

**Farm and Home.**

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 For the convenience of its patrons Farm and  
 Home has offices at

77 Worthington St., 204 Dearborn St.,  
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Orders for subscriptions, advertisements, and ad-  
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**TWO MONTHS FREE.** New subscribers  
 to Farm and Home for 1900, whose names reach us before December  
 1, 1899, will receive the numbers for the remainder  
 of this year free, thus giving them 14 months' numbers  
 for the price of a year's subscription. This liberal offer  
 will enable our friends everywhere to secure subscribers with comparative ease, as the  
 offer of extra time will be an inducement to sub-  
 scribe. The special book premiums offered, as stated  
 in our last issue, will be an additional inducement,  
 and you should speak of them to everyone likely to  
 be interested. Now, then, is the time to commence  
 work. Begin at once and make good use of these  
 offers. Sample copies, blanks, posters, etc., will be  
 sent free on application.

Address  
**FARM AND HOME,**  
 Springfield, Mass., Chicago, Ill.

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It is the intention of the publishers of  
 Farm and Home to admit into their col-  
 umns none but reliable advertisers, and  
 we believe that all the advertisements in  
 this paper are from such parties. If sub-  
 scribers find any of them to be otherwise,  
 we will esteem it a favor if they will ad-  
 vise us and we will at any time give our  
 personal attention to any complaints  
 which we receive. Always mention this  
 paper when answering advertisements, as  
 advertisers often advertise different things  
 in several papers.

The circulation of Farm and  
 Home for this issue is  
**350,100 Copies.**  
 Sworn circulation statements on  
 Farm and Home are sent to ad-  
 vertisers every three months and are  
 made a part of each and every  
 contract.

**Sow Bugs in Mushroom House**—W.  
 H. E. & Son have had beds set with  
 mushrooms two weeks, but sow bugs  
 are so numerous he is afraid they will  
 destroy the crop. The usual recom-  
 mendation, when sow bugs are com-  
 plained of, is to admit air and sun-  
 light and to use lime and other drying  
 and disinfecting agencies. Of course  
 this is out of the question with W. H.  
 E., and the only course that seems  
 feasible is to entice the bugs to take  
 shelter under convenient small boards  
 or similar shelter and turn these every  
 day, destroying the creatures that take  
 shelter there in any convenient way.  
 I would also advise trying little masses  
 of mixed bran and Paris green moisten-  
 ed with sugar water and placed under  
 board ends. If it is found that the  
 sow bugs feed at all freely on this,  
 no other measure will be necessary.  
 I know of no insecticide that could be  
 applied in the mushroom beds that  
 would not be about as dangerous to  
 the plants as to the bugs.—[Prof John  
 B. Smith, N J Exp Sta.]

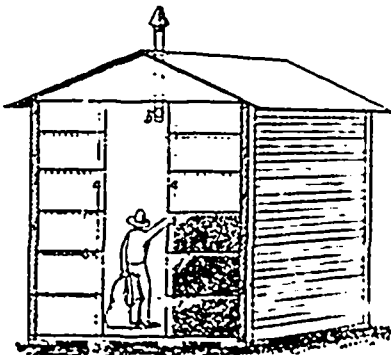
The Demand for Potatoes is one of  
 close discrimination with the mar-  
 kets well supplied. The large crop in-  
 dicated in the last number of F & H  
 is moving to market rapidly at moder-  
 ate to low prices.

**All Around the Farm.**

**THE SWEET POTATO HARVEST.**

**T**O keep sweet potatoes,  
 they must first be prop-  
 erly harvested. Cattle  
 may be turned on first  
 to eat the tops and vines,  
 afterward hogs may be  
 turned on to harvest the  
 tubers. In this way  
 nearly all the crop may be saved at a  
 minimum cost. If the potatoes are to  
 be dug, it is important to know when to  
 dig the crop. They should not be  
 dug when the sap is active in the vines.  
 If, when a tuber is cut, the cut place  
 partially heals over and becomes dry,  
 the crop is usually ready to be har-  
 vested; but if the cut place turns  
 greenish black, the crop is not ready to  
 be harvested.

Vines are a great nuisance in har-  
 vesting sweet potatoes. We have used  
 a sharp rolling coultter on the beam of



A TEXAS POTATO HOUSE.

a turning plow just in front of the  
 point successfully. This rolling coultter  
 cuts the vines on each side of the row,  
 while some dirt is thrown away from  
 the row at the same time. The third  
 time the turning plow is run in the  
 center of the row and the potatoes  
 thrown out. The tubers are then gath-  
 ered and sacked. Care must be taken  
 not to bruise them, as the "soft rot"  
 is apt to start at all bruised places.  
 All bruised tubers should be sorted out  
 at once and fed before storing.

We have obtained good results  
 against black rot by letting the tubers  
 remain in the ground where they grew  
 until wanted. Throwing dirt over them  
 with a turning plow will prevent freez-  
 ing. If potatoes are to be stored, they  
 must be dried out first, and those which  
 decay from soft rot must be taken out  
 frequently. In about two weeks after  
 digging they will be dry, and the soft  
 rot will stop. The cut shows a potato  
 house we have used in keeping pota-  
 toes, both sweet and Irish. It consists  
 of two outer walls with a dead air  
 space between. Also two doors, a  
 double floor, and a ventilator. The  
 ventilator, b, may be opened and closed  
 at will. During warm days in the fall  
 the doors are left open for further ven-  
 tilation. Inside are upright pieces, a,  
 which project from the floor to the ceil-  
 ing. Strips, c, reach from these across  
 to the wall, and on these planks are  
 laid lengthwise, which are also nailed  
 against the side of the posts, thus  
 forming a long box. The potatoes are  
 stored in these, and dry road sand  
 mixed with them, as shown at d. More  
 cannot go through dry sand.

Potatoes kept well in this house when  
 the temperature went down as low as  
 7 degrees Fahrenheit, and not 1 per  
 cent was injured by freezing. The sand  
 must be changed every year for sweet  
 potatoes, because it is very apt to con-  
 tain spores of diseases which will in-  
 fect the next crop when stored. Where  
 we did not change the sand nearly all  
 the crop was lost from black rot. The  
 potatoes that have kept best are the  
 Brazilian, Canal, Shanghai and South-  
 ern Queen. The purple skin varieties  
 have resisted the disease best. We  
 have failed in trying to keep the vines  
 over winter when stored in dry sand  
 and when buried out in the ground.  
 [Tex Exp Sta Bulletin.]

**ROTATION OF CROPS PAYS.**

The loss of nitrogenous material from  
 the soil is not the only danger confront-  
 ing the western farmer. A continuous  
 one-crop system extending over a quar-  
 ter of a century is working a change  
 in the physical properties of the soil.

The decrease of humus, that is, of de-  
 caying vegetable matter, is robbing the  
 soil of its loamy, spongy character so  
 essential to maintain a high percent-  
 age of water in the soil so that all the  
 physical and chemical agencies at work  
 in preparing and conveying food to the  
 roots of plants may work in harmony  
 and work effectively. It has been shown  
 that while percolation robbed eastern  
 soils of half the annual rainfall, evapora-  
 tion was the greatest source of loss in  
 the west, and with the decrease of  
 humus the loss from this source would  
 increase. The summer rainfall was  
 shown to be as great in the west as  
 on the Atlantic coast, but the winter  
 rainfall was much less. The progres-  
 sive farmers of Kan and Neb are now  
 awake to this source of loss, and have  
 for 10 yrs been introducing crop rota-  
 tion, soil renovation and improved  
 methods of culture. The practice of  
 plowing under green catch crops is in-  
 creasing, and the importance of main-  
 taining several inches of dry soil on  
 the surface to form a protecting mulch  
 and conserve the moisture is no longer  
 questioned. The farmer who owns the  
 soil he tills can do these things. The  
 tenant farmer is decreed to continue  
 the work of soil-robbing and soil de-  
 preciation, and is denied the opportu-  
 nity to build up where he tears down  
 because of the prevailing system of  
 one-year leases. This system is born  
 of a desire on the part of non-resident  
 owners to sell and give prompt posses-  
 sion.—[H. R. Hilton, Kan, to National  
 Farmers' Congress.]

**THE CORN GRAIN MOTH.**

The Angoumois grain moth is one of  
 the most injurious insects to corn in  
 some sections, especially in the south-  
 ern states. The illustration shows part



FIG 1. CORN RUINED BY ANGOUMOIS MOTH.

of an ear ruined by this pest. Prompt  
 and energetic measures for its exter-  
 mination must be practiced as soon as  
 it is discovered the pest is at work in  
 the grain. The larva burrows into the  
 kernel, hollowing out the interior, as  
 shown at f, Fig 2, and when escaping  
 perforates the outer end of the kernels,  
 making the ear of corn look as if it  
 had been perforated by small shot. In  
 open cribs where corn is stored in the  
 ear, it is difficult to apply any remedy,  
 and it would seem to be the best plan  
 to shell and store the corn. If it shows  
 any indication of the presence of this  
 pest, putting the shelled corn in tight  
 bins where it can be treated with bi-  
 sulphide of carbon. There is, of course,  
 practically no danger where corn is  
 marketed during the winter or spring  
 following its growth.



FIG 2. THE CHANGES OF THE INSECT.

In Fig 2 the larva is shown at a,  
 pupa d, moth c, larva in kernel of  
 grain f.

Lettuce Rot is troublesome in some  
 sections to lettuce grown under glass  
 during winter and early spring. Let-  
 tuce is not easily sprayed and then it  
 would not do to use poisons on it.  
 Moisture of the plant appears to be  
 necessary for the growth of rot. When  
 a hothouse is kept very damp and the  
 plants are watered frequently by  
 sprinkling, rot often starts in the axils  
 of the leaves and works outward. When  
 the leaves rest on the ground, they be-  
 gin to rot at their tips and the disease  
 then works inward, leaf after leaf rot-  
 ting away as they come in contact with  
 the ground. To avoid this, lay several

series of tile in each bench, the num-  
 ber of series depending on the width  
 of the bench; close the joints with ce-  
 ment around the under two-thirds of  
 their circumference; fit the end tile  
 closely to the wooden frame at one end  
 of the bench, and bore a hole through  
 the frame so as to open into the tile.  
 One can then keep the earth moist by  
 introducing hose connected with a hy-  
 drant, or by using the spout of a wa-  
 tering-can the rose having been re-  
 moved. In other words, the plants are  
 watered by the sub-irrigation method.  
 To avoid the rot which creeps up from  
 the tips of leaves resting on the soil,  
 I have adopted a mulch of fine excel-  
 sor, and it answers the purpose per-  
 fectly. The fine chips produced at  
 planing mills do not answer so well,  
 since they soon become compacted and  
 then soak up and retain moisture from  
 the soil. The central idea of the meth-  
 od is: Keep the exposed surfaces of  
 the plants dry.

Building Paper is an excellent insu-  
 lating material. It is practically air-  
 proof and thus prevents circulation of  
 air through itself. If the places where  
 it laps over, in being put on, are not  
 made perfectly close that air-proof  
 quality is lost. Particular pains should  
 be taken in putting the building paper  
 on to see that it is not torn at any  
 place and that there are no holes in it.  
 Whenever a hole appears a patch  
 should be tacked on, making that part  
 close. Two layers of building paper  
 should be used between boards.

Upon the Product of the Dairy  
 Farm, the manufacturing dairyman is  
 dependent for his prosperity, and the  
 greater the amount of raw material  
 produced the greater the profit. In  
 some sections there are inspectors  
 whose duty it is to go around and visit  
 factories and give individual instruc-  
 tion. Would it not be a good thing  
 to extend the system and have a few  
 instructors on the care and feeding of  
 dairy cattle, who in any section where  
 poor milk is being supplied would be  
 available to give individual assistance  
 to the farmer, to give such instructions  
 as would enable him to produce a bet-  
 ter quality and a greater quantity of  
 milk from a given outlay? This is a  
 practical plan and by this means the  
 very men who need the help most,  
 men who do not attend our institutes,  
 men who read little and think less,  
 men who have got into a rut axle deep,  
 would be reached, and who knows how  
 many would be aroused and made into  
 progressive farmers?—[Prof J. H. Gris-  
 dale, Ont Exp Farm.]

Me and provincial cabbage keeps  
 northern markets supplied until Mar or  
 Apr, the spring crop of Ga and S C  
 reaches market in June. When the north-  
 ern crop is small, as it was last year,  
 the southern trucker who can get his crop  
 into northern markets early can make  
 a good thing. Often the southern grow-  
 er can anticipate such conditions, and  
 put in a large crop. There is a large  
 southern market that would depend on  
 Fla for cabbage if the supply were  
 constant. An extensive trade has al-  
 ready sprung up with New Orleans.

.... OUR NEW....

**Premium List.**

Our Complete Premium List  
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 valuable premiums, and some of the  
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