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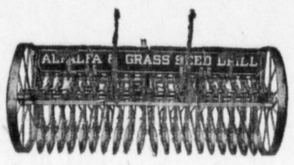
Grass Seed Drills



By using a Grass Seed Drill you can get as good a stand of grass as you usually do from half the seed you usually sow.

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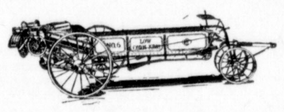

The draft of this machine is not increased a noticeable amount by being thrown in gear. The weight of the tongue is carried by a spring and not by your team.

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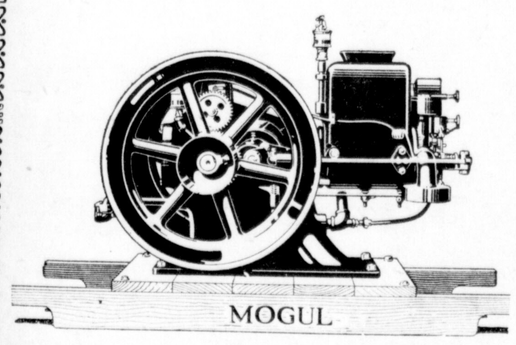

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Still Pond, Maryland

GROWING OF FIELD BEANS URGED

CAN BE EASILY GROWN UNDER ORDINARY CONDITIONS.

WILL YIELD WELL

Growers Should Consult Their County Demonstration Agent Before Planting.

College Park, May 10.—Owing to their scarcity and the high prices offered for them, farmers in many sections of Maryland are putting out a considerable acreage of field or navy beans. As a result of receiving many inquiries regarding the growing of navy beans, the Maryland Agricultural Extension Service has just issued a circular regarding them, by W. B. Kemp, farm crops specialist. Mr. Kemp advises the planting of navy beans on every farm for home use and to market as a most valuable food for human consumption. He points out that navy beans can be easily grown, giving a yield of from 10 to 25 bushels per acre, which at present prices makes them very profitable. In regard to planting them, Mr. Kemp says: "Planting may be started at any time after the ground becomes warm in the spring. In the southern part of the State this is generally early in May, while in the northwestern part, planting is not usually safe before the latter part of the same month. With short season varieties like the navy, the planting season may continue until early in July, but large yields are not to be expected from late planting.

Rate Of Planting.

"Use two to three pecks per acre of the pea and medium varieties of field bean, three to four pecks of the marrow, and four to five pecks of the kidney varieties. These beans should be planted in rows two to three feet apart. If only a few are grown, the planting may be done by hand. For larger areas use a one or two-row corn planter or a grain drill. If the two-row planter is set to space rows at four feet and if these rows are straddled, the bean rows will be two feet apart. If three out of four tubes of the grain drill are stopped up the tubes that are running will space rows 32 inches apart. Two to three hundred pounds of acid phosphate per acre will give returns to fully justify its use.

Working the Crop.

"Like field corn, beans should be given frequent and shallow cultivation. To prevent the spread of disease they should not be cultivated while the vines are wet. When the beans are in bloom, cultivation may be stopped. Seed may be obtained from any reliable seedman or may be secured at cost through his County Demonstration Agent by any responsible farmer while the supply reserved at the beginning of the war by the Maryland Agricultural Extension Service lasts. If beans from the grocery store are used for seed, they should certainly be tested for germination before use. Seed obtained in this way is not likely to be as free from disease or from mixture with other varieties as seed obtained from a reliable seedsman or through your County Demonstration Agent. Before undertaking any extensive plantings a prospective grower should by all means consult his County Demonstration Agent."

WHY SPRAY YOUR FRUIT?

College Park, May 10.—The Spray Calendar issued as a bulletin by the Maryland Agricultural Extension Service is proving very popular with fruit and truck growers. Copies may be obtained by writing either to the Extension Service at College Park or to your County Demonstration Agent. In regard to spraying fruit, particularly apples, E. N. Cory, the author of the bulletin says: "The production of worm free and marketable apples can be increased at least 50 per cent. by careful spraying. Normally an average of 50 per cent. of the fruit that sets on unsprayed trees is lost in the June drop and in the wormy and rotten apples that mature. This loss is largely preventable by spraying the trees just after the fruit blossoms fall and again, July first to fifteenth with 5 quarts of concentrated lime sulphur and one pound of arsenate of lead powder in 50 gallons of water.

"Additional sprayings at proper intervals will give a higher percentage of fancy fruit. The keeping qualities, moreover, of sprayed fruit is vastly superior to unsprayed fruit."

There is a great demand for the production of more meat in this country, and this can be done quickest by stimulation of the raising of poultry.

It takes but about 12 to 15 weeks to raise a broiler from the egg, and roasters can be raised in from 4 to 6 months.

Contrary to the opinion of many, chicks can be hatched and raised very successfully during the months of May and June, providing they can be given plenty of shade. Every farmer and poultry raiser must consider it a duty to produce every chick possible. From all indications there will be ample return from this work.—Roy H. Waite, Poultryman, Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station.

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THEIR FUND

By CATHARINE CRANMER.

Williams & Company offered a prize of twenty dollars in gold for the best name suggested by an employee for their new line of graniteware. Harry Benton, salesman, and Amy Werner, cashier, tied for the prize. The boss handed each of them a ten-dollar gold piece, but Benton knew that his annual salary reached in thousands almost what Amy's did in hundreds.

"Won't you let me add my gold to yours so you'll have enough to jingle?" he asked smilingly.

"Oh, you couldn't think I meant really to take it, could you?"

"Won't you? You really earned it more than I. I've talked the goods so constantly for years that it was natural for me to think up a name easily."

"Ah, now," said Amy, with a tiny pout, "don't intimate that thinking was such hard work for me; but I can't accept what you earned by your thinking even if it was easy to do."

"Will you have dinner with me this evening and help me think out a way to do something nice for somebody with that piece of gold?"

"Ye-es," began Amy slowly. "I'll help you if you'll let me contribute my gold piece to the 'happiness fund.' And Harry agreed.

A few hours later, over their dinner, they discussed the possibilities of their fund.

"I want our fund to bring happiness to somebody who doesn't dream of it, and to bring it just at the psychological moment when it means everything." Amy was charming when she was serious.

"That's the idea, exactly," agreed Harry, "and the best way to distribute happiness is to go where there is a lack of it. What do you say to our taking a stroll through the outskirts?"

"That's where there are extremes of happiness and unhappiness, I've heard. All right, let's go! that is, if you think we won't attract too much attention."

"Oh, you'd attract your share of attention anywhere, but I'm plain enough to offset your charms." This was said without any palaver of gallantry and was accompanied by such a genial smile that Amy laughed, too, although she thought Harry's clear eyes and honest face and broad shoulders a very satisfactory kind of plainness.

As they passed through the district of the downtown poor, they distributed various bits of happiness in unexpected dimes given to small tots who were standing disconsolately in doorways or tagging each other on the brick-paved sidewalks.

"Look who's here! No need for our happiness fund in that party," said Harry, as they saw approaching them a festive party consisting of an Italian girl still in her teens, her swaggering young escort who pulled at his sunburned mustache, some dark-gowned women with scarfs over their heads, a few plodding men and children of assorted sizes and varying degrees of uncleanliness. From one of the children Harry learned that the young couple had been married that day and were on their way to their new home of two rooms in a nearby rooming house.

At that instant, the clang of the fire-bell was heard, and with each stroke the sound grew louder until around the corner came the galloping horses and rattling hose wagons and the screaming engine leaving its trail of sparks on the uneven cobblestones of the narrow street. Amy and Harry stood on the curb, and down Amy's spine went the chilly creep and into her eyes came the unshed tears that the sight and sound of a fire department in action always brought to her.

She became conscious, in the midst of it, that Harry was holding her arm protectingly. Two blocks away the engine stopped, the wagons sought the curb, and the lately happy group of people began to scream excitedly. The young groom tried to enter the burning house and the protesting bride threw herself before him to prevent the risk. The fire was in the house where their two rooms had been furnished.

The lamentations of the bridal party made a babel, but Amy and Harry looked understandingly at each other.

"Could we find a better place for a happiness fund?" asked Amy.

"We won't look for a better, will we?" And Harry put his hand in the pocket where the happiness fund reposed.

"No; this is the psychological moment we wanted," answered Amy, and together they approached the distressed young couple.

"This is hard luck, my boy," began Hary, "but this lady and I had a bit of good luck today and we'd like to share it with you and your bride. Won't you take this"—handing him the money—"and get other lodgings and such furniture as it will buy?"

The outburst of gratitude from both the bride and groom and from their kinsmen made Amy and Harry wonder how they could escape, but just then a taxicab came along and Harry hailed it and hurried Amy into it. As they bumped away over the cobbles there was a chorus of cheers.

They looked at each other and laughed happily and without embarrassment, for that little happiness fund had formed the nucleus of a permanent one and by the end of the month they had agreed to tie for all the prizes life might bring to them.

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WILL PLANT CORN TO FILL SILOS

MARYLAND DAIRYMEN CONSIDER SILAGE MOST ECONOMICAL FEED.

MAKES MORE MILK

Farmers Are Urged To Plant More Corn and Build Silos.

College Park, May 17.—Members of the State Dairymen's Association are urging on Maryland consumers the fact that the wider use of dairy products will insure a healthier and cheaper fed people. In connection with this campaign for the greater consumption of dairy products they are also seeking in every way possible to keep down the cost of production. With feed at $50 a ton they realize the great need for producing more silage and forage crops. The planting of larger acreages of corn for silage purposes is especially recommended. G. E. Wolcott, dairy specialist for the Maryland Agricultural Extension Service, states that any farmer keeping as many as ten cows should build a silo to enable him to feed his herd economically. At the present time it is most important that the farmer who has in mind the building of a silo, should plow and prepare additional land for corn so that he will have an ample supply for silage purposes. Any surplus that has to be harvested as field corn should bring ample returns at present prices.

According to Mr. Wolcott, 3 to 4 tons of silage can be profitably fed per cow a year. The yield of silage varies from 4 to 20 tons to the acre, land yielding 50 bushels per acre making about 10 tons to silage. Corn in the form of silage will produce more milk than the same amount shocked and dried. There is also considerable less waste in feeding silage than in feeding fodder. Where properly fed, silage is entirely consumed by the cow and aids as well in keeping the digestion in good shape. On account of the smaller cost of handling silage as compared to soiling crops, it can be used to advantage in supplementing pasture land as well as providing a succulent feed in winter. Using corn as silage makes it possible to clear the land much quicker than if the corn were cut and shocked, thus preparing the land for wheat or some other money crop early in the fall.

Corn grown for silage is usually drilled, which permits of closer planting. The ground should be harrowed as soon as the spring drying begins on winter plowed land or as soon as spring plowing is done to prevent loss of moisture. This harrowing will also prevent the forming of clods. The grower must use his own judgment as to how much further harrowing or rolling he should do, bearing in mind that his yield depends largely on having a firm, moist seed bed with one or two inches of loose soil to cover the seed and prevent further evaporation. Cultivation must be frequent enough to maintain a dust mulch and keep the weeds out of the corn as they will injure the quality of silage if allowed to make any growth.

Farmers growing corn for silage should consult their County Demonstration Agent regarding the cost and type of silo suited to their conditions.

SOY BEANS A VALUABLE FEED.

College Park, May 17.—In view of the high prices of feed for cattle, Maryland farmers are becoming daily more anxious to find substitutes that can be grown on their own land. As a result County Demonstration Agents find demonstrations in growing alfalfa and soy beans very popular in counties where any quantity of live stock is being grown. Seed for trial fields or acres of soy beans can be obtained at cost from the Maryland Agricultural Extension Service through County Demonstration Agents as long as the supply reserved at the beginning of the war lasts. Soy beans have been thoroughly tested out at the State Experiment Station and in demonstration fields in nearly every county in the State. As result, Nickolas Schmitz, formerly of the Maryland Experiment Station, says:

"Soy beans are well adapted to Maryland, and, like corn, thrive best on rich loam soils. It is, however, on soils too poor to grow corn profitably that soy beans will bring the greatest net profit. On such soils, when inoculated and fertilized with a little inexpensive fertilizer, they will produce nearly as much forage and seed as when grown on rich land. They will not grow as well as cow peas on poor, sandy soils, but far better than cow peas on stiff, clay soils. They will stand poor drainage better than either cow peas or corn.

"Soy beans mature in from 70 to 150 days, making it possible to select varieties to fit any length of growing season found in Maryland.

Time To Plant.

"Soy beans may be planted from any time after corn planting is finished until July 15th, depending upon variety, location, and for the purpose planted. For hay and seed it is best to plant the fore part of June, to insure good curing weather for the hay and time for late varieties to mature seed before frost. For fall hog pasture, and for turning down as a green manure, they may be planted up until July 15th if an early variety is used.

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