

Seasonable Hints to Farmers.

It is presumed you are fully aware of the importance of having good seed selected for planting. This ought to be carefully attended to as it regards the several sorts of vegetables and pulse; but as it regards the different kinds of grain, more particularly wheat, it is of the greatest consequence. By paying suitable attention to the selection of seed wheat, and by having it well prepared before sowing, the crops throughout the country would probably be increased one fourth in quantity. Old experienced Farmers generally prefer the seed of their own raising, or getting a supply from their neighbours, provided it be good. When it is brought from a distance, we cannot ascertain its quality with any degree of certainty. The seeds of many noxious and injurious weeds may be intermixed therewith, which cannot be discerned—besides, it may be questioned whether wheat and other sorts of grain will not depreciate by being sown in a soil different from that on which it was raised. To the several modes of preparing wheat for sowing, we add the following which it seems has been practised by some of the Farmers in Connecticut.—Soak the seed in strong brine from seven to ten days, say a bushel and a half to the acre, skim off the filth that rises on the top, and at the end of not less than seven days, pour off the pickle, mix with it slacked lime and sow it the same day. Several farmers who have prepared their wheat in this manner from five to eight years, and the average crop has been about twenty bushels per acre, free from smut or blast. We repeat that, though these maladies may be guarded against with a degree of certainty in wheat if the seed be good, yet we are confident, that these diseases cannot be eradicated from grain affected therewith, and if sown, they will increase until the crop is run out. This we have learned by experience.

To increase a Barley Crop.

Dissolve three pounds of copperas in a pail-full of boiling water, add to this as much dung puddle water as will cover three or four bushels of barley, stir it and let it steep for four and twenty hours; when the seed is spread and drained, sift on fine lime which fits it for sowing. Barley grows well on almost all kinds of soil, if properly managed but that which is moderately light is perhaps the most suitable. The land should be well subdued by previous tillage, and well heated with dung, lime, ashes or other hot manures, if you would have an abundant crop.