

The Farm.

Farm Gardening.

Gardening is different from general farming; for whereas the farmer spreads his efforts over many acres of land, the gardener adopts a more particular and intensive system of culture, to the end that he produces as much produce upon one acre and receives as large returns from this same area as the farmer does upon several acres.

There are many live stock and grain farmers in the West who should do some gardening in connection with their general farm work. This gardening will be found very satisfactory, for it will, in the first place, afford a very important home supply of the most acceptable food, and, in the second place, the returns from the sale of good vegetables to one's neighbors and friends, or in the nearest town or city, will afford a considerable item in the effort to make farming pay in these dull times when cereal markets are so depressed.

Select for a garden the best piece of land on the farm. Let it be smooth, level and in a good state of tillage. If it be near barn or stable so much the better, as it will be less labor to draw on the manure, and, being near the water tank, it can be irrigated in a dry time.

To grow good, tender, succulent vegetables very liberal quantities of rich manure are to be applied, and the soil is to be kept in a fairly moist condition, as moisture is absolutely required to enable the plant to appropriate the needed fertility from the soil. No fertilizer is better for the garden than rich, well-rotted, fine horse or cow dung. Avoid the application of coarse, strawy manure, as this has a tendency to make air spaces in the soil, cut off capillary action, and cause the ground to dry out too rapidly.

Do not be afraid to put on the manure, no matter if you think your land in pretty good shape; nevertheless, put on at least ten or twelve cords of manure per acre, for this manure is just what will stimulate a rapid, quick growth of stem and leaf, and is what makes the same juicy and tender.

Remember that there is little hard labor even in garden culture if you but lay out your garden rows of good length, and place them wide enough apart to admit the passage between of horse and cultivator. The horse now does most of the work in the garden, if one will but let him.

Be sure and prepare the soil in the very best possible way, for the effects of a thorough spring preparation are to be seen all through the period of the growth of the crop. Good tillage at first means reduced labor in cultivating the crop ever afterward. So plough and harrow, and drag or roll and harrow repeatedly. The drag or roller following the harrow is very effective in breaking up the clods and making the soil as fine as sand.

When it comes to seed, buy the best and surest, although you may and probably will have to pay more for it than at the corner grocery. Grocery seed is too often wholly or partially, old and inferior, and, after your careful preparation of the garden, you cannot afford to risk any chances whatever. It is a good plan to order your seed direct from some of the seed-growers and reputable seedsmen who now advertise so generally, as a man or company that places its own name upon a package of seed will see to it that it is good seed.—William P. Perkins, in Farm, Field and Fireside.

To Kill the Elm Beetle.

In almost every section of the country where the elm tree endeavors to thrive the elm beetle or grub has made its way. Thousands of trees have yearly been destroyed by these insects, and in some districts where the stately trees were once a source of joy and pride, but few remain—so few, in fact, that the coming generation

will scarcely know of the species. The last ten years has been a decade of progress for the beetle, although chemists have endeavored to prevent the spread, and wipe out the pest from existence.

One chemist, however, has been successful in the working out of his theory, but he has always kept his experiments a secret. The gentleman in question is William Maynard, of Belleville, a town along the Passaic River in New Jersey. In this particular section are many wrecks of former elms. It is rare that an unaffected tree is to be found, with the exception of those about Mr. Maynard's place, which stand as a memorial to their owner's well-directed efforts to preserve them. They are in the most healthy condition, hence the method of care exercised by Mr. Maynard is worthy of consideration. His plan or treatment is as follows:

In the spring the loose bark and fibrous growth about the base of the tree should be removed. Then place clean sand, or, better still, some plaster, about the roots. On this Mr. Maynard pours a solution made of soap and ordinary potash, and continues the treatment by washing the trunk of the tree to a distance of ten or twelve feet with the liquid.

At the same time Mr. Maynard prepares a strip of wadding about four inches in width by soaking it in the soap and potash solution. After the wadding has been allowed to dry, he cuts it into lengths equal to the circumference of the trunk, and this is fastened about the tree a dozen feet from the ground. The upper edge of the wadding he binds closely about the trunk, and then pulls the lower portion upward in such a manner as to form a trough. The few insects which manage to reach this point are subjected to the corrosive action of the solution and soon perish. Those which are already up the tree, when descending, as they do at intervals, are caught in the trough, and die in a few hours. This method, Mr. Maynard declares, is by far the best of a dozen and more which he has tried, or seen attempted. The result has always been the most satisfactory, although the originator has never exploited his method, and has confined the treatment to his own elms.—John D. Anderson.

Notes.

During the fiscal year 1896, 2,100,000 pounds of cheese made in the United States were shipped to Montreal, there reloaded and exported to Great Britain.

Farmers should endeavor to secure an extension of the fruit canning industry. The preserving of fruits should be one of the chief means of money making in a very large section of this province.

Mark Sprague, O. A. C.: If grain raising should come to the front again, the man who is in the butter business will be ready to start in with his land nearly as good as new.

The American Agriculturist says American dealers are importing large stocks of wool, in anticipation of an increase in the duty, so that it will not be necessary to draw at all upon foreign supplies next year.

STRATFORD, 4th Aug. 1895.

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