

## AGRICULTURAL.

*From the New England Farmer.*

**Potatoes**—The best grow in a dry soil, but a wet one will yield the most. Plough deep, and the more pulverized the earth, the better the crop; except the green sward, which produces at one ploughing, the greatest crop of any land. Poor land, well cultivated, will yield 100 bushels per acre. Hogs dung, mixed with a great proportion of straw, rubbish, &c. excellent manure for them. As they will grow almost any where, they are apt to be neglected; but no crop will pay the farmer better. Cut seed better than whole; a middling potato will give six pieces, with one or two eyes in each piece: and any part, even the rind, and heart will produce, put three pieces in a hill six inches apart, and cover them deep. The shooting part of a potato like a tree; the but end of it, a stun p—therefore cut length ways as much as you can, in hoeing do not earth them up too much, and let the last hoeing be when they are in blossom; when par-boiled, very good for swine, not so good raw—they increase milk in cows. A gentleman in Nova-Scotia used to wash, and cut them, and give them in plenty to his fattening cattle: he informed me, that a bushel would make a pound of tallow in a creature so fed.

**Sow.** Ifs he will not call for the male, give her a little bit of rennet. Feed her a few days before she pigs, plentifully; it will prevent her devouring them. She should pig in March or April if the pigs are to be reared.

**SEEDS** not natural to the climate degenerate—should be changed annually, if only from one field to another. A considerable distance better. Flax and most early seeds, carried 100 miles north, do well—late ones carried as far south, do well also. Corn, barley, oats and seeds of all kinds, should be changed every year; it will pay the farmer fourfold for all his trouble in doing it.

**SHEEP.** Buy them, and indeed all cattle, from a soil poorer than your own. Buy large boned ones, with long, fine greasy wool. Dry land good to feed them on, and so are salt marshes. They go with lamb 20 weeks. One male sufficient for 20 ewes, or more. Propagate those which have large bodies, with long, silky wool. Shady pastures, and free from brush, best for them. The more a sheep drinks the faster he fats. Once fat, kill them, never will be so fat again. Wash them in a warm day, in the middle, or last of June: Let them run three or four days in the pasture, and sweat in their wool, before you shear them; and then avoid pricking and cutting them. If a cold rain falls soon after shearing, house them. Black wool is never so strong, nor fine, as white.

**SALT-HAY** may be cut one day, cooked the next, and housed the third—throw straw between each layer, in the barn. A portion of it excellent for cattle in the winter.

**Milk Cows.**—The following, according to the "*Farmer's and Grazier's Guide*," is the manner in which cows are managed in the neighborhood of London, for the purpose of furnishing milk for that metropolis.

The cows during the night are confined in stalls; about three o'clock in the morning each has half a bushel of grains. From four till half-past six, they are milked by the retail dealers. When the milking is finished, a bushel basket of turnips is given to each cow, and soon afterwards the tenth part of a truss of fine soft grassy hay. These feedings are all given before eight o'clock in the morning, at which time the cows are turned out into the farm yard, or home stead. At twelve o'clock they are again confined to their stalls, and a similar quantity of grains allotted as in the morning. At half-past one, the milking again commences, and lasts till about three, at which time the same quantity of turnips, and afterwards hay, is given as before. This mode of feeding continues during the whole of the turnip season, which is from September to April or May. During the other months of the year, they are fed with grains, cabbages, and tares, instead of turnips, with the same quantity of rowen or second-cut meadow hay, and are continued to be fed and milked with the same regularity as before described, until they are turned out to grass; when they continue in the fields all night, and even during this season grains are given to them, which are kept sweet and palatable, by being buried in deep pits for that purpose till wanted.

The calves are generally sent to Smith-field at two or three days old; when they are bought by jobbers and others to be reared and fattened for the butcher. Those cows that give the most milk, are not found, in general, sufficiently productive to be kept longer than three or four years; when they are fattened and sold to the butcher. The quantity averaged from each cow is estimated at about nine quarts per day.

Besides the keep already mentioned, the cows on these two dairy farms have a portion of distillers' wash, now and then mixed with their dry provender. Their food is also occasionally varied with potatoes and mangel wurtzel, great quantities of which are now consumed by the cow-keepers in the vicinity of the metropolis, and sometimes procured from places many miles distant.

The milk is conveyed from the cow-house in tin pails, which are carried principally by strong robust Welch girls and women, who retail the same about the streets of the metropolis. It is amazing to witness the

labour and fatigue these females will undergo, and the hilarity and cheerfulness which prevail among them, and which tend greatly to lighten their very laborious employment. Even in the most inclement weather, and in the depth of winter, they arrive in parties from different parts of the metropolis by three or four o'clock in the morning, laughing and singing to the music of their empty pails: with them they return loaded to town; and the weight they are thus accustomed to carry on their yokes, for a distance of two or three miles, is sometimes from one hundred to one hundred and thirty pounds.

**OATS** cannot be sowed too early—three bushels to one acre—the poorer the soil the more seed must be sowed on it—plough them twice—once may do—mow them early, the straw not wholly turned yellow. Neither rake nor stir them in the middle of the day or when they are dry—morning and evening best to move them—are apt to shell out.

**PLOUGHING** should never be done when the soil is so wet that it will not crumble—except green sward, nor when it is very dry; it is hard, and the furrows will not turn. In general farmers do not half plough their ground; neither do they plough in the right seasons—by ploughing only, you may restore an old field, and bring it to any degree of richness. Always plough in your corn when the dew is on. Plough new lands in the latter part of summer, that they may rot well. All tillage land should be ploughed in the fall—Indian hills split and deep. All above the pan, will become dark earth, in a year or two—never plough a hill up and down, lest it wash and gully away. Ribbing hills, eight or ten feet apart, is beneficial, will catch the rain and retain moisture.

**To cure wounds on Horses and Cattle.**—As there are many useful receipts hidden from the public for the sake of speculation in a small way, by many who would be thought something of in the world, I am induced to lay before the public a receipt for making *King of Oil*, so called, which perhaps excels any other for the cure of wounds on horses or cattle, and which has long been kept by a few only in the dark. Feeling a desire to contribute to the good of the public, but more especially to the Farmers of Genessee, I send you the following very valuable receipt for publication:—one ounce of green coppers, 2 ounces of white vitriol, 2 ounces of common salt, 2 ounces of linseed oil, 8 ounces of West India molasses. Boil over a slow fire fifteen minutes in a pint of urine; when almost cold, add one ounce of oil of vitriol, and four ounces of spirits of turpentine.—Apply it to the wound with a quill or feather, which will immediately set the sore to running, and perform a perfect cure. Yours respectfully, STR. PALMER.