

The Farm

PIT SILOS IN NEBRASKA.

Some large dairy farmers have been storing corn cut green for silage in holes in the ground for a number of years. Mr. Watson, of Kearney, for example, has a 1,200-ton silo of this character. It has been in use for at least three years, and the walls have stood up straight except where surface water started a wash. And what is more to the purpose, the ensilage has kept well.

To make a silo a Nebraska man has only to excavate a hole in the ground. To keep that silo he has only to keep the surface water from running into it. To keep the silage he must dig his silo pit deep—the deeper the better. A circular form of excavation will stand up better and keep silage with less waste than a square or rectangular figure. We advise digging the pit silo eighteen feet in diameter and twenty-five feet deep. Cut the walls smooth and so nearly perpendicular that the pit will not exceed six inches less in diameter at the bottom than at the top. This will let the ensilage settle firmly, but without leaving any vacant spaces next the wall, which would admit air and start rotting of the silage.

The corn should be cut for silage at about the same stage of ripeness usual when it is shocked to save the grain—when the grains are glazed and dented, or when the lower blades are turned yellow. If cut earlier the juice in the stalks tends to sour under the heating process, and we get a sour, non-nutritious silage. If the corn stands till part of it is dry before cutting the ensilage will be deficient in moisture, it will not pack solid and it will retain air enough to cause decay. If the corn cannot be put into the silo fast enough to have it cut at its best, slash the corn down, throwing it in piles on the ground in the field. These piles will keep green much longer than standing corn.

Cut the corn in half-inch lengths in the usual fodder cutter or shredder for packing in the silo. A large size cutter run by a thrasher engine or horse power is best. Such cutter costs a good deal of money and requires many men to work it up to full capacity. This is most economical, however, in the long run, and one big machine can do the cutting for several farms. Where silos are made in the ground elevating machinery and power to operate it are greatly reduced.

Pack the ensilage in the pit carefully. If the fodder has lain in piles till partly dry, sprinkle with water in the pit. Distribute the fine stuff and grain among the

coarser pieces, and tramp solid, particular attention being given to packing around the walls.

In a few days the ensilage will show a considerable heat—115 to 130 degrees. This heat will expel the air or change it to a gas. The heat will subside to 75 or 80 degrees at the end of four weeks, and the ensilage is ready to feed.—(Nebraska Farmer.)

NOTES FROM WESTERN NEW-YORK.

The variety of mail boxes provided by rural residents living along the free delivery routes is interesting and suggestive. To one acquainted with these residents a similarity in make up of the man and the box presents itself, the shiftless man putting up any old thing that comes handiest, regardless of appearance or convenience. A large proportion of the boxes are merely extemporized, as if the owner expected the system soon to be discontinued, and, indeed, such ought to be the case with such men.

This matter of extemporizing things on the farm is to be deprecated. Often, if a tool is to be constructed, it is done in the quickest way for lack of time. The farmer says, "I am in a hurry now. When I have time I will make a nice one." But generally the thing that is hastily made does long service, and is an eye-sore while it lasts.

The subject of a supply of pure water on the farm is a trite one, but until it is more generally heeded one is pardonable for continuing to discuss it. Dug wells are not to be depended upon for purity, as it is next to impossible to shut out surface water and other things that pollute the contents. A driven well is cleaner, but its shallow depth makes it more apt to receive surface drainage. To get a well that may be depended upon for purity have it drilled, and go deep enough to escape all pollution from the surface. Frequently, an artesian well is made in this way, and of course it is worth much more. I had a choice of piping water 700 feet from a neighbor's spring and drilling, and I chose the latter. The choice was fortunate. I have a well 43 feet deep, and it runs over much of the time. Before winter I will tap the casing three feet below the surface with a half-inch pipe and conduct water to a trough at the barn. Had I conducted water from the spring surface water could not have been avoided at times, and the temperature of the water would have been equal to that of the earth in contact with the pipe.—(C. M. Drake, Ingleside, N. Y.)

COFFEE COMPLEXION.

Many Ladies Have Poor Complexions from Coffee.

"Coffee caused dark colored blotches on my face and body. I had been drinking it for a long while and these blotches gradually appeared, until finally they became permanent and were about as dark as coffee itself.

I formerly had as fine a complexion as one could ask for.

When I became convinced that coffee was the cause of my trouble, I changed and took to using Postum Cereal Food Coffee, and as I made it well, according to directions, I liked it very much, and have since that time used it entirely in place of coffee.

I am thankful to say I am not nervous any more, as I was when I was drinking coffee, and my complexion is as fair and good as it was years ago. It is very plain that the coffee caused the trouble. Please omit my name from public print." Mrs. _____, 2081 Ogden Ave., Chicago, Ill. The name of this lady can be given by the Postum Cereal Co., Ltd., Battle Creek, Mich.

Most bad complexions are caused by some disturbance of the stomach and coffee is the greatest disturber of digestion known. Almost any woman can have a fair complexion if she will leave off coffee and use Postum Food Coffee and nutritious, healthy food in proper quantity. The food coffee furnishes certain parts of the natural grains from the field that nature uses to rebuild the nervous system and when that is in good condition, one can depend upon good complexion as well as a general healthy condition of the body.

An interesting experiment has been carried out at the Experiment Station, Nord, France, to determine the relative advantages of large and small wheat. Equal weights of large and small seed were drilled, and, of course, the small seed consisted of a much larger number of grains than the other. The number of plants from the small seed, and later on the number of ears, proved much greater than from the large seed, and the crop of straw was also greater; but the yield of grain from four different varieties was greater from the large seed by two to nearly thirteen bushels per acre. In the case of the large difference the crop was a heavy one of a prolific bearded wheat.

In order to attain the greatest measure of success in raising roots, the preparation should begin the previous fall. As soon as possible after harvest the stubble should be skim-ploughed and then harrowed, and two or three weeks after, cultivate and harrow again, and some time in October haul out about sixteen loads of manure per acre and plough down. If all this has been done, it is only necessary in the spring to cultivate with the spring-tooth cultivator, then harrow and cultivate again the cross way of the first cultivation, and the ground will be ready to drill up for mangles, sugar beets and carrots.

The Bell Telephone Co., Ottawa, decided to raise the rates by \$5 per year.

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- Do your lungs pain you?
- Is your throat sore and inflamed?
- Do you spit up phlegm?
- Does your head ache?
- Is your appetite bad?
- Are your lungs delicate?
- Are you losing flesh?
- Are you pale and thin?
- Do you lack stamina?

These symptoms are proof that you have in your body the seeds of the most dangerous malady that has ever devastated the earth—consumption.

Consumption, the bane of those who have been brought up in the old-fashioned beliefs that this disease was hereditary, that it was fatal, that none could recover who were once firmly clasped in its relentless grip.

But now known to be curable, made so by the discoveries of that man whose name has been given to this new system of treatment.

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The new system of treatment will cure you of consumption and of all diseases which can be traced back to weak lungs as a foundation.

It is not a drug system, but a system of germ destruction and body building.

Not guesswork, but science. Not a step backward, but a stride out of the old rut.

Made possible only by Pasteur's Virchow's, Metchnikoff's and Slocum's latest discoveries in bacteriology, hygiene and therapeutics.

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The Slocum System consists of Four Preparations, which act simultaneously and supplement each other's curative action.

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