

## SELECTING A FARM COLOR SCHEME

### How it Will Increase the Attractiveness of Farm Premises.

One of the aids to farm beautification is the so-called decorative fence. There are so many types of fences and enclosures, from elaborate trellis-work to simple board-and-rail, that it would be impossible to describe, or even to catalogue all of them, as many are distinctive and originated by their owners. But it is important to protect with suitable paint those fences which are always exposed to wind and weather. And here it may be said that good exterior house paint is far preferable to ordinary calomine or whitewash, which is so often used, as it is more durable and gives a far brighter color than the ordinary whitewash or other water paints, and is protective besides.

If you have an unattractive patch of ground, whether it be the plot that surrounds your home, or a small orchard, you will never know its decorative possibilities until you try surrounding it with an appropriate fence, painted white, or some suitable light color. Such treatment will frequently produce a charming effect upon an otherwise drab plot of land. Try it sometimes when you have such a plot which has jarred on you by its unsightliness.

#### COLOR IS IMPORTANT.

Color contributes as much to beauty as does design. A house of beautiful architectural design may be quite ugly if it is painted in harsh or conflicting colors. Conversely, a house of quite ordinary design may be made very attractive by the use of an appropriate color scheme.

There are so many considerations to be taken account of in the matter of color harmony, that the successful selection of a suitable color scheme will give pause to the home owner. There are, however, a few fundamental principles which will greatly assist him in choosing an appropriate color scheme for the exterior of his home.

One of the chief causes for the ugly color combinations on so many of the houses that one notes in passing through the country, is lack of harmony. The colors of these houses do not blend into their backgrounds and surroundings. There has been no attempt to harmonize the roof, trim and body, either with themselves or with their surroundings. Roofs may be all painted a bright red, presumably on the theory that red is a good roof color, regardless of the fact that it may be very "glaring" against an open sky or background, or clash with the colors of other parts of the house, though such a roof might be interesting and attractive

#### CONSIDER THE SETTING.

We must also consider the setting of the house; whether it be located in the open country and alone, or in the city next to houses of varying color schemes. Then, too, we should consider the type of architecture and the general climate of the territory in which it is located. For instance, a stucco house with salmon-pink walls, would be entirely charming in an appropriate verdant setting of foliage and vines, but startling indeed when in unrelieved contrast with the snow banks of winter. Yellow might be a good color for a house in the woods, but hardly so in the city. The strong contrasts of deep brown, light buff and brick red, eminently suitable to an English half-timbered design, would be impossible for a Colonial farmhouse, and the colors appropriate to a Dutch Colonial house might be most unattractive for a Georgian. In addition we must consider our instinctive likes and dislikes. Our taste and feeling incline to certain colors, intensities and combinations.

No general rules for exterior color schemes can therefore be laid down. There are so many exceptions that we must rely mainly on sound judgment and common sense. However, we should always be guided by the prime considerations of design, color contrast and lighting and attempt to coordinate them.

#### SUGGESTIONS TO FOLLOW.

Large body surfaces in solid color should be relieved by contrasting colors on trim and roof. No material should ever be painted in imitation of some other material, as brickwork, for instance, or the graining of wood. It should be remembered that color masses make different impressions at varying distances. Houses should be inspected for color, both closely and at a distance.

Usually farms are blessed with plenty of "landscape" surrounding them. They would be inconspicuous and dull, indeed, were their buildings to be painted in some drab color. There is nothing that presents a more attractive appearance to the passer-by than farm lands, whose buildings are attractively decorated in brilliant or harmonizing colors.

In most cases, one will find farms are painted in one or two bright solid tones. The colors selected are commonly, white, yellow, red and green. The reason for the preference of bright color is that the duller hues would not show so well at a distance, nor would they be as cheerful as the brighter shades.

## TUDDY TOAD TEARS HIS COAT

By JOSEPHINE E. TOAL.

Tuddy Toad hopped out from under a chubarr leaf into the garden path where he sat warming his back in the bright sunshine. Tuddy wasn't a bit happy. He felt old and faded and ragged.

A bluebird dropped down from the apple tree to the edge of the path. Such a beautiful thing he was with his bright, blue coat and his warm red feet.

"How I should like to have a coat of that color!" sighed Tuddy Toad. "All the world would say, 'Oh, the darling blue, blue toad!' Isn't he sweet?" I am so tired of being an ugly brown thing covered with warts.

A shadow flitted overhead. Tuddy blinked his eyes and looked them up to the sky, where far, far above him a happy swallow skimmed through the sunshine.

"How I wish I could fly!" sighed little brown Tuddy. "Then all the world would say, 'How gracefully the charming toad flies and how swift!' I am tired of always being under foot."

Tuddy gave his shoulders an impatient shrug that actually split his shabby old coat right down the back! Dear, oh dear, what a sight he was now! He was grumbling away when from the apple tree came a joyous burst of song. "Sing! Let us sing!" warbled the oriole.

"How I wish I could sing like that!" sighed the toad. "All the world would say, 'Just hear the dear toad warble! Hasn't he a wonderful voice!'"

Then Bill Frog came leaping by on his way to the pond. "Kerchug! I'm off for a glorious swim," he chuckled as he sprang lightly over Tuddy Toad's head.

Tuddy looked after him and sighed: "How I wish I could swim! I would cross the pond to the other side and all the world would say, 'What a great traveler our smart Mr. Toad is!' But no, I never can do anything but grub along in the dust."

He gave himself another impatient shrug. Crack! Split! His shabby old coat tore from neck to tail. However in the world was going to become of him if it kept on!

A wandering breeze blew the dust into his eyes and shook a yellow rose-bush beside the path until the air was fragrant with rose-breaths.

"How I wish I could be fragrant like a rose!" sighed little Tuddy-toad. "Then I would be put in a glass bowl on the table and all the

world would say, 'How sweet!' instead of 'nasty toad!'"

Stamp, stamp, stamp, came Mr. Man down the garden path. In his arms he carried a horrid-looking, flabby, tattered thing with an old straw hat where its head should be, its shabby arms thrust into a ragged jacket, a red apron round its body. "There!" Tuddy Toad heard him say, when he had set the scarecrow in the middle of the strawberry bed. "I hope I won't see any more of those hopping birds around my garden."

Then he called to one of his helpers: "Bring your spade, Joe, and dig out that yellow rosebush by the path. It is spreading so it will root out all my hollyhocks. And say, Joe, if you happen to find any frogs around, catch them for me. They make good bait to go fishing."

Stamp, stamp, back up the path came Mr. Man's heavy footsteps. Tuddy Toad tried to hop out of the way, but was slow about it because, in the mysterious way of toads, he was just disposing of the very last of his old faded, ragged garment.

"Well, well," laughed Mr. Gardiner Man, stopping right in the middle of the path. "If there isn't Friend Toad! See, Joe, he has just shed his skin. How clean and nice he looks in his new suit! Ah, he is a fine fellow. Don't ever hurt a toad, Joe. The toad is the gardener's best friend. He is a wonderful little chap at destroying insect pests and he doesn't harm the fruit. Yes, sir, Friend Toad is just all right!"

And Tuddy Toad heard. He hopped gaily away to make a dinner of squash-bugs. He was glad he was not a bird, nor a frog, nor a rose, but a really truly useful member of society.

#### Egg Flavor.

In investigations made some years ago, by feeding nitrogenous and carbonaceous feeds, it was found that hens fed a ration of wheat, middlings, cottonseed-meal and skim-milk, produced eggs with a disagreeable flavor and odor, small yolks, and poor keeping qualities. On the other hand,

hens fed largely on cracked corn and corn dough laid larger eggs with richer yolks and better flavor. However, the latter ration gave a smaller egg production. When there was a proper blending of both nitrogenous and carbonaceous materials, there were better production, better size, and improved flavor.

Recently a nightingale singing 100 feet away from the London Broadcasting station 2LO, could be heard almost perfectly by radio listeners.

The windows in the living rooms of Swiss farmers are almost invariably filled with beautiful flowers. Flowers add so much to the beauty of a room that more of them should be used in our homes.

The secret of profitable pork growing is a continuous, healthy growth and development of the pigs from the day they are farrowed until they reach the marketing weight desired. Some slop of a necessity must be used even during the weaning period, but it must be used sparingly and with plenty of feed where exercise is required to get it; and along with these, good clean pasture will help. The most thrifty crop of pigs coming under my observation in a good many years was on a farm where they ran on small alfalfa lots and were switched from one lot to another of about the same size every alternate week, after the pigs were turned to the alfalfa being clipped in each lot.

These plants were allowed to grow fresh young leaves in plenty before the pigs were replaced. These pigs had a little shelled corn in addition to the succulent new shoots of the alfalfa.—R. J. E.

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## S.S. LESSON

James 5: Jacob and Esau, Gen. 25: 19-34; 26: 24-28; 27: 21-28; 28: 17. Golden Text—Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God, Christ's sake hath forgiven you.—Eph. 4: 32.

#### ANALYSIS.

I. BIRTH AND EARLY LIFE OF JACOB AND ESAU, 25:19-28.

II. ESAU'S BIRTHRIGHT SOLD FOR A MEAL OF POTAGE, 25:29-34.

III. THE STOLEN BLESSING, 27:1-40.

IV. REASONS FOR JACOB'S DEPARTURE TO PADANARAM, 26:34-35; 27:41 to 28:9.

V. RETURN OF JACOB, THE MIDNIGHT WRESTLING, AND THE MEETING WITH ESAU, 32:3 to 33:17.

INTRODUCTION.—The story of Jacob and Esau vividly portrays the character of the two brothers. Esau was a *chasing hunter, a man of the field, prone to settle life and continuous labor, governed by his senses and careless of the promises and privileges attached to his birthright as elder son. Jacob was the toiler, the plain, simple, home-loving man, but nevertheless shrewd, far-seeing, and ambitious. There is no doubt that the writer has in mind also the contrast in character of the two closely related peoples of Edom and Israel.*

I. BIRTHRIGHT AND EARLY LIFE, 25: 19-28.

V. 23. Two nations. The prophetic oracle here, like the blessing of Jacob in chap. 27, forecasts the future of Edom and Israel, the nations which regarded the two brothers as their respective founders. Israel was to be the stronger nation, and Edom, founded by Esau, the elder brother, was to be subject to Israel, founded by Jacob the younger. The subject of Edom actually took place in the reign of David. See 2 Samuel 8:14. Compare Gen. 27:40, and the successful revolt of Edom as related in 2 Kings 8:20-22 and 18:6. Edom was sometimes called Esau in later times, just as Israel was sometimes called Jacob. See Jer. 49:10; Obad. 6-10.

V. 26. His name was called Jacob. The Hebrew name "Jacob" means "one who takes by the heel" or "one who supplants," and is regarded by the writer as suggestive of the fact that Jacob did supplant his brother by robbing him of his birthright. The partiality of Isaac for Esau and of Rebekah for Jacob is also regarded as a chief cause of the trouble which arose between the brothers.

II. ESAU SELLS HIS BIRTHRIGHT, 25: 29-34.

V. 31. Thy birthright; that is, his rights and privileges as first-born son. It is altogether likely that, in this case, the elder son would have succeeded his father as head of the community or tribe, and that, in the distribution of his father's property he would have had the larger share (Deut. 21:16-17; Gen. 49:3). Compare the blessing intended for the firstborn in 27:27-28.

V. 34. Esau despised his birthright. To the later Old and New Testament writers it seemed clear that Esau had, by this foolish act, forfeited his claim, and that of his descendants, to the great promises of the covenant made with Abraham (chs. 15 and 17), and that high destiny which became Israel's in God's plan of salvation for the world. See Mal. 1:2-3 and Rom. 9:10-13. Thus the writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews speaks of him as a "profane person, who for one mess of meat sold his own birthright," Jacob, on the contrary, had a shrewd appreciation of the value of that which he purchased so cheaply. It is quite contrary to the truth to say that Jacob's action on this occasion is recorded without disapproval. (Eph. 2:1-3.)

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## USES FOR EMPTY SACKS

Supper, flour, meal, chicken-feed and blown sacks which are made of unbleached domestic or muslin can, after being laundered and the lettering removed, be made into many useful articles. A 100-pound sack contains enough material for a small child's dress. Buttonhole the neck, sleeves, and around the pockets with pink or blue thread, making the stitches one-fourth of an inch apart. Work a simple design in French knots on the front of the dress and you will have a pretty garment.

Be sure to remove all lettering before sacks are made into garments, especially garments made for children. Children can be very cruel to ward each other, and the child of a thrifty mother is sometimes subjected to much teasing because that mother sees things only through her own eyes.

A serviceable cloth for an oblong dining-table can be made by connecting two large sacks with a strip of torchon insertion. A touch of color is added by running a heavy thread of Deft blue near the edges of the insertion and along the hems. Make napkins to match.

I suppose every one makes quilt linings and tea towels of the sacks, but does every one know how to make the tea towels suitable for gifts? At a shower for a bride, a friend presented a half-dozen tea towels hemmed by hand. Each one was embroidered with a pitcher, a teapot, cup and saucer, or knife and fork, outlined in blue. Another girl made a fudge apron from a sugar sack. The bib, pockets and hem of the apron were trimmed with wide bands of flowered percale.

Underwear made from heavy sacks will last a long time. Trim with rickrack or torchon lace. Trim material makes pretty sash curtains. You can add a deep hem of striped, checked, dotted or flowered material. Scarfs and squares to match the curtains are pretty. To make a dresser scarf, cut a strip of white sack about seven inches wide and as long as the dresser, less six inches (to allow for the border). Add a three-inch border of the colored material all around.

Flour-sacks make good covers for mattresses and pillows, keeping the ticking clean. Heavier sacks can be made into pillow-cases and mattress pads. Make the pads by putting a layer of cotton batting between two strips of the material and quilting across. You can also make sacks

into covers for clothes hanging in closets.

When making a bedspread of sacks, be sure all sacks are of the same quality. Put together with heavy lace insertion, hand or machine made, and edge with the lace. Feather-stitch along the sides of the insertion with thick, lustrous embroidery cotton in white.

Then comes the dyeing game! Dyed dark blue, the sacks make durable work-dresses. Pink is pretty for children's clothes. Dark brown and green sacks make nice slip-covers for the plain rockers. They are used over a heavy padding of blanket or comforter places. Pillow-covers for the lounge and porch chairs can also be made from sacks.

We used dark green for curtains on a rural school stage, dark red for a Santa Claus and a Red Riding Hood suit, dark gray for O.G. Grip, the rat, brown for a brownie suit, white for suits for the baker and milkman and collar, cuffs and cap for a nurse's uniform made from medium blue.

All the pieces can be used, some for quilts to be lined with sacks dyed gray, red or blue, and others can be stamped for the little girls' sewing lesson. The cuttings also provide material for the crocheted rugs that brighten every corner in our house.

How many of you have ever used cement-sacks? Cut lengthwise and finished with hems and a loop or ring on each end they make every-day towels that last for years. They will also hold feathers as well as the best feather ticking. I have pillows made of them which have been in use for five years and the feathers have never come through. I have also sewed them together for straw ticks and they wear splendidly.

Gunny-sacking provided the foundation of a floor covering for one of my neighbors. "I first covered the floor with heavy paper," said my neighbor, "then stretched the gunny-sacks (sewed together) to fit the room, and tacked them firmly all around the wall. I then prepared a thick, cooked paste of flour and water, and spread while hot over the gunny-sacks. When that was thoroughly dry, I applied another coating, filling all the meshes, and after letting it dry well, I gave it a coat of yellow floor paint, and covered the paint (after it had dried) with a coat of oak stain. This makes a smooth, durable, brown carpet, which is easily cleaned by running over it with a cloth dampened in kerosene, and will last until we can buy linoleum."

#### The Production of Wax.

Beeswax being worth more than twice as much per pound as honey, all the wax that is produced in the apiculture should be saved, says Mr. C. B. Gooderham, the Dominion Apiarist. In an apiary worked for extracted honey the wax will come principally from cappings. A special box should be kept for old combs that have been rejected, for pieces of adventitious comb, for pieces of drone comb, for trimmings of foundations, etc., as they represent wax. The best way to deal with cappings and pieces of clean new comb, says Mr. Gooderham, is to place them in a glass wax extractor consisting of a solar covered box containing a sheet metal tray in which they will melt by the heat of the sun during the warmer months of the year; but combs that contain much pollen or have been used for rearing brood so often that they have become dark-colored cannot be rendered profitably in the solar extractor and must be melted over a fire in boiling water or by steam. A certain amount of wax may be extracted from such combs by rendering them in a wax extractor made on the principle of a potato steamer but to get nearly all the wax out of them it is necessary to subject the molten mass to pressure. The supply dealers will readily take beeswax in exchange for comb foundation, charging a moderate commission per pound for making the foundation.

Paris, France, holding a sale of various sorts of the most interesting communications issued by the Army on Nov. 11, 1918, the Monique is the Marshal Pétain, bears the signature of victory, which is own hand.

It is believed the comparative value took place in the people's chance to

Paris, France, holding a sale