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ROLAND BRAEDON

Better Methods for Growing Alfalfa Forgotten Books
 Excerpt from Alfalfa Growing As was mentioned in the introduction, alfalfa has the power of supplying nitrogen to the soil, and it is a good thing Providence provided this plant with this power, for if it did not have it there would be but few soils sufficiently rich in nitrogen to grow the crop for any length of time. This same thing would probably hold true to a somewhat lesser extent with the other leguminous crops. For they all contain a large amount of nitrogen or protein. They therefore must be able to secure a large amount of it from the soil. The manner in which alfalfa and the other legumes supply nitrogen to the soil is through the bacteria which live in and upon their roots. These bacteria are not originally present in all soils, for these particular bacteria cannot live without legumes, nor can the legumes live for any length of time without the bacteria, the principal reason being that the legume is such a greedy feeder upon the nitrogen in the soil that unless the bacteria are present, it soon exhausts the available nitrogen in almost any soil. While

all legumes harbour bacteria of much the same nature, it has been found that there are certain kinds that prefer each particular leguminous plant. This is probably due to the fact that these particular bacteria have adapted themselves to this plant. These bacteria are so small that they can scarcely be seen with even a microscope of the highest power. It is believed that they are absorbed by the minute root hairs along with the water, and after being absorbed irritate the roots to such an extent that plant juices are automatically thrown out at the spot, thus forming the little appendages called nodules in which the bacteria live. These nodules vary with alfalfa from small whitish lobes the size of a pin head to clusters of these lobes one half inch in diameter arranged somewhat like a bunch of grapes. These bacteria after becoming domiciled in the nodules attached to the roots multiply at an extremely rapid rate, and are able to absorb the free nitrogen found in the air spaces of the soil, and work it over into nitrates, a definite chemical compound and a plant food of the highest value, in which shape the alfalfa itself or any other plant can utilize it. These bacteria therefore are very essential to alfalfa, no matter where it is grown. In the soils of certain districts throughout the West it seems there are enough of these alfalfa bacteria or other bacteria of a similar nature that can readily

adapt themselves to the alfalfa plant, so that it is unnecessary to inoculate the alfalfa at the time of planting. Such is not the case here, however, though the continued planting of alfalfa on our irrigation projects may in time develop these bacteria so that they will become so widely scattered throughout the soil that it will be found till net-essary to supply them artificially. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.com This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

How to Grow Alfalfa John Wiley & Sons

How to grow great alfalfa and other forages. Growing a healthy stand, promoting vigorous forage growth through soil life, weed control and balanced soil fertility. Describing when forages should be cut (pre-bloom, first bloom or mid-bloom). This book shows how to measure forage quality.

Growing Alfalfa in Montana Harold L. Willis

Learn how to achieve top yields to maximize profits. This 2011 edition offers the latest information and strategies for alfalfa establishment, production, and harvest. Includes many color photos and charts.

How to Grow Alfalfa Acres USA

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Growing Alfalfa Seed Forgotten Books

A University of Arizona study examines all aspects of the production of alfalfa for the purposes of forage, including information on different blends, land and seed selection, fertilization, methods of harvesting, weed control, insect and mite pests, and diseases.

How to Grow Alfalfa, and Other Legumes Hardpress Publishing

Excerpt from Growing Alfalfa in Illinois While the legume acreage in Illinois has been greatly increased during the past ten years, few counties are producing half the legumes which good practices would seem to justify. In 1920 the U. S. Census reported acres of improved land in farms in Illinois. Of this area 3,069,000b acres were seeded in legumes in 1927, or one acre in every If one acre in every four of cultivated land were to be devoted to legumes, the 1927 acreage would need to be increased about

222 percent. (the alfalfa acreage, like the acreage of soybeans and sweet clover, has been substantially increased in Illinois during the past ten years, but production is not yet sufficient to meet the needs of the state. According to conservative estimate about tons were shipped into Illinois in 1928 despite the fact that about tons were harvested. Alfalfa was early recognized as a valuable crop for Illinois agri culture. More than a quarter of a century ago investigations were started at the University of Illinois, under the direction of the late Dr. Cyril G. Hopkins, to solve the many problems encountered in the production of this crop under Illinois conditions. The work has been continued with special emphasis on soil treatment and on the finding of adapted varieties and strains. The information gleaned from these experiments is reported in this bulletin, and it is hoped that the wide dissemination of these facts will help to overcome the chief hazards in alfalfa production in this state. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes hundreds of thousands of rare and classic books. Find more at www.forgottenbooks.com This book is a reproduction of an important historical work. Forgotten Books uses state-of-the-art technology to digitally reconstruct the work, preserving the original format whilst repairing imperfections present in the aged copy. In rare cases, an imperfection in the original, such as a blemish or missing page, may be replicated in our edition. We do, however, repair the vast majority of imperfections successfully; any imperfections that remain are intentionally left to preserve the state of such historical works.

Alfalfa-growing in the United States and Canada

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