

The Farm.

Artichokes for Hogs.

Of all the different foods, either grain or vegetables, that could be classed as indispensable for the breeder to raise for swine, the artichoke is the foremost. In the artichoke, as a hog food, we have, first, a wonderful fattening quality; second, the health restoring quality, and, third, the economical requisite in its favor above any other root crop for swine feeding. The cheapness of production combined with the vast yield and ability of the hog to do the harvesting, makes it plain to the reasonable observer that the artichoke excels all other vegetables for swine, from an economic view. Can any one cite a case of hog cholera where the hogs had had access to artichokes for three weeks, and were in health that length of time prior to the attack? I do not think so. If there is, it will be news to those who have experimented on this line for years with profit. I have raised them for several years, and have never lost a hog from disease; yet I have never raised a supply sufficient to their wants for the number of hogs kept.

Hogs pasturing on artichokes are invariably blooming in health, obvious from the fact that they are never constipated. On the contrary, a laxative condition of the whole hog system is produced. One of the greatest objections among a considerable number of farmers in planting them is the belief that they are hard to eradicate, and in this I think they have been ill advised, because I have planted them on different parts of my farm yearly and have cleaned them out without any extra effort. Artichokes are relished equally well by cattle, horses and poultry through the cool season, but, of course, would cause more expense on account of having to be dug and stored for such use. I raise only the White French variety which yield well and I believe to be the best. Artichokes require a long season to mature, hence the necessity for early planting for best results. As long as I raise hogs (and I have not set any date to suspend) I shall plant artichokes, believing the prevention of disease of hogs by giving proper food is preferable to curing them after they are sick and dying.—(Journal of Agriculture.)

"JUST LIKE PAPA."

Children Glad to Have Their Coffee Like the Parents.

More than any of the old folks realize, the little folks at the table like to have food and drink the same as Father and Mother.

Perhaps you can remember the time when a fork full of the meat or potato or a sip from the cup that your Father or Mother was using seemed to possess some remarkable merit and flavor.

If children can be given a strong, nourishing food drink such as Postum Food Coffee it more than satisfies their desire to have things like the older folks, and at the same time gives them a drink they love and fatten on.

A lady up in Oakes, N. D. says that since their family have been drinking Postum the children are stronger and better than ever before, and are so glad to think they can have coffee to drink "just like papa."

The husband and father was taken sick with a very severe attack of stomach trouble and had to give up work, being confined to the house for some weeks, suffering greatly. For some time he had been in the habit of drinking coffee for breakfast, and tea for dinner and supper. The wife writes, "After reading some of your advertisements we ordered if coffee and tea had not been the cause of his sickness."

We finally decided to have him quit tea and coffee and try Postum Food Coffee. He dates his recovery from the day he commenced to drink Postum, and has not had to stop work from sickness since then.

Some years ago I tried a package of Postum and did not like it, but I know now that it was because I did not make it right. It is easy to make good Postum if the simple directions are followed. The only failure is when people do not boil it long enough.

Please do not publish my name. I am always ready to tell, however, of the merits of Postum. Name given by the Postum Cereal Co., Ltd., at Battle Creek, Mich.

Size of Kernels of Seed Wheat.

Great possibilities lie in the development of seed wheat. Constant selection of the largest kernels will have a constant tendency to improve the seed and the resulting crop. Some experiments were carried on in France to determine to what extent the crop could be improved by such a selection. Though the process was carried on for only three years, the results were apparent. The experiment was tried in two directions, always selecting the largest seeds for one crop and the smallest seeds for another. At the end of three years the yield on the plots planted with the large seeds was very marked over the plots that had been planted with the small seeds. Also the large wheat grains had more vigor and developed much more rapidly than did the others, and the crop matured earlier.

The same experimenter carried on at the same time a parallel experiment. He selected for one lot the grains that developed soonest on the heads, and for another lot selected the grains that matured latest on the heads. In three years he had two crops growing side by side, one of them maturing six days ahead of the other.—(Tennessee Farmer.)

A Dollar a Year for Each Hen.

I know of a colony of hens that has in the last year averaged a net profit of \$1.25 a year. They were a selected lot, however, and hardly represented what all the hens of a farm could do. There is excellent reason why such a colony should be formed by itself. Select from the farm the best layers and put them together in a separate colony. Then keep an account of all the eggs they lay. If for any reason some of the hens should fail to keep up their standard, take them out of this colony, and add those from the general yard which show qualifications for the select company. This selective process is an excellent training in showing you just what hens of the flock are the best layers, and it also demonstrates pretty forcibly what can be accomplished if one weeds out those that do not pay. Now, if the whole flock could be brought up to this high standard, would not the chance of making a dollar a year and more per hen be greatly advanced? In order to keep even one colony up to this high state of efficiency it will be necessary to cull out from their number and add new blood every year, for some will run out of their powers of laying, and will no longer be fit for the company they are in. It will be necessary to raise more new blood continually to keep up the special colony.—(Annie C. Webster, in Massachusetts Ploughman.)

The Small Flock of Sheep.

A limited number of sheep should be kept on every arable farm in America, provided more or less of the land is inclosed with some kind of fencing. I am satisfied that from ten to twenty can be kept on every hundred acres of land without any cost to the owner for food except in the winter. They will sustain themselves very largely at least on what would otherwise be lost. They can be utilized in trimming up all byplaces on the farm. They may be made to do the work of scavengers. There are those who ridicule the idea of keeping sheep as scavengers. Even so, that is just the work I would have them do on every farm on which a small flock is kept. They will do this work in handsome fashion. The little paddocks around the barn, the lanes leading back into the farm, the grass rims beside strips of forest and all the corners and crannies about the whole farm they will trim up as though they were trying to prepare a lawn; if they are only given access to them at the proper season. Of course, they must be allowed to graze these places closely. Such a flock of sheep would more than pay their way by the weeds and weed seeds that they would destroy. And while being thus fed they would keep in the pink of condition, since they are being furnished with just the kinds of food suited to their needs.—(Professor Shaw, in Wool Markets and Sheep.)

Mother and Doctor Too



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