

Later Cultivation.

For working the land until the corn stands about three feet high in the rows or hills, the two-horse riding cultivator will give the best results. Use the one-horse walking cultivator for later work.

The cultivator should be run through the crop, shortly after any considerable rainfall or about once a week in dry weather. Work may be stopped usually when the corn is so high as to hide the horse and driver from view.

Very seldom, if ever, will it be found advisable to rib up the corn. Such treatment might occasionally be advisable in a wet season on very low-lying or heavy land, never on light soils.

Hand Work.

A certain amount of hand hoeing is usually necessary. This should be done first when the corn is six or eight inches high. The thinning to eight inches apart in the rows should receive attention at this time. Plants should be cut clean out to prevent suckers coming on again. Later it will be found advisable to again go over the field and remove any further weeds that may have come up in the rows. When a field is particularly dirty it is advisable to sow in hills and the cultivator can then be worked both ways. The amount of hand hoeing will in this way be very much lessened.

When to Harvest.

Corn will be ready to cut for forage or ensilaging when the grain or kernel is in the dough stage and has begun to glaze. If weather conditions are adverse, that is, cold and wet, it is often advisable to cut before this stage of maturity is reached, when for any reason the crop is late maturing. Frost does not spoil the crop for either forage or ensilage, but the feeding value is quite materially lessened if the leaves and stalks are badly frozen.

SUMMARY.

1. Corn will grow on any well drained and well manured soil.
2. Thorough soil preparation is absolutely necessary.
3. Corn should not be sown closer than 3 feet apart in hills, or if in rows, 3½ feet apart, 8 inches between plants in the rows.
4. Sow varieties suitable for district. Varieties that will mature fairly well are necessary.
5. Keep field well cultivated and free from weeds.
6. Cut in dough stage.
7. Preserve in silo if possible.