

had for many years been a Farmer in a parish on the banks of the River Seine, where the soil was, in part sandy and part marshy; for the two last years he has been settled on the Vexin and altho' he has like other people, sown at all times of the moon, and with every wind, and that he has made use of Pigeon's dung, or folded Sheep on the spot intended to be sown, yet he has always reaped very sound grain; from whence it follows, that all and every thing, depends on having very clean seed, there is even reason to suppose, that the washing, not only preserves the grain from being smutty, but also from having any of the Ears filled with the smutty powder. I will not as yet affirm it to be so, but I have remarked that I have had much less of it in those crops, the seed of which had been washed.

Although the quantity of water and lime necessary to lime the seed be known; yet to prevent mistakes, it may not be amiss to give an account of my operations.

I poured into one of the casks one hundred pots or fifty gailons of water, which served to wash the grain, and I poured the same quantity of water into the other cask, in which two Bushels or 100lb of lime had been before flaked with 24 pots or twelve gallons of boiling water; this quantity I found sufficient to lime the fifteen septiers before mentioned; if one wishes to lime it more or less, it may be regulated by the quantity of lime or water, however one might venture to add a little more lime than what I have mentioned, it will make the grain become dry the sooner.

I ought also to inform those who will study their own interest so far as to follow my Example, that if in washing or liming the grain, some of it should pass through the basket, into the casks, this grain so remaining in the bottom of the casks till the operation is over, will be considerably swollen, but not spoiled: that which has been in the cask with the lime will only require to be dried, and that in the cask with the water only, must be dipped in the lime water that remains, as was done with the limed grain, but I have always been careful to sow by itself the grain thus found in the bottom of the casks, the whole passed through the process, and was found to be perfectly good.

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