

The Settler's Twelve Commandments

Wheat Raising in a Nutshell

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1. Break the ground in the fall.
2. Plant the seed in the spring.
3. Break ground in the fall, and plant in the spring.
4. SOW THE BEST, THOROUGHLY-CLEANED SEED, OBTAINABLE, and nothing else. Preferably, BEST, and get it.
5. Do NOT PLANT THE SAME SEED TWO YEARS IN A ROW. If you do, the yield will be greatly reduced.
6. If you have to plant the same seed two years in a row, use different kinds, and sow them at different times.
7. If you have to plant the same seed three years in a row, the third year it must be treated, as per FOURTH Commandment, and it must be early or late breaking.
8. In Spring, hire a team of horses to pull a harrow, and go to the field to allow the seed to go in the ground properly. This is done with a hand picker, and the picker will not know. The use of the hand picker will tell him if his seed is properly sown.
9. DETHATCH SOIL: Script back the surface of the ground, and lay sods so as to run the direction of the rows in the same. Against the sods so that it will not blow away, and the rows may not be beaten down, or buried in the top of it.
10. SOW THE BEST, THOROUGHLY-CLEANED SEED, OBTAINABLE, and nothing else. Preferably, BEST, and get it.
11. After harvesting the first crop, the land should either be plowed, or picked up in the fall, and the stubble left to be burned off in the Spring, the last use I would pick up, and a second crop sown, as per SIXTH Commandment.
12. Summer fallow is standard after the SECOND crop is taken in. Plow the summer fallow as soon as possible after sowing grain, and you are cropping. NEVER leave this plowing off after June. Experience has proven that one early plowing is better than two. Woods absorb much moisture. Keep lawn weeds by cultivation, and conserve them in storage in your summer fallow. In the Spring plowing, put in your crops as per SIXTH Commandment.
13. After cutting first crop from summer fallow, allow the land to rest till the following Spring, then simply turn off the stubble close up the surface, and put in second crop as per SIXTH Commandment. This second crop, it is proven, should be almost as good as the first. Summer Fallow land EVERY THIRD YEAR.
14. Sow a bushel and a bushelful, or more, breaking and on summer fallow, and a bushel and a quarter on stubble. Before sowing, all seed should be sorted, and sorted again.

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