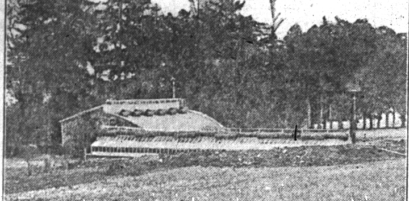


HOME BEAUTY

Flowers and Shrubs
Their Care and Cultivation



Hot Houses One of the Helps on the Flower Farm.

FLOWER FARMING FOR PROFIT

Few persons realize the enormous money value of flowers sold in the great cities of the United States. The demand for choice flowers never fails to consume all that may be offered. They must be good, though.

The city man who wishes flowers for a special decoration does not care how much they cost if they are of the best that can be grown.

Flower-farming is an agreeable occupation. But little hired help is required. The costly adjuncts of ordinary farming are not required; such as curing, drying, housing and storing, all necessary in the raising of the standard farm crops.

The plants rapidly increase in value and once a price is going it continues to increase in productive capacity with each succeeding year.

One of the hardest of the plants and should be grown on the flower farm. It is a hardy plant, withstanding the most severe winters without protection.

The Chinese varieties are later in blooming than the native varieties. These are the products of centuries of crossing and have in the blooms all of the delicate shades so popular in decorative art.

They must be heavily manured to produce a profusion of flowers, and the ground must be well stirred so that it will hold moisture around the roots of the plant.

The blooms are fragrant, lasting and durable and when properly prepared can be successfully shipped 500 to 700 miles to market.

The flowers are produced one at a time and this makes it advisable to have a large number of the plants of the same variety, so that a quantity of the blooms can be cut each day in the same state of development.

The plants remain in the ground from five to seven years, when they must be taken up and divided.

If planted in the fall the young will bloom the first season, but young plants are apt to be too quick in getting out in the spring and the buds may be injured by late frost. The older plants are more sturdy and keep under cover of the ground several days longer and are rarely touched by the frosts.

It costs upward of \$1,000 to produce an acre of full blooming plants. A field-grown cut flower must be large and durable. It must have a long stem and some green foliage. It must be a single flower perched on the top of the stem.

The hardy Hydrangea fills all these requirements and besides is very suitable for the field cultivation, requiring no fertilizing in ordinary trucking soil.

HOW TO POT HOUSE PLANTS

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Here are suggestions which should help the amateur gardener who wishes to pot plants in the flower garden and bring them into the house for the winter. The following equipment and material is needed: A workbench, suitable soil, a coarse sand sieve, a sprinkling can, a shovel, material for drainage, pots, and plants. The soil should be rich in plant food and should contain sufficient sand and organic matter to prevent any tendency for it to harden or take upon drying. When moist, it should fall apart readily when squeezed in the hand. Equal parts of a good loam, clean sand, and well-rotted manure or compost, all worked through a coarse sieve, will prove suitable for ordinary work. The following may be considered essentials of good potting: (a) The soil should be moderately moist throughout; (b) the pots should be clean and washed in water before using; (c) the pots should be of a size

THE HELPS SAVE COALS, TESTS SHOW

Demonstrations Prove Land in Many Parts of Michigan "Lime Hungry."

AIDS CLOVER AND ALFALFA

Applications of Calcium Carbonate in Van Buren and Ingham Counties, Make Them "Crop Thrive"—Essential in Alfalfa and Vetch.

By DR. M. M. MCCOOL, Department of Soils Michigan Agricultural College.

East Lansing, Mich.—If you have "fenced" in a Michigan farm, you have considerable period you have been "in" the lime. It has been variously reported on the public for practically every 100 and 100,000 acres of soil in the agricultural catalog, until many men have begun to find difficulty in distinguishing in this matter of advice the genuine from the spurious. "Where, then, and why should we use lime?" these individuals have been asking.

Not as much dependable information upon this subject as is needed has been obtainable in the state, but an attempt to at least partially meet this requirement has been made by the Michigan Department of the college. These efforts have been along several lines, such as the conducting of demonstration and "book" in several parts of the state, and the analyzing of soil samples to learn whether or not their lime content is adequate for the best plant growth. The work has been supplemented, additionally by interviews with farmers themselves.

What has been the result? Most outstanding has been the discovery of the fact that starting conditions tend to many serious because of the habits of farmers to obtain only and possibly a few crops of alfalfa and alfalfa, two of the most important and valuable crops. The total acreage of these crops is a result very low in many of the older settled counties, as well as in the new agricultural districts on light soils. By proper use of lime in these localities it has been proved that under such conditions can be greatly improved.

The lime requirement of large numbers of samples taken from representative Michigan soils show that the deficiency of lime is not only common. Such deficiencies may be mainly the result of one or two things. The material of lime actually present in the soil may be so low that the soil derived may have been insufficient in the first place or the lime may have been removed by drainage water or by erosion. In order to obtain satisfactory information concerning these soils, field tests have been conducted by the soils department of the college in cooperation with several county agents and leading farmers, and still other tests are made.

Remarkable increases in yields of oats were obtained this past season on the Van Buren "county farm" from the use of lime on a sandy loam soil. In the first instance, crops of lime increased the yield 45 per cent. The lime was applied one year previously and further addition of course, will not be necessary until the close of the four-year rotation or later.

The soils department in co-operation with A. S. Foster, of Ingham county, apparently increased the yield of oats and obtained a perfect stand and a luxuriant growth of clover by the use of marl and phosphate fertilizers, and repeatedly failed on light sandy soil.

Other cooperative field experiments in western Michigan have shown that limiting the soil depth to the production of the yield of oats and obtained a perfect stand and a luxuriant growth of clover by the use of marl and phosphate fertilizers, and repeatedly failed on light sandy soil.

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2,000 pounds. As a general rule those who are using lime find it advisable to repeat the application at the end of four or five-year periods.

BIG DEMAND FOR PHOSPHATES

Supply Likely to Be Short, College Hears—Other Fertilizers Recommended in Their Place.

By PROF. A. J. PATTEN, Chief Chemist, Experiment Station, Michigan Agricultural College.

East Lansing, Mich.—The much recommended use of acid phosphate fertilizers to increase production is producing effects upon the fertilizer industry as a whole which are being the object of the campaign for larger crops and which are not unlooked for and with which must be corrected. Everywhere the demand for "the phosphates" is increasing. The results have been a record demand for these soil-enriching products, a demand so great that manufacturers do not expect to be able to fill all orders near all their orders.

This has of course been for the most part a desirable state of affairs. For the moment, it is not so important the value of fertilizers who are before have made use of these acids to agriculture, but there have at the same time been more or less requests for phosphates. There are many who hold Agents of the college have heard, who have begun to think that products are the only way of using phosphates is desirable to purchase. Their attitude has been "Phosphates or nothing."

What every user of fertilizers should appreciate at present is that if complete fertilizer can be used in its stead, it will give increased production and it will be in ample supply.

No man whose land is in need of fertilizers should forget the using of them simply because by most of the people the value of fertilizers who are before have made use of these acids to agriculture, but there have at the same time been more or less requests for phosphates. There are many who hold Agents of the college have heard, who have begun to think that products are the only way of using phosphates is desirable to purchase. Their attitude has been "Phosphates or nothing."

GIVES RATION FOR FOWLS

M. A. C. Poultry Department Works Out Menu Giving Quickest Results by Its Fattening.

By C. H. BURGESS, Department of Poultry Husbandry, Michigan Agricultural College.

East Lansing, Mich.—Among poultry raisers in use in the last few years for market, the bran-based ration of feed is not so much known as to feed the boys up in the front legs. As a result, many of the birds are in the back yard to whom these boys are looking for their next chicken at Yuletide.

It is a pity, or hardly, as the case may be, as a rule, that what you may call turkey in his choice of feed, but the poultryman is out for results, and will strive to attain these results in a minimum number of days at the least possible cost, will use as much judgment in the selection of his list of fare as would his highness the chief in preparing a feast for royalty.

Where chickens intended for fattening are confined in a darkened room, or in crates, a number of rations have been found at the college to be successful in fitting birds for killing when the fattening period is not more than 14 days. These are given below:

1. Ration A—Cornmeal, 12 pounds; flour (low grade), eight pounds; middlings, four pounds; oatmeal, six pounds; Cost, November 1, 44 cents per pound.

2. Ration B—Cornmeal, 12 pounds; flour (low grade), eight pounds; middlings, four pounds; oatmeal, six pounds; Cost, November 1, 44 cents per pound.

3. Ration C—Cornmeal, 12 pounds; oatmeal, eight pounds; middlings, four pounds; Cost, November 1, 47 cents per pound.

4. Ration D—Cornmeal, 12 pounds; oatmeal, eight pounds; middlings, four pounds; Cost, November 1, 45 cents per pound.

5. Ration E—Cornmeal, 12 pounds; oatmeal, eight pounds; middlings, four pounds; Cost, November 1, 45 cents per pound.

6. Ration F—Cornmeal, 12 pounds; oatmeal, eight pounds; middlings, four pounds; Cost, November 1, 45 cents per pound.

7. Ration G—Cornmeal, 12 pounds; oatmeal, eight pounds; middlings, four pounds; Cost, November 1, 45 cents per pound.

8. Ration H—Cornmeal, 12 pounds; oatmeal, eight pounds; middlings, four pounds; Cost, November 1, 45 cents per pound.

9. Ration I—Cornmeal, 12 pounds; oatmeal, eight pounds; middlings, four pounds; Cost, November 1, 45 cents per pound.

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION—Sale of

Mortgage of Meek Estate. State of Michigan, in the Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate office, at Detroit, Michigan, on the 20th day of December, A. D. 1915, present, J. Ross Stockwell, Judge of Probate. In the matter of the estate of JOHN W. MEAK, Deceased.

Reuben Adams, administrator of said estate, having filed in said Court a petition for the sale of certain real estate therein described.

It is ordered that the 20th day of December, A. D. 1915, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition, and that all persons who have any claim or interest in said estate appear before said Court, at said time and place, to show cause why the same should not be granted. It is further ordered that the heirs of said estate in said real estate should be and are hereby notified that three copies of this order, together with a true and correct copy thereof, shall be given by publication in the Birmingham Economic, a newspaper published and circulated in said county.

Witness my hand and the seal of said Court, at Detroit, Michigan, this 20th day of December, A. D. 1915.

J. ROSS STOCKWELL, Judge of Probate.

GEORGE A. BROWN, Register of Probate.

Detail has been made in the condition of the mortgage of Meek Estate, in the County of Oakland, Michigan, and the same is hereby appointed for hearing said petition, and that all persons who have any claim or interest in said estate appear before said Court, at said time and place, to show cause why the same should not be granted. It is further ordered that the heirs of said estate in said real estate should be and are hereby notified that three copies of this order, together with a true and correct copy thereof, shall be given by publication in the Birmingham Economic, a newspaper published and circulated in said county.

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To Our Customers and the Public:

On and after January 1, 1916, we ask you to save the ticket you get with each purchase. When you have saved \$5.00 worth of these tickets, return to us and receive 25c in trade; \$10.00 worth, 50 cents in trade.

Buy where price and quality counts—not quantity.

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Birmingham's Most Beautiful New Residence Location
High and dry, 300 feet above Detroit River, two blocks from electric car on Woodward Avenue, no tracks to cross, pure city water direct from artesian wells, electric lights, city gas, excellent drainage, altogether ideal sanitary condition for healthy lives.

Think what it means to live within a couple of blocks of pavement the entire distance to the city, electrically lighted and double line of electric railway with 15-minute service, and a 30-minute motor trip to city hall.

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Victrolas \$20 to \$400

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Have a Victrola in Your Home for Christmas

--If Not Before

It's a splendid Christmas remembrance for the family! You know what day it would be received—know that it's a gift of enduring charm—that it's an every-day, all-the-year-round source of pleasure—a new and exhaustless means of enjoyment is provided for each one of your household from the time it enters your home.

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