...write for this BOOK

It tells how to get a stand of alfalfa—
Gives facts from experiment stations

NO arguments are needed to set forth the necessity of such a staple legume as alfalfa in the farm rotation. Every farmer knows that this nutritious crop constitutes the keystone to permanently profitable crop and livestock production. It is not so generally understood how good stands of alfalfa can be established and maintained. Fortunately, the extensive investigations of the state agricultural experiment stations have shown how to produce the crop at the least possible cost.

What Farmers Say About "AA Quality" Fertilizer for Alfalfa

"I applied 500lbs. of 'AA QUALITY' Fertilizer per acre this spring as top dressing on alfalfa. I left one-half acre unfertilized and noticed the difference in growth within a month after application. The unfertilized yielded 2 tons per acre and the fertilized yielded 5 tons per acre. At $15.00 per ton, I gained $45.00 per acre by the use of 'AA QUALITY' Fertilizers."
Carl Brandt,
Glyndon, Minn., October 1, 1927

"I bought three tons of 'AA QUALITY' Fertilizers in 1926 to try out on my farm. The results were so good that I bought a carload in 1927. I put 'AA QUALITY' Fertilizers on my flax seeded with alfalfa last year. There was a big difference in the flax but the result this year on the alfalfa is almost unbelievable. On about 5 acres which I did not fertilize the alfalfa was only about 6 inches high and very thin while on the soil that was fertilized the alfalfa was nearly hip high and as thick as it could grow. The alfalfa that had not been fertilized yielded about one-half ton per acre of poor hay, while the fertilized land produced at least 2½ tons per acre of fine hay.
"It cost about $3.50 per acre to fertilize the land and figuring alfalfa hay at $15.00, per ton I got back $30.00 per acre more hay from the use of 'AA QUALITY' Fertilizers."
James Saborn,
Cashell, N. Dakota, July 13, 1927

"I used your 'AA QUALITY' Fertilizers for the first time on my alfalfa this year. I applied 250 pounds per acre in strips across my alfalfa field. The county agent came out and helped me check up on the results obtained from the fertilizer and we found that the fertilizer application increased the yield 2081 pounds per acre. An increase of a ton of alfalfa hay the first season I consider very profitable results."
Albert Jensen,
New Ulm, Minn., Sept. 28, 1927

"I applied 400 pounds per acre of your 'AA QUALITY' Fertilizer on 8 acres of my alfalfa in the fall of 1924. The alfalfa did splendidly and I estimate that the alfalfa yielded an increase of at least 1 ton per year due to this application of fertilizer. I figure I have secured at least 24 tons more of alfalfa hay during the past three years on the 8 acres. The total cost of fertilizer for the 8 acres was $44.20 invested—returned $360.00, saying nothing about the better quality of hay produced by the fertilizer. The use of 'AA QUALITY' Fertilizer on alfalfa in this section turns failure into success."
Chas. Antholt,
Coleman, Wis., Oct. 25, 1927

"AA QUALITY" FERTILIZERS

Best known to you under these brand names
A A C LISTERS PATAPSCO

THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL COMPANY
Lexington Building Baltimore

SPECIAL ALFALFA EDITION

The CHESTERTOWN TRANSCRIPT

VOL. 71 Chestertown Maryland, Saturday July 28, 1928 NO. 17

ALFALFA REGARDED MOST VITAL FACTOR IN MILK QUALITY

By A. A. MILLER, Editor,
Inter-State Milk Producers Review.

Why not Alfalfa Fed Cows? "Corn Fed Pork" is an expression frequently used to indicate a satisfactory pork product. Why not "Alfalfa Fed Cows" to indicate a superior and economically produced milk production?

Undoubtedly the quality of the pork product and of the milk product depend to a greater or less extent upon the food fed the animals. Meat producing animals fed largely upon an inferior ration do not produce top market meat, neither do cows fed upon an inefficient ration produce the best quality milk, nor do they produce it economically.

Several years ago when "Milk from Contented Cows" first came into prominence, folks were prone to smile at this advertising slogan. Experience, however, has proven that milk of the highest quality must be produced by contented cows—contented with their feed, contented with their surroundings. Alfalfa hay is the foundation of high quality milk from contented cows. It supplies the lime and the minerals so vital to health and well-being in animals, and which through the milk supplies the lime and minerals that make it a unique and indispensible food for the human family.

Dairy cows produce best when fed upon a satisfactory ration which includes a sufficient quantity of good roughage and certainly no roughage is satisfactory unless it contains first class alfalfa hay.

The Eastern Shore of Maryland has long been noted as a second "Garden of Eden" for mankind. It is not, however, such a favorable spot for dairy cattle, as has been indicated by the production of milk per cow in that territory. Less milk is produced per cow on the Eastern Shore than in any other section of the Philadelphia Milk Shed. This undoubtedly may be directed traceable to the lack of proper feeding and the absence of good roughage on the farms. The Eastern Shore cow measures up with cows in other sections from the standpoint of productive ability and good breeding. Their failure to produce as much milk, however, as in other sections, must therefore be charged largely to poor feeding.

There is a close relationship between the amount of milk produced per cow and the amount of good alfalfa or other leguminous hay found on the farm. Wherever alfalfa hay is found in abundance on the Eastern Shore farms, the production of milk per cow will be found to be much higher than the present general average.

The average production of milk per cow marketed on the Eastern Shore at the present time is about 3300 pounds per year.

From the standpoint of economy and good feeding this productive rate should be materially increased. It has and can be done.

And this brings up another subject.

In addition to the fact that this section has a very low production rate per cow, it also has a very high percentage rate of rejected milk—greater than in any other section in the Philadelphia Milk Shed and this again is traceable to the lack of a sufficient amount of roughage.

The lack of sufficient roughage has been responsible to a large degree to

(Continued On Page 3)

ALFALFA IS BENEFIT TO BOTH LANDLORD AND TENANT FARMER

By F. W. OLDENBURG,
Agronomist, University of Maryland
Extension Service.

A farm that produces alfalfa is more valuable than one that does not, especially in a dairy region. It is more valuable because it produces cheaper dairy feed. Dairy profits are based largely on cheap feed. This makes such a farm more desirable to landlord, prospective buyer and to tenant.

A prospective buyer desires soil of high fertility and a good stand of alfalfa nearly always means good soil fertility to him without any further proof. Consequently a farm growing alfalfa is better from a selling standpoint and is more apt to increase in value.

By establishing alfalfa on his farm, the landlord can expect other very practical benefits. Alfalfa produces at least twice as much hay per acre as the usual hay mixtures grown. If alfalfa were grown instead, the necessary hay could be grown on about half the acreage used for hay purposes and the other half put into corn, wheat or some other crop. If half of these crops go to the landlord, it would bring him a greater return from the farm. This would not be at the loss of the tenant, but to his advantage also for he would have a larger acreage of these crops. There is another benefit to the landlord of growing alfalfa that should not be overlooked. Such a farm is more desirable to a tenant. He can grow cheaper and better feed for his dairy cows. More tenants will want his farm and the landlord is more apt to secure a good tenant that will stay with him for years.

Benefits To The Tenant.

To grow alfalfa is of even greater benefit to the tenant. If he has a good supply of alfalfa hay, it would not be necessary for him to buy so much high protein feed as he now does. He would be raising most of his high protein feed himself, since alfalfa contains at least 11% of protein, and he would not need much more. He could keep a larger part of his milk check for other uses and not pay it out for feed that he can raise himself.

Bureau Official Strong For Alfalfa

By E. THOMAS MASSEY,
President Kent County Farm Bureau.

About twenty years ago I realized the value of Alfalfa for hay and sowed six acres, which was a failure, I then thought our soil was not adapted to it.

Afterward seeing that alfalfa was successfully grown here, I sowed fifteen acres two years ago under the supervision of our County Agent, ten acres of this was a success and five acres not being thick enough was re-seeded last year with an additional five acres.

This land was limed according to the amount of lime needed by test and four hundred pounds 2-8-5 fertilizer was used per acre. We now have as fine a stand as anyone would wish, we use a Culti-Packer in preparing the seed bed and sow as near August 15th as we can.

We are preparing to sow twenty acres more this year. If we are to stay in the dairy business at a profit it is important that we grow more hay and every farm in Kent County should have five or more acres sown in alfalfa.

Ten Paying Reasons For Growing Alfalfa On Eastern Shore

1. Alfalfa hay is the most economical home grown high protein hay.
2. Alfalfa enriches the land and increases the value of the farm.
3. Alfalfa will produce abundant hay year after year from one seeding, thus cutting production costs to a minimum.
4. Alfalfa hay has no equal as a green feed for poultry, most commercial poultry feeds containing alfalfa meal.
5. Alfalfa hay always commands a ready market when baled.
6. Alfalfa hay for the cows in early spring will avoid much loss through premature pasturage on garlic and new grass.
7. Alfalfa will stand three cuttings per year and should yield two tons of hay per acre or more.
8. Alfalfa hay contains eleven per cent protein or more than half as much as twenty per cent commercial dairy feed.
9. Alfalfa can be profitably produced on almost any farm in the five counties of Maryland's Northern Peninsula.
10. Alfalfa is the ideal dairy hay. One ton of alfalfa in a dairy cow will produce as much milk as seven tons of timothy hay.

STATE DAIRY CHIEF IS WARM ADVOCATE OF ALFALFA AS FEED

By J. A. CONOVER,
Dairy Specialist, Md. Extension Service.

The average production of cows on the Eastern Shore, is about 3000 pounds of milk a year, too little to bring much profit to their owner. Poor feeding methods are largely responsible for this low average.

The dairy cow must have a ration containing protein, carbohydrates, lime, phosphorus and plenty of water if she is to produce milk.

To produce milk economically she must get a large amount of these nutrients from the ruffage rather than from grain.

Alfalfa as a hay crop stands out above all other ruffages as a feed for the dairy cow. It is the hay de lux for milk production. It contains three times as much protein as timothy hay and about six times as much protein as corn fodder.

The protein content is not the only advantage alfalfa has over timothy or corn fodder as a milk producer, its large lime content and richness in vitamines add greatly to its feeding value.

When compared with that good old stand by, red clover, alfalfa hay produced nine percent more milk and seven and one-half per cent more butter fat.

In the Queen City Dairy Association one patron produced milk at a cost of eighty-nine cents per 100 pounds on silage and alfalfa hay without grain, while his neighbor feeding on silage and timothy hay with grain, produced milk at a cost of $2.46 per 100 pounds. Both herds consisted of 13 cows and averaged 6000 pounds of milk per cow for the year.

With plenty of good alfalfa hay and silage, the cows on the Eastern Shore could be made to double their average production with little or no grain.

NORTHERN COUNTIES OF PENINSULA PLAN TO DOUBLE ALFALFA

Five thousand dairymen on the Eastern Shore have struck at the keynote of their production problem in the recently launched campaign to add five thousand acres of alfalfa to their present short acreage in this important crop. Farmers of Kent, Queen Anne's, Caroline, Talbot and Dorchester Counties, operating under Extension Service guidance, will nearly double their alfalfa acreage this year, if the goal of the five county drive is reached. Progress to date is gratifying, with each new day bringing in splendid reports of further advances in the various sections.

Vital Need For More High Protein Hay.

At the present time, one acre of alfalfa on the Eastern Shore is expected to maintain nearly eleven dairy animals. The success of the campaign will reduce this figure to six animals per acre. No similar advance in dairying methods had been evidenced in Maryland in recent years.

Extension Service Supervising.

All arrangements for the drive are in the hands of the five Agricultural Agents in the counties mentioned, the originators and present sponsors of the campaign. Operating jointly in their five counties, these agents are assisting in the choice of land, the selection of suitable seed, the distribution of lime and countless other matters connected with a project of this magnitude. Hundreds of farmers are daily securing reliable advice in all that pertains to successful and profitable alfalfa production. The results of such work have every promise of being intensely gratifying to those concerned.

The five counties comprising the area covered in the present campaign are among the first in dairy importance in Maryland, Queen Anne's County probably leading with a dairy cattle population of more than sixteen thousand. Recent developments in tuberculin testing in this area have greatly increased the already great interest in cows, with the inevitable result that in years to come marked increases will be evident in agricultural revenue. It has been estimated by qualified authority that the success of the present campaign alone will add more than a hundred thousand dollars to the farm revenue of the five counties.

Drive Preceded By Soil Test.

Success in the present campaign is well nigh assured by previously conducted soil tests now serving as a foundation and background for the new project. Two counties, Queen Anne's and Kent, two years ago completed exhaustive surveys of more than eighty thousand acres of land, providing all farms with complete information as to their need of lime. Figures kept in this connection are now proving extremely valuable in inducing farmers to sow alfalfa. The remaining three counties are rapidly testing all soil samples collected.

Adapted Seed Now Available.

Through the work of the Extension Agents, dealers in all five counties are now being placed in touch with thoroughly reliable seed. Farmers are being urged to use seed only from Kansas and highland sections of Utah, since these are known to be adapted to Eastern Shore conditions. Publicity is being directed against the use of any seed not previously investigated by State agencies.

©Maryland State Archives msa_sc3326_scm8225-0261