

As a necessary preparation of *Rye*, for sowing, observe the following directions: Salt is to be dissolved in water until an egg will swim, then half as much more is to be added and the seed put to steeping; after twelve hours, an ounce of alum to every gallon is to put in, and the whole stand twelve hours longer, the liquor must be drawn off and the rye spread on the floor and covered thick with slacked lime sifted on it, and stirred until the whole is impregnated therewith, after which it is to be immediately sown. It is said there is not much danger of rye's blasting if managed in this manner, except only from local causes, such as barberry bushes which ought to be eradicated from the borders of fields as they will assuredly bring a blast.

We have read of a Farmer, who for some reason being obliged to be early, sowed oats at break of day, and harrowed all in before sunrising. He observed that the oats sown thus early, outstripped the other oats sown on the same day after the day was come on, grew taller, had a larger head, and appeared every way better, although that part of the land which was sowed early, if there was any difference was the poorest side. Our author continues, it is agreeable to reason that it should do good. For the dews are impregnated with nitrous salts and is the principal thing which enrich the ground when it lies fallow; this dew being harrowed in with the seed may promote its growth. If the seed were sown in the evening so as to lie all night to be soaked and softened by the dew, and then harrowed in the morning *thou knowest not whether shall prosper, this or that*; it may therefore be best to make trial of both ways.

While upon the subject of the culture of grain, we would add the following statement, published in the papers some months since: I Daniel Hussey, of Fairfax, do testify and declare, that in the summer of 1816, I put out a piece of wheat to be reaped by the acre to Samuel Rollins; after reaping we measured the land with line, and it contained an acre and twenty rods and no more. In January, Perrin Read, of Fairfax, helped me thresh the same wheat and it measured sixty-four bushels and a half. The land was ploughed once in July, the year before, and cross ploughed in the fall. In the spring of 1816, it was ploughed twice before sowing, and two bushels and a half of seed were sown on said piece. The land was a yard for my cattle for two summers before and was not otherwise manured.

## Hints

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