

## \* The Farm. \*

### The Cow Pea.

Experience supplemented by scientific facts proves that in no way can we so easily restore wornout lands to fertility as by sowing of cow peas, excepting clover. Pea seed will cost less money, and we are more sure of a crop on rundown land than we are of clover. Although the pea is an annual, and may be reasonably sure of a good following crop, which, with me, has always been wheat. Whereas, if clover on poor or rundown land, I never could get a stand, unless an abundance of manure was used. Plenty of manure will raise crops anywhere, unless washed away.

I am a firm supporter of clover when looking for meadow and pasture lands, but for cropping the following year peas would be preferable. Indeed, I would prefer peas on poor land and expect to follow with a good stand of clover.

Like clover, peas are able to draw nourishment from the air. As with other hay crops, peas must be harvested in season. Then the vines make an excellent feed for stock. Horses eat them readily. But if left until overripe they are worse than overripe clover, scarcely fit for bedding. The yield is generally pretty good, but, bushel for bushel, I doubt their food value as compared with corn, but cannot say positively. Sown with oats, one-half of each makes a good feed for milch cows to supplant pasture. I have never pastured cattle on this mixture, but for pigs and sheep it is just the thing. Sheep must be attended to at first, and not allowed to be long among the peas until used to them. I have had no experience with soy beans. —(John Bethune, in Coleman's Rural World.

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#### The Farm Horse.

Strength is not the sole requisite in a farm horse. The true farmer's horse is one equally serviceable in dragging the plough and trotting to market with a light wagon. The farm horse should thus be a cross between the draught and road horse. Courage, determination and quickness in taking hold of loads are very important qualities in this kind of horse. An animal weighing 1,100 pounds with these good qualities will often be more serviceable than the team that weighs hundreds of pounds more. A quick, steady walker is very essential. Did you ever stop to compute how many days' work you could save in ploughing a field with a quick-walking horse? The animal that gets over the ground rapidly saves time and money to the owner. A slow walker is poorer for farm work than a slow trotter, and the time lost thereby is much greater.

Farm horses should have good lung power and good feet and legs, the latter in spite of the old idea that sorefooted car horses would do for the farm. It is foolish to think that sore feet are not a very great disadvantage. The horse must have a soft, yielding purchase in the soil, and sore feet will reduce his pulling powers considerably. Inherited sore feet are worse than those acquired, for no amount of care will then cure them. The Morgan horses possess the qualities that are desirable for good farm teams, but there are others that answer the purpose very well. The farmer who attempts to raise colts for his use should be careful to select good breeding horses that will produce progeny of a desirable nature. Very often the farmer can raise his own horses better than some professional breeder, unless the latter gives special attention to the needs of the farmer. —(E. P. Smith, in American Cultivator.

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#### Sore Eyes in Ducks.

I had been neglecting the care of my Pekins one spring. I had neglected to supply them with a proper amount of sand and shell, but had fed too much concentrated food and they had been deprived of pure water at times.

It was but a short time until I noticed some of them ailing. Some seemed rheumatic, while others had matter protruding from the corners of their eyes, and in a

day or so there was a hard ball of whitish substance gathered at the outer corners of the eyes of several. Some became so bad that their eyes entirely filled or adhered tightly together. After this they became inflamed and swollen, and had I not begun treatment at once I think it might have resulted in gray film over the eyeball.

At first notice of trouble I began giving the ducks a breakfast of oat mash, containing a good seasoning of pepper. The mash was made moist (not sloppy) by mixing with the tea produced by boiling common clover hay in a large tank. This tea I find to be a good substitute for the prepared clover meal for those who have clover hay.

I gave them all they wanted of this tea once a day as a drink, and at other times they always had fresh water, but I gave them what they would drink of the tea first. I began at once to feed my usual amount of vegetables, such as cooked potatoes and turnips, with plenty of sand mixed with food, once a day.

Several times since I have noticed symptoms of sore eyes, but they quickly disappeared when I began feeding as I have described. —(Poultry Herald.

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#### Root Pruning Cherry Trees.

When a cherry tree gets into fall bearing and is regularly picked each year, enough twigs are broken off during the harvesting of the crop to prune sufficiently. But if the tree grows on low, wet ground, it often runs too much to wood, and fruit either does not set or rots, because it is too much shaded by leaves, which are caused by too luxuriant growth. In such cases severe root pruning and cutting out the centre limbs while in leaf will sufficiently check growth, so much that the tree will both blossom fully and will also bear fruit. After the cherry tree begins bearing, the wastage of twigs broken off in harvesting the crop checks wood growth sufficiently to make the trees bear full crops thereafter. But it must be remembered that so much of the cherry is in the stone, which requires heavy doses of potash to perfect it, that if the cherry tree is not liberally supplied with potash and other mineral fertilizer, it will soon begin to die. The cherry tree never fails to bloom and set fruit so long as any part of it lives. It prunes itself by letting enough of its limbs die, so that what remains can produce as much and as fine fruit as they ever did. Most of the larger fruit trees stop bearing as they grow old. The cherry tree keeps on bearing so long as any part of it is alive. —(American Cultivator.

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The discussion of the army bill in the Spanish Senate Wednesday led to an exciting scene. Gen. Weyler arguing against any reduction of the strength of the army, warned the government that the present situation made a revolution highly probable, since it had never been so easy for the army and the people to make common cause. Senor Dato, minister of the interior, severely censured General Weyler, declaring that a general who, with 300,000 men, had failed to suppress the Cuban rebellion, had no right to make such threats, and that any attempt at revolution, no matter by whom, would be proceeded against with the utmost rigor of the law. The army bill was adopted.

It is stated the Norwegian government has decided to proclaim a law introducing a purely Norwegian flag for consulates. The fact will be notified to the powers through the Swedish-Norwegian foreign minister.

The hull of the wrecked Portia was sold at auction Friday to Wm. Grant for \$780.

At Leesburg, Ga., a negro supposed to be one of the Saffold ravers was killed by citizens Monday while resisting arrest.

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