

The Farm.

To Check the Squash Vine Borer.

A handful of tobacco stems placed around a hill of squashes is said to do much to keep away the fly that is the parent of the squash borer. It is also a good fertilizer, particularly if ground fine. But it is said that even a more effective remedy is the use of bisulphide of carbon. Make a hole about an inch deep in the soil of the hill, among the vines, and put in a few drops of the liquid and cover it up. The fumes will find their way upward among the plants, and if the moth is there it means instant death to her. If she has been there it destroys the eggs of the young borers. If she has not come she will detect the odor and keep away. The fly usually appears in the latter part of July, and the borer begins its work about August 1, and the vines begin to wilt and turn yellow about the first of August, but they are sometimes earlier. When they are seen in a single vine it is quite time to make the application if it has not been done before. It may not be necessary to caution any one of the poisonous or explosive character of this compound, or the danger of inhaling the fumes or carrying fire near it, but better a few unnecessary words than the trouble that might result if these precautions were neglected.

We have known gardeners to give up growing squashes because of these squash borers, or because of the abundance of the large squash bug, yet the latter is easily disposed of by spraying with the Bordeaux mixture, a single spraying being usually enough if the vines are well coated with it. They live by sucking the sap, and do not like the lime and copper flavor.—Massachusetts Ploughman.

Grasshopper Destroyers.

Alexander Crow, quarantine officer of the State Board of Horticulture, has received from Australia a consignment of tachinas, which are expected to exterminate the grasshoppers of this State. The tachinas are said to be the hereditary enemies of the 'hoppers, and are guaranteed to do no injury to trees or vines, but to devote their time and energies strictly to the purpose for which they are imported. The flies will be kept in cold storage, at a temperature of about twenty-five degrees, until May, when they will be liberated simultaneously with the annual appearance of the grasshoppers. The Australian consignment also comprises a considerable number of lady birds, which are believed to be adapted for the destruction of the red scale of Santa Clara orchards.—(San Francisco Chronicle.

Care for Overfed Hens.

I noticed an inquiry from R. D., Orange County, N. Y., in the Tribune, recently, in regard to ailment of fowls. It is difficult to tell the cause of the ailment without knowing the food given them, their treatment, etc. Probably they have been overfed. Several years ago I fed a flock liberally with skim milk. After several weeks of this diet the hens were taken with an ailment and acted as if their backs were injured. They would flutter and stagger when walking, and finally die, as

READY COOKED FOOD.

A Great Convenience For Housekeepers.

Two young ladies in a certain city are employed down town and rent a small flat, where they do light housekeeping. Frequently they are invited out evenings, and the subject of meals is a puzzle. Of late they have solved the problem by keeping some nice rich milk or cream convenient and a package of dry Grape-Nuts nearby. In thirty seconds the meal is ready and it is a most fascinating meal, too for the creamy taste blends with the peculiar delicate sweet of the grape sugar in the Grape-Nuts producing a never-to-be-forgotten flavor. The sustaining power of the food is sufficient to keep one well nourished even when a small amount is used.

afflicted with apoplexy. After several had died the rest were bled in the combs and given a teaspoonful of Rochelle salts each. All that were given this treatment recovered within twenty-four hours. The salts can be placed in the hen's mouth and a teaspoonful of water given, which will cause her to swallow them without any trouble.—(J. H. Andre, Waverly, N. Y.

Keep Hogs off the Manure.

We know that the hogs do good work in mixing the manure, working it over and keeping it from fermenting, but they do cost their owner a pound of pork for what a man would do at the price of half a pound. And if they root in it during the day they must be driven off at night, or they will not make any growth at all, and perhaps die from foul air and the heat below them with a colder air on the other side. We once bought a lot of forty shoats that had been in a barn cellar on manure all winter. Though well fed they were but little larger in the spring than they were the fall before. When we gave them dry beds in a clean place they gained so that in less than two weeks they sold for nearly double the price we paid for them.—(American Cultivator.

Importance of Thorough Tests.

Some years ago we were called to examine a wheat field, on a part of which two hundred pounds an acre of fertilizer had been used, costing \$4.50, while the other part had not had any fertilizer. The owner thought one part as good as the other, while we were so confident that there was more wheat, larger heads and plumper grain on the fertilizer part that we finally agreed to pay the extra expense, if there was any, of having the two fields cut and threshed separately, that we might know just what the difference might be. We think there was over nine bushels to the acre, threshers' measure, and as it was in the days of dollar wheat, the profit over cost of fertilizer was about \$5 an acre. We write this not to advertise any special fertilizer, for we have forgotten what kind was used, but to illustrate our point, that if the grain had not been measured the grower would have decided that it did not pay to use fertilizer. Since that time many have found that two hundred pounds to the acre pays, and that four hundred pounds pays better.

We have seen wheat fields where a part had fertilizer and had not, and the gain in cost, was small compared to the gain in the amount of clover and clover seed grown in the next two years, and this was not equal to the enriching of the soil for future crops after the clover was ploughed in.—(Massachusetts Ploughman.

The draft horse, according to the best authorities, should have two pounds of feed daily for each 100 pounds of weight. A 1,600-lb. animal, for instance, should be given 32 pounds of food. Of this, 10 to 18 pounds should be grain, the amount depending upon the severity of the labor.

One very important item in the bill of fare for sheep is clean, fresh water, which they can go and sip at their leisure. They will do this every few minutes while eating and will go quite a long distance for it if they can get it, taking only a sip or two at a time.

Charles F. Jones, secretary and valet to the late William Marshall Rice, New York millionaire, has confessed under oath that he had ended the life of his employer and benefactor with chloroform. The confession was the climax of a remarkable recital, in which were laid bare the details of a conspiracy which had for its object the seizure of \$1,000,000 in cash and negotiable securities and the conversion of \$1,000,000 in reality to the uses of the alleged chief conspirator. Jones said the crime was committed at the instigation and direction of Albert T. Patrick, a New York lawyer.

Jagged Steak.

Take a couple of pounds of lean beef-steak, one ounce of flour, two onions, pepper and salt. Cut the steak into neatly shaped pieces and beat it nicely. Place the steak in a jar, cover it with delicately flavored stock thickened with flour, add the onion, pepper and salt. Stand the covered jar in a slow, steady oven for five hours. To serve place the steak on a hot dish, strain off the gravy, color it and dissolve some red currant jelly in it. Pour over the meat and garnish with small fried forcemeat balls. Hard boiled French beans with this dish.—Rx.

A young muskrat man may be said to be in a bad fix when he has to keep a seal-skin wife on a muskrat salary.

About the only thing that induces the wise man to give advice is the thought that it won't be followed, anyway.

Suburbanite—"You've got a new baby at your house, I hear?" Townite—"Great Scott! Can you hear it away out there in the suburbs?"—Detroit Free Press.

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