[Method of Preventing Hay, Barley, &C. from Being Mow-Burnt]

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Agriculture

Ingredients
hay
burnet
barley
grain
corn straw

Places
Halifax
Nova Scotia

Source: Nova Scotia Gazette
Institution: Nova Scotia Archives | **Source Origin:** Nova Scotia Newspapers on Microfilm | **Reference:** Consult the Nova Scotia Archives' "Nova Scotia Newspapers on Microfilm" list (Royal Gazette) for a complete account of microfilm reels for this paper. EMMR includes recipes from reel 9466.

Description

Instructions for fashioning grain sheaves to avoid crop damage. Vol. 2, No. 53. Microfilm Reel 9466.

Transcription

A Method of preventing Hay, Barley, &c. From be-
ing Mow-burnt.
CAN there be a greater subject found than
agriculture in all its branches, for laborious
men to employ their industry, or men of genius
their penetration? It is deservedly a national con-
cern, and not unworthy even the patriot’s care. I

will therefore mention a very easy method (which probably may not so universally be known as the utility of it deserves) to prevent mow-burnt hay, burnet, barley, or indeed any other grain or fodder, collected together either in stacks, ricks, or bays of buildings; I mean, not being tied up in sheaves.

Mow-burnt hay, barley, &c. are well known; and when it happens to the latter, vegetation is almost, if not totally, destroyed thereby: Though the physical causes are not my present attempt; that I refer, if desired, to the ingenious and learned.

Even in a tolerable good harvest, you frequently see a vapour, as it were, arise from the top of stacks, &c. which, if put together too damp, injures it to that degree, as sometimes even to take fire, as various instances too fatally have demonstrated.

To avoid it therefore, prepare a large sheaf, or two sheaves, of corn straw tied together; and, when you begin to make your stack, place the sheaves in the centre: And as the stack gradually arises, so must also the sheaves, (or bolting, as they are in England frequently called) by which method a funnel, or chimney, as it were, will be continued from the bottom, so as to collect and draw up the circumjacent dampness, and discharge it at the top.

When the stack, &c. is thus finished, draw out your sheaves, (and, if out of doors,) cover it with a bottle of straw, previous to the covering or thatching of it.

The benefit of this method I know by experience, and many of my industrious neighbours know the same.

I have heretofore received damage from putting hastily quantities of hay, barley, &c. together; but by this easy precaution, (which does not take up any additional time at all) have avoided the inconvenience and disappointment arising from mow-burnt hay, barley, &c.

I make it a rule that my servants adhere to this method, even in good harvest weather; for often the husbandman is tempted, in a fine day, to hurry too much. Should the honest and industrious farmer receive but the least benefit from what has

been here said, I have my reward.

Method of Preventing Hay, Barley, &C. from Being Mow-Burnt recipe from Early Modern Maritime Recipes: https://emmr.lib.unb.ca/recipes/234