, the rust. All steel implements and small hand tools should be treated in the same way. It is a pleasure to work with a clean, polished implement. More and a much better quality of work can be done with a clean tool.

Long Rows Save Labor.

An exchange well illustrates the importance of long rows by telling of a western farmer who had plowed land 100 rods wide and a half mile long. He made three fields, each 23 rods wide and 160 rods long. When planted in corn he found that his man could cultivate it the long way of the row in three days, while, if going the other way, there was four days' work. Just one day extra was spent in turning around at the end three times as often.

Soll Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

ROAD AND FARM IMPROVEMENT

BIG TENNESSEE FARM BARN.

Plans for Large Structure Intended for Paullist Fathers; Useful on Smaller Farms.

This barn was planned for the large farm of the Paullist Fathers and is 40x120 feet. It has an eight-foot basement, has seven horse stalls, three cow stalls, 18 cow stalls, open stable for young cattle and a large sheep stable.

A distern is constructed under one approach and a root cellar under the other, while two silos are placed between the approaches.

The barn has two driveways on the main floor and three double ways for hay and grain.

When this barn is built on a farm of 1,400 acres, there are many small farms that could be much benefited by a barn like this. The day has long since gone by when progressive farmers can get along without good barns in which to store the produce of harvest time and give farm animals protection from the cold storms of winter.

Do not wait for the corn to get much above the ground before beginning cultivation. A harrow put on just before the plant appears above the surface or immediately afterward kills millions of weeds and prepares the soil for the tender plant when it comes through.

Then the weeder and cultivators should be kept going from this time until the corn is too big to be cultivated with safety. If the season is dry more cultivation is necessary, because it has been demonstrated that the average rainfall is not sufficient to grow a full crop of corn without keeping the moisture under the surface, and the importance of thorough cultivation in dry seasons is therefore apparent.

The first cultivation may be deep, but after cultivations should be shallow. The old-fashioned plow ripping along between rows four or five inches deep, tearing and cutting off the roots, has destroyed millions of bushels of corn in times gone by. Most farmers know better now, but there may be yet some unenlightened man, and to him this warning applies.

When the corn plant is three or four feet high the fibrous roots extend from one row to another and form a mat from three to five inches under the surface. When six to eight feet high these roots have formed a complete connection between the rows, and it can easily be understood that a cultivator set five or six inches deep will tear this mat apart and thus greatly injure the growing plant.

Care of Cultivator Steels.

Take fine brick dust, mix with a little water, and scrub the rust spots, using a stiff brush. After the bad spots are well moistened, mix one-half pint of sulphuric acid in one quart of water; mix well, then apply with brush. Moisten the rust spots. When dry, polish with brick dust or fine sand. One or at most two applications will remove most, if not all, the rust. All steel implements and small hand tools should be treated in the same way. It is a pleasure to work with a clean, polished implement. More and a much better quality of work can be done with a clean tool.

Long Rows Save Labor.

An exchange well illustrates the importance of long rows by telling of a western farmer who had plowed land 100 rods wide and a half mile long. He made three fields, each 23 rods wide and 160 rods long. When planted in corn he found that his man could cultivate it the long way of the row in three days, while, if going the other way, there was four days' work. Just one day extra was spent in turning around at the end three times as often.

Soll Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

Soil moisture determinations were made on plowed and unplowed soil at the Delaware experiment station. On an average for the season the unplowed land contained 3.7 per cent. less moisture than the plowed soil. During the autumn and winter months the subsoil of the plowed portion contained on an average 3.7 per cent. more moisture than the unplowed portion.

Soil Moisture.

YOUR OWN PEACH ORCHARD.

A Possibility Nearly Everywhere If Soil Needs of Trees Are Studied.

There are scores of communities in which half of the residents grow their own peaches and the other half buy or lament the fact that they can't grow peaches.

Peaches are in a way a fift, yet the chances are that many of those who bewail their location might have as many as their neighbors by exercising a little care.

The majority of the little orchards are natural fruit. Whether it pays to depend upon this with budding trees now so cheap is a question worth considering, but it certainly pays much better than to do without fruit.

It was once thought that only sandy soil would grow peaches. They have succeeded nicely on stiff clay if well enriched and cultivated. A sandy or clayey loam is preferable, and must not be too highly fertilized, as the peach is naturally a quick-growing tree.

A hillside, naturally well drained, is a favored location for peach trees. The frost does not strike them so readily as on lower ground. But beware of too sunny exposures, or else the first warm days will coax out the buds, to be blasted by frost.

As peach trees develop and mature rapidly, they are correspondingly short lived, and the owner of a good orchard to-day must plant new trees for a few years hence. It is a constant succession of growth and decay.

No more satisfactory field can be chosen for investigation as la Burbank, and it is along a line which is sure to prove profitable, though no world-renowned variety may be evolved.

If peach growing is an experiment, it is perhaps wise to restrict it mainly to seedlings. Should it prove a success in your orchard, you will want to add some nursery stock, which is, save in some stray instances, of better quality.

For market purposes named fruit only is salable, and the surplus, even though small, will balance up on the sugar used in home consumption. This sugar is quite an item.

In selecting nursery trees, choice should be in a measure made according to the time of ripening. A doubtful location a smaller proportion of the very early and very late is preferable.

Choose freestones for the main crop. The yellow-fleshed varieties are the best sellers, and as a rule the best for canning. Early Crawford is one of the best early varieties. Elberta stands high in the list for the main crop.

It is easy to put the pits of some choice fruit into a bag and let them freeze, thus helping the germs to break forth, and then plant in some suitable place, a seedling bearing fruit in a very few years.

Seedlings differ from the parent, but as a rule the finer the peach selected for seed the better the quality of the seedling.

Float for Orchard Brush.

Convenient Rack for Removing Rubbish and All Light Material Left by Pruning.

A drag for removing orchard brush or other light material can be made after the design shown in the accompanying illustration. Frames are made of the dimensions indicated in the

cut, and securely fastened together as shown. Another frame, not shown in the cut, similar to E, is hinged to the rear of the base frame at A and B and swings back flat while the load is being put on the float. A rope which passes from C along the board to D and from thence up to F secures the load after the end piece has been raised. The load can be drawn by the team and when it is desired to unload simply unloose the rope and let down the rear end and drive on—C. J. Williams.

Don'ts for Sweet Pea Growers.

Don't have the soil too rich in nitrogen. Your plants will run to vines rather than to flowers.

Don't use too fresh manure. The finer and more broken the better. Spade it in well.

Don't forget to mulch the rows in hot dry weather. This will greatly prolong bloom.

Don't sow sweet peas two seasons in succession in the same place. Results will never be so good. Sow some of the Giant flowering type.

Don't let the plants run to seed. It will soon exhaust your flowers.

Don't be afraid of picking. Daily attention in this respect is necessary to big blossoms and plenty of them.

Don't plant in the shade. If possible the rows should run north and south to get both morning and afternoon sun.

Don't forget to mix plenty of fine manure with soil that is clayey to prevent baking.

Don't water be so good. Sow some of the Giant flowering type.

Don't let the plants run to seed. It will soon exhaust your flowers.

Don't be afraid of picking. Daily attention in this respect is necessary to big blossoms and plenty of them.

Don't plant in the shade. If possible the rows should run north and south to get both morning and afternoon sun.

Don't forget to mix plenty of fine manure with soil that is clayey to prevent baking.

Don't water be so good. Sow some of the Giant flowering type.

Don't let the plants run to seed. It will soon exhaust your flowers.

Don't be afraid of picking. Daily attention in this respect is necessary to big blossoms and plenty of them.