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DESCRIPTION and PRICE

•••• OF ••••

...STRICTLY HIGH GRADE SEEDS...

THE THREE GREATEST THINGS IN AGRICULTURE

CRIMSON CLOVER, COW PEAS AND WINTER OATS.

It is the purpose of this circular to give a brief description of the value and use of what I have pleased to designate the three greatest things in agriculture, viz., **Crimson Clover, Cow Peas and Winter Oats.**

• There never has been a period in the history of American agriculture when farmers, by the force of circumstances beyond their control, were compelled to practice such economical methods of restoring and maintaining the fertility of the soil as the present.

An era of low prices for farm products, unprecedented, in which the high price of commercial manures has been maintained, renders it absolutely impossible for the average farmer to secure the fertility required through the agency of commercial fertilizers. He must, therefore, make use of those methods which for ages have been regarded as most potent, many of which, however, remained to him as a sealed book until in these later years, by the experiences of practical men and the scientific experiments conducted by the various experimental stations of this and other countries, it has been clearly demonstrated that leguminous plants are the cheapest, most rapid, and most permanent soil renovators extant. Nitrogen, the essential agent in plant production, and the most costly, yet which so freely abounds that more than 30,000 tons rest upon every acre, is entrapped and made available for use as plant food through the agency of leguminous plants, for which **Crimson**

Clover and **Cow Peas** stand pre-eminent. They therefore lead as active agents in this valuable transforming process, and are regarded as veritable nitrogen traps.

They both make abundant growth of plant and vine, containing a very high percentage of food values, and have extensive root formation, preserving the nitrogen in the soil, as well as gathering large supplies from the air, and owing to their rapid decomposition when used as manurial crops, the nitrogen is speedily liberated, and thus made available for plant food.

Another most valuable feature of these plants is that they have proven their manurial value to be as great when the crop is fed to animals and the manure saved and returned to the soil as when the whole crop is ploughed under as manure. This, therefore, makes them doubly valuable, for in this way the farmer can supply himself cheaply and abundantly with a most valuable feed without impairing the manurial value of the plant. Another benefit lies in the joint use of these plants in that **Crimson Clover** is a winter plant, while **Cow Peas** is a summer plant, and two crops can thus be taken from the land each year. Both furnish excellent pasture, are equally good for soiling, ensilage or hay. They are as easily cured for hay as is red clover. The small amount of seed required to seed an acre, and the low price at which good seed is sold, ought to induce farmers to seed to these crops every available acre. I believe their intelligent use will go farther towards relieving the present distress among farmers and tend more largely towards solving the great problem of economic production than any other crop or agent.

WINTER OATS

is not a manurial crop, but, sown with **Crimson Clover**, it is invaluable; first, for protecting the young clover plants from hot or blighting sun; second, forming an excellent mulch for winter; third, for increasing the value of the crop for pasture, soiling, ensilage or hay. When used for the latter it keeps the clover from lodging, a very important item in so vigorous a plant as **Crimson Clover**. **Winter Oats**, of itself, furnishes excellent pasture, but perhaps its chief value lies in its productiveness as grain, which is more valuable as a food than spring oats. It weighs from 8 to 10 pounds more per measured bushel than spring oats; it furnishes double the quantity of straw; can be sown before or at the time of wheat seeding, and is ready to harvest about the same time. Farmers will at once recognize the advantage of this.

Farmers appreciate the use of *good seed*. This it is my object to furnish not better than *everybody else*, but as *good as the best*. My seed is all grown from *Pedigree Stock*, harvested with extreme care, so that its vitality is not impaired, and being provided with latest approved machinery, seed is thoroughly recleaned before being sent out. Seed is packed in *new cotton sacks*, and boxed when so ordered. My seed is put entirely upon its merit.

CRIMSON CLOVER.

Crimson Clover, or, as more commonly called, Scarlet, Italian, or German Clover, is an annual of French origin, makes a growth from 20 to 30 inches high, has a bright crimson blossom from 1½ to 3 inches long, and when in full bloom with its luxuriant growth of green foliage and its crimson bloom, is a thing of

beauty. It is a winter crop, must be sown in July, August and September of each year, from which the spring following it can be cut for soiling, by the 20th of April; for ensilage, and hay by 1st to 8th of May, and for seed crop by the 25th of May. It will produce on ordinary soil 12 to 15 tons of green food per acre, $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons hay per acre, and 2 to 12 bushels seed per acre. Ploughed under as a manurial crop it is worth as a fertilizer \$30.00 per acre. Experiments at the Delaware Experiment Station have shown that \$1.00 invested in seed per acre added 24 bushels of corn, while \$1.00 worth of nitride of soda per acre increased the yield of corn only 6 bushels.

Prof. E. B. Voorhees, Director of the New Jersey Experimental Station, says, on page 21 of Station Bulletin No. 100: "The average of the matured crops on May 24th and 31st contained per acre 200 pounds nitrogen and 6,506 pounds of organic matter, or equivalent to that contained in 20 tons of city manure, which would cost in that form \$30.00."

On page 29 of the same bulletin Professor Voorhees says: "Used as a manure only, the average crop per acre is worth \$25.50; when used as a feed the value is increased to \$45.25."

He also shows that Crimson Clover Hay contains 83.6 pounds more digestible matter than Red Clover, and that over 66 per cent. of this increase consisted of the most valuable compound, **Protein**. In his summary on page 31 he further says:

"This plant provides a good pasture before other crops are available. An early pasture is not only valuable for food contained in it, but also because it helps to insure proper feeding and to prevent too early use of other and later pasture. It was pastured this year in central New Jersey as early as April the 10th. The crop when 6 inches high contained over 1,300 pounds of digestible food per acre, sufficient to properly nourish 12 cows for one week."

It can be sown in *apple, peach, pear, plum or cherry orchards*, in *corn, tomato, cabbage, beans, peas, watermelon, canteloupes* or *any cultivated crop*, also with *buckwheat*. Has been sown in *asparagus* beds, in *raspberry* and *blackberry* patches to keep down weeds and to be plowed under as manure with most excellent results. When sown in July and August it furnishes excellent pasture in November and December; can also be pastured some in early spring without injury to either hay or seed crop. Where Red Clover failed to give a good stand or blighted on wheat stubble, the stubble can be harrowed over and **Crimson Clover** sown, which will more than make up the loss of the Red Clover.

Crimson Clover weighs sixty pounds to the bushel. Ten to fifteen pounds are necessary to seed an acre properly, and after sowing the seed it should always be covered by harrowing with a light harrow. There are five types of **Crimson Clover**, one only of which is hardy. In the original seed supply Delaware fortunately secured the hardy type. It has been grown here now for nine years; consequently it is the ninth generation seed, and being of the hardy type and thoroughly acclimated it succeeds in extreme northern latitudes, where it was thought it would not withstand the winter. In the Middle Atlantic and Southern States it naturally flourishes. Every farmer misses a golden opportunity if he fails to give it a trial on his own grounds.

Professor Voorhees and other experimenters of high authority regard it as hardy as Red Clover. It withstood the winter at the Maine experimental station and attained a growth of 26 inches. Good results have been obtained in northern New York, and we believe that where good *acclimated American grown seed* of the *hardy type* is used it will succeed anywhere that Red Clover will. We believe also that the chief cause of failure has been invariably in the use of seed that was not of the hardy type, or was imported and not acclimated or from partially germinated seed by which it was rendered unfertile.

Crimson Clover will grow on poor light soils when other grasses fail. It does not interfere with, but is an addition to other farm crops, as with it a crop of hay can be removed from the land and a crop of corn, tomatoes, peas, beans, potatoes or any other cultivated crop grown each year. In this respect it is decidedly the peer of all other clovers or leguminous plants, and justly entitled to be called *The Wonderful Forage Plant, The Great Nitrogen Gatherer, The Mortgage Lifter, The Great Soil Renovator*, etc. By its use poor soils can be improved more rapidly than by any other method. Therefore, it is the cheapest and best fertilizer. It makes an abundant food of highest quality. As pasture, stock prefer it to other grass. As a soiling crop or for ensilage it cannot be excelled, and for hay the stock not only have a decided preference for it, but they thrive remarkably upon it.

The Delaware Experimental Station sums up its uses as follows:

1. *To plow down for green manure.*
2. *For silage.*
3. *For soiling.*
4. *For haymaking.*
5. *For seed production.*
6. *For eradication of weeds.*
7. *For reduction of expenses in cultivating orchards.*
8. *For winter and spring pasture.*
9. *As a protection for falling fruit in orchards.*
10. *For binding drift soils and for preventing washing on hill sides.*
11. *As bee food.*

I make a specialty of growing this seed, and have large quantities grown for my trade by many of the best growers in Delaware and Maryland. My aim is to furnish nothing but **pure, high grade, thoroughly recleaned seed, guaranteed American grown.** The hardiness of the seed I offer has been demonstrated by trial throughout the United States. Beware of old and imported seed. Samples on application.

Price per pound, postpaid, 25 cents. Peck, \$1.50. Half bushel, \$2.00. Bushel, \$3.50.

(Above prices subject to market changes.)

NOTE.—Recent reports from Connecticut and New York show that **Crimson Clover** succeeds as well when sown in the Spring as if sown in the Fall in those States. This would make it doubly valuable in latitudes north of New York city, and farmers in those sections are not alive to their interests if they do not give it a thorough trial in this respect.

HOW, WHEN, AND WHERE TO SOW CRIMSON CLOVER.

HOW—To secure a stand of **Crimson Clover**, the first requisite is thorough preparation of the soil. The soil should be mellow to a depth of three inches, whether in orchards, cultivated crops, or open ground. It should always be worked before sowing the seed, so as to secure moisture and fineness. After the seed is sown, of which not less than 15 pounds per acre should be used, the seed should be covered with a harrow, plank drag, or field roller. If the ground is dry, best results are obtained when seed is covered to a depth of one half inch. If sown on wheat stubble, where Spring sowing of red clover failed or blighted, the soil can be put in proper condition by thorough working with Disc or Cutaway harrow, then sowing the seed, following with drag harrow to cover, and roller to firm the soil. Thorough preparation of soil, thorough covering of the seed, and when ground is dry thoroughly firming the same, will always secure a stand, and will give larger returns for money expended than any other crop grown on the farm.

WHEN—The proper time to sow is in July, August and September. Spring sowings have been made in Northern States, and in many instances have been successful, but they cannot be relied upon. If sown in July or early in August, and seed should fail to come, sowing can be made again in September. Sown in July and August, it can be pastured in Fall and early Spring. The best time to sow is just before or following a rain, but if directions how to sow are strictly followed, seed can be sown in time of drought.

WHERE—Sow in corn, tomatoes, etc., or orchards at the last working; sow with **Cow Peas**, or **Winter Oats**; in watermelon patches, and with buckwheat. Have never known of a single failure when seeded with buckwheat, or with tomatoes. Sow every inch of land on the farm not occupied with other crops; it will pay you a hundred fold. And, lastly, do not use imported seed; it is diseased, and not being acclimated is not hardy and will freeze out. It may also not be of the hardy type. Seed grown in Delaware has fully demonstrated its hardiness. My **DIAMOND BRAND** is the highest grade on the market, because it is the hardy type, acclimated, and carefully selected and recleaned. When buying, get the best.

Send your order now to

P. EMERSON,
Wyoming, Delaware.

COW PEAS.

The **Cow Pea**, grown extensively throughout the Southern States for many years, and there called the "King of Land Renovators," is too well known to require an extended description; but some facts regarding **Cow Peas** have been demonstrated by means of recent experiments, by which its value has been enhanced, and which makes the selection of varieties of such importance that particular attention should be directed to it.

Cow Peas have been chiefly grown in the South to reclaim or renovate soils too poor to grow clover and for seed production. Scientific experiments and practical tests have, however, demonstrated that the food value of the **Cow Pea**, either for ensilage or hay, is equal to, if not exceeding, clover, and by putting it to this use its manurial value is not impaired when fed to stock and the manure returned to the soil. This being the case, only the erect, growing varieties should be sown, as it is almost impossible to harvest the recumbent varieties without great loss of vine that is valuable for food. Of the more than forty varieties now grown, those herewith described have proven to be the most valuable and the best for all purposes.

Cow Peas are a summer crop. Should be sown from 1st to 12th of June. When sown in drills, 3 feet apart, 1 bushel will seed 2 acres. Sown broadcast (which will be found the best way to sow them), from 1 to 1¼ bushels is required to seed an acre properly. The best way to sow them is to use an ordinary wheat drill, closing every other gain. The crop is improved by the addition of acidulated rock, 300 pounds per acre—no potash. They should be harvested when the pods begin to turn light if used for hay. **Cow Peas** will yield from 8 to 12 tons of vines per acre, which is equivalent to from 1 to 2½ tons cured hay per acre. All varieties, except the *black*, must not be sown before the ground becomes warm, or else the cold soil will cause them to decay. They can be sown after a crop **Crimson Clover** has been harvested, and will mature their crop in time to again seed the land to **Crimson Clover** the same season. In the South and Middle Belt States they can be used for both vine and seed production; in the North for only vine production.

The Georgia Experimental Station gives the following summary of results with their experiments:

1. The best disposition of a crop of **Cow Peas** is to convert the vines into hay (or ensilage).
2. The next best is to permit the peas to ripen and gather (or pasture them).
3. Mowing the vines and permitting them to lie on the surface and plowing under in November was decidedly better than turning the vines under in August.
4. Turning the vines under green gave the poorest economic results.

VARIETIES.

New Era. Recumbent. Vine and leaf light. Kidney. Very early, makes two crops a year. Pod, medium, yellow. Pea, small to medium, brown, speckled on grayish blue ground. Moderate yielder. Peck, \$1.50; half bushel, \$2.25; bushel, \$4.00.

Clay. Tall, erect grower; large, heavy leaf and stalk, dark green and vigorous. Light purple blossom. Form, kidney. Pod, large, yellow. Pea, medium, cream colored. Very late. Very heavy yielder of both vines and peas. A standard variety and one of the best, if not the very best. Half bushel, 75c; bushel \$1.25.

Unknown. Synonyms: *Wonderful*; *Quadroon*. The name is now paradox, as it is one of the best known varieties, and widely and justly celebrated. Growth erect—in course of time trailing at ends on rich soil. Stalk and leaf vigorous, dark green. Blossom, purple. Form, kidney. Pod, large, yellow. Pea,

medium, pale buff, with greenish tint. Very late. Very heavy producer of vines and heavy yielder of peas. Perhaps the best "all round" pea. Half bushel, 90c; bushel, \$1.50.

Black. Semi-recumbent; trails at end of vines; leaf and stalk moderately large; vigorous. Blossom, purple. Form, kidney. Pod, medium, yellow. Pea, medium, jet black. Heavy producer of both vines and peas. Very late. Hardy; pea will sprout after lying in ground all winter. Half bushel, 70c; bushel, \$1.15.

The **New Era** is the earliest Cow Pea, maturing its crop in 60 days, thereupon best adapted for the north. **Unknown** and **Black** are the heaviest yielders of vine. The best of the erect varieties are the **Unknown** and **Clay**.

The best stock Pea for field grazing is the **Black**. It will remain in the ground all winter without injury.

The **Unknown** is the best all-purpose Pea, with **Clay** second.

Prices Subject to Market Changes.

WINTER OATS.

More profitable than Spring Oats. Nothing new, having been thoroughly tried and succeeded well throughout the United States. They are sown in the fall when wheat is seeded, or earlier if desired. They will mature their crop usually a few days later than wheat; a vigorous grower; average height when ripe to cut, four feet; stood wonderfully; single grains throw up from ten to twenty stalks, which bear large, well-filled heads. They have a stiff straw, stand up well, and yield from thirty to sixty bushels of oats to an acre. Will produce a crop on moderately poor land, where Spring Oats would fail. They weigh from forty to forty-five pounds to the bushel; this alone should be sufficient to induce farmers to grow them. They are perfectly hardy, having withstood a temperature of 40 degrees below zero. If sown early in September, they furnish excellent pasture in the fall, which is a benefit instead of a detriment.

These oats have been grown here for the past eight years, and are doing as well to-day as when first sown. The seed I offer is pedigree stock—thoroughly reliable. They ought to be grown more extensively throughout the country. One bushel will seed an acre. Bushel, 60c; 10 bushels, \$5.00.

The prices quoted on all seeds include the cost of sacks—i. e., no charge made for sacks.

Other grass seeds furnished when desired. Prices given upon application.

Place your order now.

PURE SECOND CROP SEED POTATOES.

True second crop potatoes are those grown from, and that are taken from, an early crop of the same season. One-third more potatoes, with same treatment, can be grown by using second crop seed than first crop. The crop will also mature from ten days to two weeks earlier, which is an important item to potato growers. A trial alone will convince you of these facts. Only a limited quantity of these second crop potatoes to offer this spring of leading varieties. Early Rose, Bliss Triumph, &c., at \$4.50 per barrel; \$1.75 per bushel.

IMPROVED BIG STEM JERSEY SWEET POTATO SLIP SEED

Are not the lowest in price but are decidedly the cheapest when variety and quality are considered. When growing sweet potatoes why not get the best? The Improved Big Stem is the most productive, most vigorous grower, most uniform, less small potatoes, the finest color and highest flavored sweet potato grown. Our slip seed is vastly superior to seed grown by any other method. Do not fail to give them a trial. Slip Seed, \$4.00 per barrel; \$1.75 per bushel; ten barrel lots, \$3.75 per barrel.

IMPROVED SEED WHEAT.

Jones' Winter Fife. Price. \$1.30 per bushel. Heavy yielder; fifty-six bushels grown on one acre.

Fulcaster. The old standard. \$1.15 per bushel.

Improved Fultz. \$1.15 per bushel.

These are all high grade wheat. Absolutely pure and thoroughly re-cleaned, and the price asked for them is low when quality is considered.

SEED CORN.

Early Mastodon. Matures its crop in 110 days; strong grower; remarkably productive; ears are large; grains very large, long, deeply dented; yellow with light top. Just the corn for the north, where short seasons are the rule, or in Middle or Southern States, after a crop of crimson clover; making two crops in one season. ~~20c. per pound, by mail; 4 quarts, 30c.; peck, 50c.; bushel, \$1.00; 2 bushels, \$2.00.~~ / .50

Improved Learning. One of the finest yellow-dent corn; vigorous grower but only medium in height; ears long and large; small cob; grain deep rich golden color; productive. Four quarts, 30c.; peck, 50c.; bushel, \$1.26; 2 bushels, \$2.48.

GRASS SEEDS.

These we do not grow but will furnish them for our customers when wanted at the very lowest price, quality considered.

P. EMERSON,

Wyoming, Kent County, Delaware.