

## PRACTICAL FARMING.

## FALL SEEDING OF TIMOTHY.

No matter what time of year the Timothy is sown one cannot count with absolute certainty of having a good crop every time, writes C. P. Goodrich. If it is sown in the fall, it will be quite sure to come up good, but if the hot, dry weather comes before it has root enough to withstand it, the small, feeble Timothy dies. This I have found to be the case on an average of one year out of three, and a real good stand was not secured only about one year out of two. When the seed is sown in the fall (about the first of September is the best time) on land properly prepared and the seed well covered, the cases of failure are rare. Of course we have had falls when there was just rain enough after sowing to make the seed sprout and come up, and then the weather turned so dry as to kill it. I have had good success in sowing Timothy with rye when the rye was sown early in September, but when sown in October it was a failure. The Timothy came up, but was so very fine and small that the winter freezing killed it. I sowed a few rows of Timothy on a piece of black, mucky land which was a marsh reclaimed by tile drainage. It sowed on it after the rye was drilled in, four quarts of Timothy seed and two quarts of Alaska clover seed to the acre. It was thick seeding. It came up nicely, but was rather small when winter set in. Early in the spring I examined and found the clover dead. I sowed on another two quarts to the acre of Alaska clover seed about the first of April. I had a splendid stand and for three years a very fine meadow. When I seed with clover I seed in the spring. If I wish to have Timothy grow with it I usually wait until the fall, after the rye has been drilled in, and then sow on from two to four quarts of seed to the acre and go over it with a harrow, so as to have it slightly covered. Three different times I have sown clover in the fall with winter grain. Twice it was a failure because the clover was so small when hard freezing came that it was killed. Once it was a success and I had a fine stand. As a result of this experience I have decided to always sow clover in the spring. When I sow Timothy with grain I use a grass seed attachment with my grain drill for the purpose, sowing about four quarts to the acre and then harrowing it over lightly.

When Timothy is sown by itself a wheelbarrow grass-seed-sower is used which sows sixteen feet wide and does it very evenly. One has a field that has been in small grain this year and was not seeded, and which he wishes to get into Timothy as soon as possible, this is the way he should proceed: Prepare the ground nicely the last of August by plowing and harrowing, or disc it up and then harrow. Sow on the Timothy seed, harrow lightly and roll so as to pack the ground and make it smooth. If the season is favorable a pretty fair crop—say two-thirds of a full crop—may be expected the next year, and the year after that it will be at its best, producing a full crop. It is not profitable on most lands to let Timothy meadow run more than three years without plowing up. The second or third year a top dressing of manure will help wonderfully. The manure should be hauled out right from the stable during the winter and spread evenly over the surface. Early in the spring go over it with a harrow. This will make the manure fine, work up the ground a little around the roots of the grass and mix in manure to some extent. Timothy is an exhaustive crop on the soil and good crops cannot be raised on the same ground many years in succession without applying some fertilizer.

## SUMMER FEEDING OF SWINE.

A series of green foods can be had in succession on most farms throughout the summer with very little preparation. The clover field supplies the first pasture, and will last in good order until the green peas are ready to feed. It is not well to make sudden changes, as even a pig will get sick if unwisely fed. The new food may be introduced by throwing in a few forkfuls daily for a week before the permanent change is to be made," says N. Y. Farmer. If there is then a small field of peas to feed, the pigs may be turned out once, or it may be wise to hurdle a plot which can be hogged off thoroughly without any waste. Along with this, if sweet whey or skim milk forms the drink, which should not be fed in a larger quantity than eight pails per day to a full-grown hog, steady and profitable growth may be expected. After the pea season has passed, second-growth clover or corn will be on hand to form the bulk of the diet. As finishing time approaches, a grain ration composed of barley, corn or shorts will be profitably fed in conjunction with the green fodder. Fed in this way, the land upon which peas are produced will have gained fertility. Hogs and hogs produce have been holding their own remarkably well this season. As the days go by, he is still the "gentleman that pays the rent."

## SHRINKAGE OF WOOL.

"It is often desirable to know the loss occasioned by shrinkage in handling and storing of wool under varying conditions, and I think an account of an experiment undertaken with this end in view may not be without interest," says a writer in Farm and Home. "Twenty-four fleeces, divided into four lots, were stored, by three different methods, and weighed periodically (generally monthly) for a year. Three lots of the wool were from Shropshire sheep clipped between the 14th and 18th of April. One lot consisting of five fleeces was weighed, each separately, and packed in a clean, dry box, just large enough to hold the wool conveniently, and a close-fitting lid nailed on. Another lot containing eight fleeces, was weighed in the same manner, sacked and suspended from the ceiling. Another of five fleeces was placed on a shelf and closely covered, so as to exclude all dust and prevent disturbance. Every year he receives a gift from the Master of the Buckhounds of a buck and doe killed in the royal preserve. This custom goes back so far that there is no record of it. Later in the year the speaker receives another gift from the same source. The tribute from the second occasion are the Clothworkers Company of London who send to the speaker a gift of House of Commons and to several of Her Majesty's ministers a generous wish of the best broadcloth.

weight in the first three lots clipped in April; in fact, the aggregate weight of the three lots on June 15 was exactly what it was when taken off in April of the previous year. Some variation occurred in the meantime, a few of the changes being hard to account for, but the variation was not great at any time. The late-clipped wool, however, showed a loss of about 6 per cent. of the original weight during the year, and as the first weight was not taken until a week after shearing, there may have been an additional loss that was not determined. The indications from this investigation are that: First, early-clipped medium wool, from sheep well kept, free from dirt and stored in good quarters, will not shrink in the same kind, with proper care, as wool from sheep of a later date of shearing. Second, late-clipped wool, of substantially the same kind, will shrink more than this. Wool dealers state that they can never handle this kind of wool in the early part of the season without sustaining a heavy loss in weight. Before deciding to hold wool it is well to take into consideration the kind and condition of the clip, and calculate the probable loss from shrinkage."

## NUTRITION IN FLOWERS.

How They May Be Used for Food as Well as Beauty.

When the violets of Grasse, France, are grown all the old and stale violets are sold to manufacturers of confectionery. In Roumania violets, roses and lime flowers are utilized largely for flavoring preserves of different kinds. The most esteemed sherbet in Egypt is prepared by pounding violets and boiling them in sugar. This violet sherbet is of a green color and is called the "Grand Signor's Sherbet."

Rosebuds boiled in sugar and made into a preserve are eaten by Arabian women. Rose petals are candied like violets, and so likewise are jasmynes. The common yellow pond lilies make delightful preserves, and from them the Turks prepare a cooling drink. These flowers have a perfume like that of brandy, and hence are sometimes called "brandy bottles."

A scientific publication recently said that by means of musical vibrations forms of flowers and trees can be produced upon sand and semi-liquid substance. Imagine the pleasure of seeing the image of a flower grow to the sound of musical notes while one enjoys the delicate flavor of the perfume of the flowers.

All flowers of pleasant flavor, and some of them, like the camellia, carnation and orange flower, can be used in salads, preserves and sweet fritters. Not only must the flowers be free from food be considered, but also the nature of the elements they bring into the system, the proper proportion of chemical substances and their laxative or constipating nature. For we do not require food of either too concentrated or too bulky a nature. It requires also a due admixture of foods. Thus, pure albumen is not desirable, even if correctly conducted, may be the highest degree of deception. The amount of albumen which we daily require is relatively small, and needs a large quantity of respiratory food to be taken with it. The latter is the delicate flavor of the flowers, even if correctly conducted, may be the highest degree of deception. The amount of albumen which we daily require is relatively small, and needs a large quantity of respiratory food to be taken with it. The latter is the delicate flavor of the flowers, even if correctly conducted, may be the highest degree of deception.

## SPURIOUS TEA.

A Large Consignment Reported in New York—A Possibility That It May Be Brought Into Canada.

An item appears in one of the New York papers to the effect that a large quantity of spurious tea from China and Japan had recently been refused entrance into the United States by the Government officials, and that it had been sent by the owners to some other place, Canada being named as its probable destination. According to Mr. P. C. Larkin of the Salada Tea Company, the same thing occurred last year, when thousands of boxes of King Sany tea from China and Japan were refused entrance into the United States, and the tea was then sent to Canada, where it was admitted and afterwards sold for consumption in different parts of Canada. The spurious tea, Mr. Larkin says, is absolutely poisonous, and he hopes if the tea recently refused at New York is sent to Canada that the Dominion Government will see that it is either destroyed or sent out of the country. He then went on to say that he had been telling the people of Canada for years back that they should drink the beautiful teas of Ceylon and India, which are absolutely free from all adulteration or coloring, and what is also very important, perfectly clean. He described the different modes of preparation. In China and Japan, the tea, after being picked, undergo a process of fermentation, and are then rolled by the hands of the natives, while in Ceylon and India the teas, after being picked, are never handled again, but are prepared entirely and even packed in lead packages by machinery, so that even the grocer cannot touch them, and in the case of Salada, which is the highest grade of tea made in Ceylon or India, Canadians are enabled to drink it without fear from the time that it is picked from the bush. Another thing in favor of Salada is the fact that no teas are permitted to be shipped out of Ceylon or India without Government inspection, and all teas manufactured there are made under English supervision.

## A SPEAKER'S PRIVILEGE.

The Speaker of the English House of Commons has several peculiar privileges. Every year he receives a gift from the Master of the Buckhounds of a buck and doe killed in the royal preserve. This custom goes back so far that there is no record of it. Later in the year the speaker receives another gift from the same source. The tribute from the second occasion are the Clothworkers Company of London who send to the speaker a gift of House of Commons and to several of Her Majesty's ministers a generous wish of the best broadcloth.

## YOUNG FOLKS.

## FLOWER MISSIONS.

Young people who live in the country near big cities can do much to help in such a sweet mission as the following, clipped from an exchange:

"A pretty sight might have been witnessed by anybody who took the trouble to look, one Sunday afternoon, when a group of girls sitting in an old summer-house on a green lawn were tying up bunches of roses, heliotrope, and mignonette, and laying them in flat baskets, to be sent to the city the next day. The flowers were freshly gathered, and, after they were bunched, the girls had them carried to a cool dark place, where they were left for the night. Such color! such fragrance! such bloom! such beauty!"

"As the girls tied them they chatted merrily, girl fashion, not of the flowers, nor of where they were to be sent but of their own affairs, their friends, their little jaunts, and plans for the next week. Every Sunday through the summer, either with their own hands or by some substitute, they arrange these flowers, whatever kind are in season, and every Monday the sweet things start on their blessed errands to the people in the city."

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