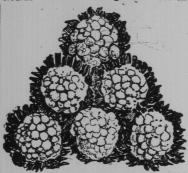


FINE CAULIFLOWER.

Extra Fine Heads-Hints For Growing First Class Specimens. A correspondent who has made

cauliflower sends to American Gardenlast season when the weather was unfavorable, hot and dry, at the particular time in the growth of the



FINE HEADS OF CAULIFLOWER. plants when moisture and a cool atmosphere are necessary for producing a nice, solid head. The growth of the plants was rank and leafy, and, al-though they did not head up early, they did so rapidly and uniformly as soon as they began. There was scarcely a variation in the whole patch. They were solid, heavy, snow white. In this connection some points on the growing of fine cauliflower for exhibition are quoted from the fournal

When the heads begin to form, some quick acting manure, such as nitrate of soda in a liquid form, will be of material assistance. When they attain some size, shading from sunshine is necessary to prevent the heads from getting yellowish in color. This is easiest done by bending a few of the outer leaves inward over the head; just crack the midrib and the leaf will stay in position without flagging or

ahead of time, it is better to pull them up and store in a cool, dark cellar, inserting the roots in moist soil to prevent wilting, as if left to grow out of doors they soon get past their best. In any case if cut the night before they are needed and the cut ends inserted in water, the heads will keep cut too short or take off many of the leaves, though it is often necessary to dress a few of the inner ones to show

A Neat Nesting Arrangement. The cut from The Farm Journal shows a very convenient nesting arrangement for a



darkness hindering egg eating. The long cover can be raised for securing the eggs. The front can be hinged to let down, thus making it easy to sweep out the nests to keep them clean. Will Camphor Pay In Florida The camphor laurel or camphor tree

of commerce is one of the best trees to grow in Florida, according to an Orlando grower, who writes to The Farm, Field and Fireside that it has never been seriously injured by cold weather.

I have several trees 12 years old now diameter one foot above the ground. The growing of camphor trees in groves is now becoming a good business. Thousands of trees are being planted every year. The present process of cutting off part of the top of the trees at a time and distilling the leaves and twigs does not in the least injure the tree. When the trees are 3 years old, the grower takes off about one-third of the leaves and twigs. This is done three or four times a year. New growth soon appears and

fills the space taken of. Three-year-old trees will produce about one pound of camphor per year and when 15 or 20 years old will produce three to four pounds. The usual custom is to plant about 300 trees per acre, and as land is cheap and trees are worth about \$35 per 1,000 (1 year old) it costs but little to make a paying camphor plantation. The cost of labor cuts but a small figure in the production of camphor, and when the question of manufacture and duty of custom house is added to the imported article it can readily be seen that camphor can be made to pay in Florida.

It is a mistake to suppose that blighted celery is not worth putting in for winter use, judging by the following experience with badly blighted crops related in American Agriculturist: About the 1st of October I trim up the plants, leaving only the heart leaves. A shallow trench in the cellar is well watered, and the roots, with as much soil as can be conveniently left on, are placed in the trench: more water is given and sand or other light and dry oil is worked carefully in and about the plants, leavin; only the tips exposed. Finer celery I have never had than such roots furnished in January or February. If the long white brittle stalks are cut off squarely-not too ose—a second crop has been ready by FERTILIZER FACTS.

Manurial Requirements of Crops. Needs of Grass, Clover, Rye, Etc. The Hatch experiment station of Massachusetts has reached some very practical conclusions, as a result of careful investigation into the industrial requirements of crops. Among them are the following:

Grass is similar in its requirements to oats (nitrogen in the form of nitrate something of a specialty in growing of soda most beneficial); the clovers are to a considerable extent similar to ing a photograph of some heads grown | corn in their dependence upon potash, but are more benefited by phosphoric acid than the latter.

For use where timothy is to be grown, a fertilizer supplying the elements in the following proportions is mended: Nitrogen, 8; phosphoric acid. 3: potash, 3. For manuring where clover is desired: Nitrogen, 2; phosphoric acid, 5, and potash, 10. Maximum crops of hay at minimum cost, whether of grasses or clovers, are not to be looked for from the ap-

lication of phosphate. Rye shows a more general dependnce upon applied fertilizers than the other crops under experiment. The lifference in the degree of effectiveness of the elements applied (nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash) is not great. The results of experiment do not encourage the belief that one sided

phosphate manuring for rye will be most profitable. Nitrogen should be most prominent in fertilizers for oats, while for rye the fertilizer must be richer in potash. The experimental work of the past few years indicates that the continuous use of muriate of potash may so far deplete the soil of lime that an occasional application of this material may be required in case of such use. Some results indicate that the sulphate of potash is a safer material to use, where a growth of clover is desired, than the muriate. The high grade sulphate should be selected. It costs about 40 cents per hundred more than

the muriate. Interesting Celery Notes. "It takes plenty of manure and water to make fine celery. We manured the ground for celery very heavily, and when the plants were about half grown we placed a thick mulch of ma-nure between the rows and poured the milk and beef, the latter product in The result is a large growth, and I look like sharing in the general wave think I have doubled the value of the of prosperity that is attending practhis way. To grow well in hot, dry weather, celery roots need a moist cool place, and this is most easily provided by mulching with manure. I have 20,000 plants on one plot of one half an acre. On this plot I have spent about \$100 for manure and labor. The crop is now nearly all ready for market, and as it stands I estimate th value of the crop at wholesale price to

louble this amount. "There is always considerable loss in marketing a crop. Many times when growing a crop I have figured on its when it is marketed there is a shortage in the cash received for it. Celery is the most expensive crop I grow and if it is well handled, the most profit able one. I have realized well from it by packing about two dozen bunches in small baskets and expressing them to hotels and boarding houses. They get it fresher so than when buying in larger quantities." So writes a New York truck gardener to the Ohio

It takes a burdock two years to reach maturity, and if the warfare is begun with the first appearance of the plant it is likely to be abandoned before the victory is won-that is, if you under take to spud out the young plants, enough will escape to lead one to be lieve that that method is not effectual If the plants are cut off early in the second year of their growth, just as the blossom stalk is nicely formed, the plant will send out lateral seed stalks that will mature seed. And because of their low branching it is impossible to mow them, and they are left in their

If the plant is left entirely alone un til there is danger of the burs being distributed and then cut off close to the ground and the stalk dried and burned, that plant will be conquered because frost will overtake it before it can mature seed. If this plan is fol lowed up, burdocks can be eradicated as I know from experience, says a Country Gentleman correspondent.

Wheat sown one or two inches in depth usually gives better results than when seeded deeper, except in a very dry season, when deeper sowing is advisable. As a rule, wheat sown with a press drill is better than when sown with a hoe drill, says American Agri-

The potato should be carefully handled in digging and storing so as neither to cut or bruise it. A bruise may not be so fatal as in the case of fruit. but it may lead to decay.

The probability of squashes and nuskmelons growing near together beoming mixed or hybridized by cross pollination is infinitesimally small, as they belong to different genera, the squash being a cucurbita and the muskmelon a cucumis. Orange Judd Farmer contributes this opinion on a much talked of question.

Under the suggestive heading "Death In the Well" Ohio Farmer observes: The statistics of boards of health demonstrate that the maximum of sickness and the minimum of water are coincident in September or October. Usually a low stage of water represents a concentrated state of contamination; hence typhoid fever out-This is lighter, of course, than breaks that are traceable almost directly to the drinking water and its source of supply during these months. Fashion In Breeds 1

Something Which Successful Cattle Raisers Must

****************** One very satisfactory point in connection with cattle breeding in almost every respect is the continual change in fashion which restores to favor so many breeds and points in breeds that from time to time almost appear to sink into oblivion. But a few years ago Shorthorn breeders were discarding every animal of white color or even approaching it. At the present time whites are quite as much in demand as any other color. Again, in the Jersey breed, a few years ago, to exhibit or purchase an animal with even a white spot upon it was the way to condemn the herd whence it came. Today, such is fickle fashion, or, to be perhaps more correct, common

sense has so superseded fashion, that

WEST HIGHLAND STEER. animals are exhibited and frequently gain the highest distinctions with white markings quite predominating, some of the most authentic breeders even venturing upon the use of bulls with a great portion of white upon them. The sooner this state of things pertains to every breed the better. There can be no doubt the discarding of a first class sire or dam on account of color is frequently a great barrier to improvement in our herds.

Ayrshires, like the other Scotch and northern breeds, will have their day later on, and the manner in which they are being looked up by foreign buyers augurs well for the pockets of their supporters. The Kerry and Dexter breeds, which

suit the small holding, the poorer classes of land, and that are so well water on the mulch with the hose. small joints and of the finest quality, tically every breed of cattle.

The North Devon will not be one of the neglected breeds of the future. Its next of kin, the Red Sussex, has been creating a good deal of interest also of late. A capital display of these was seen at the late Sussex county show, and, what is even more satisfactory, those who were traveling about the county found many of the large herds at home had but been fairly sampled be \$400. If we can retail it all, I can in the showyard. This is very im portant and doubtless has much to do with the fact that several new herds of the breed are being founded. For beef, both in quantity and quality, as well value at the market price, but always as early maturity, the Eastern Rubles take a good deal of beating.

The recent rise in the price of beef and the purpose of eastern city butchers to organize against the beef trust probably mean a better market for all meat products, as well as a revival of beef fattening by eastern farmers. Under the conditions prevailing the past few years, eastern farmers have had no beef except that from superannuated cows, for which they could get no sale. Of course to keep their cows in milk they had to breed them once a year, but unless the calf was worth saving as a breeder, it was generally killed as soon as born, not even furnishing food as veal, which it might do if kept a few weeks. With higher prices for beef, it will pay to keep all calves at least till they can be sold as veal, and those that are thrifty may be kept and fed until 1 or 2 years old. At this age they make much better beef than the western cattle, which have their due proportion of old cows and bulls mixed with the 3 and 4 year old steers, which furnish most of the beef that the eastern consumer buys. Thrifty young stock can usually be kept with profit on an eastern farm, where the price of cattle has not been unduly depressed. A large part of its feed comes from produce that would be wasted were there not young fattening stock to feed it to .- Boston Cul-

Natural Laws of the Herse. The importance of a knowledge of the natural laws which govern the actions of our horses, says Dr. J. C. Currier in Farm, Stock and Home, is apparent to every well informed horseman; but to those who have not studied the matter carefully it may be well to call attention to the fact that the pivotical point of all forward and backward movements of the horse is the center of the body-viz, whatever happens at the front of the horse impels him backward and at the back end

causes him to go forward. When the halter is put on the colt's head for the first time and we pull at it, every one is fully aware that the colt will go backward; but we rarely stop to consider why this is so. But the colt feels that he has got his head into some kind of a trap, and he knows but one way to get it out, and that is to pull his head out of the halter. If he got his head fast in the fence

or anywhere else, he would go back-

ward to get it out and would struggle even to the breaking of his neck if he did not succeed. If he gets his front foot over a bar or a barbed wire fence. he will go backward to pull it out. If he gets his hind foot fast, he invariably goes forward to pull it out. Therefore the hitching of the balky horse by the tail will oftener succeed in pulling the load without a fight than any other known process.

LABOR AND FEED.

The Difference In Keeping Large of Small Flocks of Poultry. There is always a profit derived from small family flock, because it has two principal advantages compared with the keeping of large numbers. The small flock is a possibility with all, but the management of several hundred fowls is another matter. One advantage of having the small flock is that the item of labor is eliminated, or, rather, it is not estimated in the cos of a family flock, for the reason that where only a dozen or more hens are kept they are attended to by any of the members of the family, and but a few minutes are given the fowls; hence the cost of labor cannot be estimated, nor does it interfere in any manner with the occupations of those who take an interest in the flock. But when one ventures into raising chicks by the hundreds and retains a large proportion to attain the adult stage the labor necessary becomes a more important item than the food. The second advantage in favor of the small flock is that the cost of the food is materially reduced by the utilization of the waste material from the table. The birds are scavengers to a certain extent and assist in converting into eggs substance that would be of no use, while the scraps would be insignificant if intended as a portion of the ration for a hundred or more fowls. It is the two advantages mentioned that permit one to make several dollars' profit per hen with a small flock and allows only \$1 as profit for each hen in a large flock. Those who have a large number of fowls and who keep strict accounts of all expenses find that the cost of food varies but little from that required for a small flock proportionately, and they estimate their profits by the difference between the cost of food and the receipts, when, in fact, the value of the labor is greater than the cost of the food in many cases, which puts a different aspect on the enterprise. Of course when the owner performs the

labor himself he receives the price of that labor in the receipts, but that does not destroy the fact that the labor must be paid for, as the owner may be compelled to sacrifice a lucrative position in some other business in order to give his flocks his entire attention .-American Gardening

The Pigeons Return. Sportsmen of the olden days will rejoice to learn that the wild pigeons, years, have returned. The American passenger pigeons were spread all over the northwest in the breeding season and immense roosts were commo when they flew in clouds which dark ened the sun at times. The birds have not been seen for 20 years, and ever specimen hunters could not secure a single bird. The people made pigeon hunting one of the principal sources of revenue in those days. They were slaughtered by the hundreds of pounds but still seemed to increase in num ber. They suddenly disappeared and were supposed to be extinct until their recent appearance, some thinking they had all been killed and others saying they had gathered on the eastern shore

in great numbers and had been driver out and perished. Others claimed an infectious disease had destroyed them. It is a great mystery where they have been for so many years, as they have not frequented their southern feeding grounds during the winter for the same length of time. The only possible theory now is that they migrated to South America. It is hoped they may again become as numerous as formerly. The pigeon is a bird weighing on an average 11/2 pounds and has a very fine, highly flavored meat.-

Crookston (Minn.) Times. I cannot, as I have often said, do much for a very little turkey, but I do not think where one has good, strong parent stock that it is very hard to keep the little ones healthy-not hard in the sense of an intricate work, but it is work continually. No day must go by without cleaning the roosting house. I sweep the floor every morn ing, whitewash it once a week, and three or four times a week I dust with insect powder or use a lice paint once a week, whichever is most convenient. If I can keep turkeys six weeks or two months, I feel they will live unless they have an accident. There must be no cessation of care from start to finish, and after they are large enough to go out into the wheatfields they are no trouble except to see that they are at home at night, yet one time neglecting them may cause the loss of the en tire flock. Our farm is six miles distant, and I cannot have the benefit of the shattered wheat, as I once did. My advice to all poultry raisers on large farms is to stay on them. Do not let any one induce you to think a small

liable Poultry Journal. J. T. Littleton in Poultry Monthly says one of the causes of the unpopu larity of ducks is that to be most profitable they must either have access to a shallow pond or stream or they must be fed more carefully than hens. The latter will do well on the farm if fed only grain. But the duck that has no access to water, except what is in the drinking trough, must have soft food. This mixing of the morning and evening mash is troublesome, and the average man will not do it.

Belled His Turkeys A. R. Turner in the New York Trib une writes: "I was living on a farm several years ago and made it a point to raise as many turkeys as possible but was troubled by foxes until I tried the experiment of putting a smal sleighbell on each turkey's neck, after which no fox would come near them."

SON SERVICE STATE OF THE SERVI

ATTRACTIVE BULBS

Beilliant and Graceful-Fine For the House and Border. Although most of our bulbous plants. bloom in the spring, there are several (besides the familiar late flowering gladioli) which require the warmth of summer to open their blossoms. These represents the fixed conviction of a reare flowers that are not found in every garden, yet they are singularly beautiful, with the rare glow of the tropics, and well worth the slight trouble they need in cultivation. The calochorti, Mariposa lilies or butterfly tulips, as they are variously called, for instance, es of the industry. Much of the preshave a delicate grace of their own, a ent investment in live stock is now.



CALOCHORTUS FLOWERS WITH FERNS. bed of their richly tinted blossoms recolors and so exquisite the pencilings of their petals.

The bulbs are planted in the autumn for winter flowering.

Of the many varieties of calochortus. are creamy white, with pencilings of whose nostril the odor of wool son in the cup of the flower a red brown, which gives it a specially elegant effect.

venustus citrinus) and the pink and taste. If his heart is not in any given purple tinted flowers of the same group (C. venustus rosea and purpurea) are all most beautiful, their blossoms being specially useful for cutting, as they last for some days in water, one bulb producing in some instances as many as 30 blossoms during the sea-

C. venustus oculatus, a rose colored flower with a deep black eye, surrounded by yellow, is remarkably strong and vigorous, while vesta which produces the largest flowers of this section, in pale pink, and Vesta alba, pure white, are both among the hardiest of these plants.

Drying Out of Twigs In Winter. It has probably not occurred to many ing out during very severe weather while the ground is frozen. Professor Waugh of Vermont points out that the very little, can be taken up by the of action is determined. tree. Yet at the same time a measura ble quantity is being constantly lost by evaporation through the bark, especial ly through the thin bark of young twigs. He says Professor Bailey calculates that a large apple tree loses daily through the winter about half a

If the ground remains frozen so that no water can be supplied, the tree may easily become so thoroughly dried out as to suffer great damage, and, according to Professor Waugh, without doubt much winter damage to twigs of young fruit trees is caused by drying in this way instead of by freezing The tissues become so dry that in spring they cannot recover.

Never shake the fruit from the tree and never pack for market any apples that have fallen from the tree. Gather every apple by hand and place it care fully in a basket. The apple growers north use ladders, made on the place, of a light pine pole split some distance from the butt end and rungs stuck in to keep the lower end apart, while the entire upper part is but a single pole of a ladder can be stuck in anywhere on the tree and makes it possible to place is better. It has its advantages, reach all the apples. It is simply like but they are overbalanced by the disa long wagon pole with rungs stuck advantages.-Mrs. B. G. Mackey in Rebasket and lets it down by a rope when full. The barrels are taken into the orchard and packed right there.-Professor Massey of North Carolina.

Some New Jersey peach growers re port excellent results from setting peach trees in fall, but spring setting is more generally practiced. In either case care should be taken when setting to have the roots well spread and to fill all air spaces; also to thoroughly firm the soil with the feet. This point is very important. Firming not practice what he has learned; as well only holds the tree in place, but prevents drying out of the soil about the

Pleasing Hardy Shrubs Eleagrues longipes, or wild olive with its bright red fruits and foliage of silvery green, and Clethra alnifolid which has been described as the sweet est of American flowers, are both valuable shrubs.

The state of the s

PEDIGREED STOCK.

fints to Beginners on the Adapta-

bility of Breeds. One must hark back to the days of the early eighties to find a parallel to the remarkable activity in the investment in nedigreed live steck that characterizes the industry at present, says The Breeder's Gazette. A material difference may be noted, however, in the fact that the trade then partook more or less of a "boom" character, whereas now the steady swelling of the tide munerative basis for legitimate business transactions in the production and handling of live stock. Large purchases at present are being made in the beef cattle trade, although unusual activity characterizes all other branchmade by those who have been familian with the business, but who lost heart and let go their hold during the period of depression from which it has happily emerged. They are proceeding with seasoned judgment and have no reason to fear for the future. A goodly portion of the money now being invested in pedigreed stock, however, comes from beginners, from those who are practically unacquainted with the technicalities of the trade and who have

their eyeteeth yet to cut. It would take a book to cover this subject thoroughly, and then it would not be exhausted. Some things can be learned only by experience, but much knowledge may be acquired at less expense. The fundamental proposition to be observed is "Look before you leap." This is trite and very general, but its application may be readily, minding one of a flight of oriental but made. The man who invests in pediterflies, so pure and varied are their greed stock should be governed by his tastes or, to use a longer word meaning much the same, by his predilections.

If he likes the feeding of beef cattle and, though they are hardy, should be and hates to be tied to the tail of a protected with ashes or with litter dairy cow, it would be folly for him to during the winter. Planting in May is invest in milk stock, no matter how also practiced. They grow freely in a light, sandy loam, well drained and with a warm sunny aspect. They are also successfully grown in cold frames tive porker, it is folly to invest in links stock, no matter how successful his neighbor may be with his herd of dairy cattle. If a man distinct the squeal and grunt of the feature porker, it is folly to invest in links stock, no matter how successful his neighbor may be with his herd of dairy cattle. If a man distinct the squeal and grunt of the feature porker, it is folly to invest in links stock, no matter how successful his neighbor may be with his herd of dairy cattle. If a man distinct his herd of dairy cattle. and form a very handsome show when swine, no matter how remunerative grouped six or eight in a five inch pot the venture may appear to be. Dislike begets indifference, and with neglect comes an end to profit. A man with Venustus pictus, here represented, is the shepherd's instincts, to whose ear one of the most beautiful. The flowers the bleat of a lamb is music and to an eyelike spot on each petal of rich any other line because it seems to promise greater returns. Let the farmer suit the action to the word-that is, Then the pale yellow variety (C. let him suit the variety of stock to his

specialty, it is a mistake for him toenter upon it. Equally is this true of breeds. The adaptability of some breeds to certain conditions is quite marked, but it is a fact that within certain limits there is frequently choice of breeds, and this point must be carefully considered by the beginner. Adaptability to the desired purpose should govern as the prime consideration, but after that is determined choice should be predicated on a preference for shape or color or disposition or horns or no horns or on other small distinguishing differences

in the breeds. Much of failure that has attended the attempted breeding of pedigreed stock people that trees are damaged by dry-Men are not thus rash in other busihas come from a plunge in the dark. ness ventures, and yet in no line of investment is knowledge of detail more important. The beginner in the propaground may be so thoroughly full of frost that no water at all, or, at most, be a studious scholar before his course

Feeding Pigs For Pork What is a complete food for the pig, and will it pay to feed some wheat even when wheat is pretty high in price? If wheat is fed with cornmeal. the results are highly satisfactory. Bran, because of its character of com position, is not a wholly desirable feed for pigs. Middlings may be fed with profit at any time during the hog's life. They are not only rich in protein and ash, but are what may be called a clean, smooth food, being free from the objectionable crude fiber which so prominently distinguishes bran. Bar ley is an excellent food and will enable such sections as North Dakota and Montana to produce some of the best pork in the world. In these and other sections like them barley and peas will make pork production profitable if given the opportunity. Peas, as all understand, are a highly nitrogenous food and when dry should always be fed with some other grain. There are some who do not appreciate the value of clover hay for swine. It is to be regretted that such appreciation is not with rungs stuck through. This kind universal. It is not only valuable because of its high merit as a feed, but: because of the bulk that it furnishes. No growing animal should be fed exclusively upon the grains. Swine will through. The gatherer takes a light eat dry clover hay with a relish, but the better way to feed it is so cut it up, steam it or pour hor warrer on it and mix with meal. Pastage, if it is the right kind of pasture. is nearly an essential in profitable swine raising. It: should be clover pastiere, but if it is not it must be composed of short and tender grass.

Working Young Horses.
A colt should be thoroughly broken the winter before he is 2 years old; and should be driven occasionally, both singly and with another horse, to keep in as to furnish the exercise required to keep his muscles in good condition. If but to work, it should be only of the lightest character, and especial care should be taken at first not to gall the shoulders where the collar presses. All the work a 2-year-old colt will do without injury costs about as much as it is worth in extra care given to the young animal that it does not injure him.-Boston Cultivator.