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Clover-Sick Land

We hear a good deal now and then about clover-sick land. This means, in other words, land exhausted by too much clover growing. We might just as well say that the land is wheat-sick, corn-sick, or some-thing else. If you raise corn or wheat on a field for five years in succession you will have sick land.

Clover raised too many years in succession exhausts the soil of its mineral elements, and it becomes clover-sick. A perfect knowledge of this should be understood by every farmer who raises clove and thinks by so doing that he is restoring his soil to its original fertility.

Clover is a valuable agent in restoring

fertility, because it adds to the soil what most fields lack. It gathers from the atmosphere nitrogen and adds it to the soil.
Its foots help to break and pulverize the soil, and when they decay they add much plant food to it. By ploughing under a clover field we make the soil richer by se many tons of plants, and by the amount of nitrogen that the plants have extracted from the air. As nitrogen is one of the most important of fertilizers, the costly and one found in the least quantities in most soils, the value of clover is apparent.

But too many stop there. They keep raising clover year after year. The land becomes stocked with plant material and nitrogen. Much of the nitrogen is not in an available form, because it needs more mechanical stirring of the soil to liberate it. In time the land becomes clover-sick, or exhausted of the other two important soil fertilizers-potash and phosphoric acid. soil fertilizers—potash and phosphoric acid. This is why soils are clover-sick and refuse to let new crops of clover catch well. The remedy is simple. The fertilizers should be more evenly balanced. If to the clover we add sufficient potash and phosphoric acid, and sir the soil enough to mix these, and to produce chemical processes that liberate the nitrogen, then the soil will become as rich and strong as one could desire.—(.rofessor James S. Doty, in American Cultivator.

Little Things Count.

Little things count in farming as well as in any other business. The farmer who expects to make a success of his calling by not giving attention to details, and not making every little item count, will be greatly disappointed. He will find at the and of the year that there has been a leakage somewhere and won't know where it is.

leakage somewhere, and won't know where it is.

It is related of a rich farmer out West that he never passed a lock of wool which had been pulled from a sheep's fleece by catching on a sliver in the fence or the rough bark of a tree. The piece of wool would be picked up and put in his pocket till he went to the house, where it would be thrown into a box in the wool room. This man was always picking up and saving nalls, scraps of iron, loose bolts and nuts and other odds and ends, such as may be found on every farm, large or small. He was by no means a stingy man, for he lived in a magnificent house, and was liberal in a great many ways.

It is not to be supposed, however, that he became rich by saving bits of wool or pieces of scrap iron. But this propensity to keep things picked up was carried into all his work, and made him thorough in everything he did. His care about small matters was an indication of his careful way of looking after large things. His barns never had doors hanging by one hinge, the tires on his vehicles never got loose and rattled longer than it would take him to get to the blacksmith shop. He did not let his machinery get to rattling and keep on using it till it broke down completely. His motion was one that taught the advisability of keeping everything in good order and in the proper place. A leak in a roof was mended, and no hay or grain was spoiled. A broken board in the fence was replaced, and his crops were not destroyed by his stock. (He attended to the little things, and they multiplied into a fortune.—Farming.

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