

LIVE STOCK RELATIVE TO THE FARM

PROFITS IN WASTE PLACES ON THE FARM.

Many poor soils, now waste spots on the farm, would become profitable if planted with the right kind of forest trees, and cared for in the right way. Trees will often grow where grain and grass will not. Swamps, stony ridges, exhausted fields, and washed hillside need not be abandoned. There is money in most of them if they are set to work producing woodlots and forests. But knowledge and judgment are necessary, and a bad guess may be costly.

Many trees do well in their soil—oak-bearing trees in particular. The farmer is fortunate whose land has so poor spots. Few landowners are so well off. Fertile acres are usually fairly profitable, but the gravel bars, rocky knolls, marshy swales, and exhausted and eroded slopes are not. Scarcely one of them need remain unproductive. They will grow timber—pine, locust, poplar, aspen, orange, oak, chestnut, or some other kind. But the soil must be studied, and the species selected to suit it. Failure might follow the planting of yalnut on soil suited to white pine, or vice versa.

It is decidedly worth while to keep all of the farm at work. The owner pays taxes on all his land, and is out of pocket for whatever is not earning him something. Further, by growing a tree crop on land which is too poor to plow, the quality of the land itself is improved. Forests add humus to the soil, better its character; and it has lately been discovered that the decaying leaf litter has also the power of gathering from the air a certain amount of nitrogen, the most important of plant foods. In this respect the forest does for the soil what leguminous crops, like clover and alfalfa, do. Wood growing on worn-out land thus becomes doubly profitable. The land is made useful and improved at the same time.

PREPARE THE MACHINERY.

If it is true that when there is peace is the best time to prepare for war, then surely the time to see to the needs of the farm machinery is when there is no use for it. It will not be long now before the soft south winds will fill the land for the reception of the seed, and no one wants to be bothered rushing to town to get his machinery fixed when it is needed on the land. Nevertheless, every spring, just as the land comes into flower for cultivation, we may see long lines of teams driven by wrathful and profane men lining up at the village blacksmith shops to have needed repairs made.

It is a poor policy to go into the cropping season not thoroughly prepared to take advantage of every minute of good weather. Therefore it is wise to get the machinery out of its winter quarters now and thoroughly overhaul it. Breakages should be repaired in good season, defective parts replaced, extra parts procured. The plows and disks should be sharpened and secured. Seeders should be closely examined. Time lost fussing with the repair question after the ground is fit is very costly.

Then there is the matter of replacing light with heavier implements. With plenty of team power on hand, it is economy to use the latest, and most approved machinery. This is all heavier than the old sorts. True, one has to throw away an implement that is in fair working order and surely good for another season or two. But there is often true economy in disposing of such an implement at a second-hand price, and replacing it with one of the up-to-date variety. In any case, the time to be doing all this thinking, planning and determining is now—not to-morrow or some other day, for the spring is upon us and with it will come that awful rush of work which is one of the chief hardships under which the farmers of the corn belt labor.

PURE BRED MARES

Make as Good Workers in Harness as Grades or Scrubs.

Pure-bred draft mares make just as good workers in the harness at all sorts of farm labor as grades or scrubs. There is little doubt that the scarcity of good grade mares has had a lot to do with the extraordinary demand for pure-bred females. We have known farmers with sense enough to buy pure-bred mares, but not sufficiently progressive enough to work them. There is no reason why a mare should not carry her oats, simply because she is recorded in a register of pedigree. Young females of pure draft blood should be broken just as soon as they are old enough—at the same age as the other horses on the farm. They require no fancy care. All they need is enough to eat to keep them in good, round flesh and intelligent driving and management. It is a mistake to think that pure-bred mares will do better as breeders if left to live a life of idleness. Work is essential to the maintenance of the highest physical condition of all horses. Returns from pure-bred mares are relatively and actually higher than from common sorts. If the pure-bred mares will return a profit merely in the foals they bear, it stands to reason that they must return a much larger profit when they are made to earn their keep. Any draft mare can do this handsomely, and something more besides. By all means work the pure-bred mares.

Crop Conditions Paramount In Governing Wheat Values

Chicago Market Heavy, Under Realizing Sales—Crop Damage Ad- vices Continue to Arrive—Winnipeg Easy.

World Office.
Saturday Evening, Mar. 26.
Liverpool grain exchange closed to-day, holiday.
May wheat at Chicago closed 1/4c lower than on Thursday; May corn 1/4c higher and May oats unchanged.
May wheat at Winnipeg closed 1/4c lower than on Thursday. May oats 1/4c lower.
Chicago car lots: Wheat No. 1, 11; No. 2, 10; No. 3, 9; No. 4, 8; No. 5, 7; No. 6, 6; No. 7, 5; No. 8, 4; No. 9, 3; No. 10, 2; No. 11, 1; No. 12, 1/2; No. 13, 1/4; No. 14, 1/8; No. 15, 1/16; No. 16, 1/32; No. 17, 1/64; No. 18, 1/128; No. 19, 1/256; No. 20, 1/512; No. 21, 1/1024; No. 22, 1/2048; No. 23, 1/4096; No. 24, 1/8192; No. 25, 1/16384; No. 26, 1/32768; No. 27, 1/65536; No. 28, 1/131072; No. 29, 1/262144; No. 30, 1/524288; No. 31, 1/1048576; No. 32, 1/2097152; No. 33, 1/4194304; No. 34, 1/8388608; No. 35, 1/16777216; No. 36, 1/33554432; No. 37, 1/67108864; No. 38, 1/134217728; No. 39, 1/268435456; No. 40, 1/536870912; No. 41, 1/1073741824; No. 42, 1/2147483648; No. 43, 1/4294967296; No. 44, 1/8589934592; No. 45, 1/17179869184; No. 46, 1/34359738368; No. 47, 1/68719476736; No. 48, 1/137438953472; No. 49, 1/274877906944; No. 50, 1/549755813888; No. 51, 1/1099511627776; No. 52, 1/2199023255552; No. 53, 1/4398046511104; No. 54, 1/8796093022208; No. 55, 1/17592186044416; No. 56, 1/35184372088832; 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