

## **Historic, archived document**

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# To Our Friends and Customers

## Seeds That Grow Are The Seeds It Pays To Plant

LOOK OUT FOR YOUR SEEDS EARLY THIS YEAR: GOOD SEEDS OF MANY VARIETIES ARE SCARCE THIS YEAR. OWING TO THE ABNORMAL CONDITIONS OF THE PAST SEASON WE KNEW THEY WOULD BE. IN ANTICIPATION OF THIS WE PREPARED FOR THIS EARLY IN THE SEASON AND WE ARE NOW IN BETTER POSITION THIS YEAR. IF POSSIBLE. THAN EVER BEFORE TO SERVE OUR CUSTOMERS. BOTH OLD AND NEW. PROMPTLY AND TO TAKE CARE OF THEIR ORDERS WITH PROMPTNESS AND IN A SATISFACTORY MANNER. MAKING SHIPMENT. EITHER BY MAIL. EXPRESS OR FREIGHT SAME OR FOLLOWING DAY AFTER RECEIPT OF ORDERS.

### SELECT SEED CORN

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



#### REID'S YELLOW DENT

Seed Corn of good varieties and Corn that will grow i going to be scarce this year, but we were never better provided or fixed to supply our trade with gilt edge high grade seed corn than this year. SEED CORN has been ONE OF OUR LEADING SPECIALTIES for more than THIRTY YEARS. We have grown and shipped out Seed Corn all these years to the farmers in practically every state in the Union, and to every County in the corn belt states and to a number of them, every railroad station in them. By reason of this we know how to grow Seed Corn—how to handle it,—what the requirements of the farmers are, and what varieties are suited and adapted to the latitude and locality where it is to be planted.

On the following pages you will find full and accurate descriptions of all the leading and best varieties of corn for general crop purposes, also price list of other profitable farm grain crops; forage crops. Grasses, clovers, alfalfa, annual grasses, hay crops; pasture crops, etc., etc. In fact our line of seeds is very complete, both farm and garden Seeds and Nursery stock of every kind and description. If you don't find just what you want, send for our Big Illustrated Catalog, also write and tell us what you want in the seed line. We like to get letters from our customers and those in want of anything in the Seed or Nursery line, and are just as much pleased to write letters and to give our friends the benefit of what we have learned from our personal experience and the experience of thousands of others all over the United States who have tried out seeds and crops of different sorts.

Again: We shall always be pleased to hear from one and all who may want seeds of any kind. Address



## Ratekin's Seed House

Largest Seed Corn Growers in the World.

Shenandoah, Iowa



# 1916 Price List of Seed Corn and Farm Seeds

All Seeds Named Below F. O. B. Shenandoah, Iowa, either Freight or Express at Purchaser's Expense, except where noted, to be Prepaid. No Extra Charge For Bags to Ship Grain In.

## SEED CORN

	Bushel	5 Bu.
Diamond Joe's Big White, 100 days.....	\$3.50	\$3.25
Improved Silver Mine, 90 days.....	3.00	2.75
Boone County White, 125 days.....	3.00	2.75
Johnson County White, 125 days.....	3.00	2.75
St. Charles White, red cob, 100 days.....	3.00	2.75
Wallace's Favorite, White, 115 days.....	3.50	3.00
Imperial White, red cob, 100 days.....	3.00	2.75
Hickory King, White, 140 days.....	3.00	2.75
Ratekin's Pride of Nishna, Yellow, 100 days.....	3.00	2.75
Ratekin's Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent, 100 days.....	3.50	3.25
Reid's Yellow Dent, 110 days.....	3.00	2.75
Gold Standard Leaming, 110 days.....	3.00	2.75
Legal Tender, 120 days.....	3.00	2.75
Improved Calico, 110 days.....	3.00	2.75
Iowa Gold Mine (early) 90 days.....	3.00	2.75
Silver Mine (early) 90 days.....	3.00	2.75
Silver King, White (early), 90 days.....	3.00	2.75
Queen of Nishna, (early) 85 days.....	3.50	3.25
Pride of the North (early) 85 days.....	3.25	3.10
White Cap, Yellow Dent, (early) 90 days.....	3.25	3.00
Dakota Bloody Butcher (early) 85 days.....	3.30	3.10
Longfellow Flint, 90 days.....	3.25	3.10
Sanford's White Flint, 90 days.....	3.25	3.10
Canada Flint, (early) 85 days.....	3.25	3.10
Giant Shenandoah Fodder, 115 days.....	3.00	2.75
Eureka Ensilage and Fodder, 120 days.....	3.00	2.75
Large red cob Fodder, 110 days.....	3.00	2.75
Stowell's Evergreen, 90 days.....	3.50	3.25
Popcorn, White Rice, 80 days.....	per lb. prepaid,	25c
Brazilian Flouring Corn.....	per lb. prepaid,	30c

## SEED OATS

	Bushel	5 Bu.
Alberta, Canada Grown Medium, Early.....	\$2.00	\$1.90
Big Banner 100 bu. Oats, Medium.....	1.25	1.10
New Kherson, Extra Early.....	1.10	1.00
Regenerated Swedish Select.....	1.60	1.40
White Russian, Late Side Oat.....	1.00	.90
Texas Red Rust Proof, Early.....	1.00	.90
Early Champion, Early.....	1.00	.90

## BARLEY

	Bushel	5 Bu.
Giant White Hulless.....	\$2.25	\$2.00
Success Beardless.....	1.50	1.45
Manshury, (beaded).....	1.50	1.45
Oderbucker (Wisconsin No. 55).....	1.60	1.50

## SPELTZ OR EMMER

	Bushel	5 Bu.
Spring Speltz, White.....	1.60	1.50
Winter Speltz, Black.....	\$1.50	\$1.75

## RYE

	Bushel	5 Bu.
Mammoth Spring Rye.....	\$1.85	\$1.75
Mammoth White Winter Rye.....	1.50	1.40

## SPRING SEED WHEAT

	Bushel	5 Bu.
Marquis, Canadian Grown.....	1.95	1.90
Iowa Chief.....	1.95	1.90
Maccaroni or Durham Wheat.....	1.95	1.90

## BUCKWHEAT

	Bushel	5 Bu.
Japanese.....	\$2.00	\$1.90
Silver Hull.....	2.00	1.90
New Calcutta.....	2.00	1.90

## FLAX SEED

	Bushel
North Dakota No. 52 Wilt Resistant.....	\$3.25
Minnesota No. 25 or Primost.....	3.25
Russian Flax.....	3.25

## CLOVERS

60 lbs to the bushel, in seamless sacks; sacks free. We handle and sell only one grade and quality of Grass and Clover Seed, Alfalfa, etc., "IOWA CHIEF BRAND"—Absolutely and positively THE BEST—No two or three grades, such as "Choice," "Prime," "Fair," Etc., and other inferior grades. The Best is always the Cheapest.

## MEDIUM RED, OR JUNE CLOVER

	Bushel
Minnesota grown, per bushel.....	\$14.50
Iowa grown, per bushel.....	14.50

## ALSIKE

	Bushel
Iowa grown, per bushel.....	\$13.00
Wisconsin grown, per bushel.....	\$13.00
White, or Dutch Clover, per bushel.....	30.00
by Mail Postpaid per pound.....	.55

## MAMMOTH RED CLOVER

	Bushel
Iowa grown, per bushel.....	\$15.00
Minnesota grown, per bushel.....	15.00

## SWEET CLOVER

Iowa Grown, new crop, hulled, per bushel.....	\$15.00
Nebraska grown, new crop, unhulled, per bushel.....	9.00

## CRIMSON CLOVER

Iowa Grown, new crop, per bushel.....	\$ 9.00
Illinois grown, new crop, per bushel.....	9.00

## MISCELLANEOUS CLOVERS

For all kinds of muscellaneous Clovers write for prices, we can supply them

## ALFALFA

Nebraska Dry Land Grown, per bushel.....	\$12.50
Grimm Type, Montana Grown per bushel.....	25.00
Montana Grown, per bushel.....	12.00

## VETCHES

Winter Sand Vetch, 60 pounds per bushel.....	\$12.00
Spring Vetch, 60 pound per bushel.....	8.00

## "NITRAGIN"

Bacteria Culture for inoculating Alfalfa, Clover, Sweet Clover and all other legumes. State the crop to be inoculated, when ordering. Price per can Garden size, \$1.00. Acre size \$2.00. 5 Acre size \$9.00. Parcel Post Charges 10 cents per acre can, extra, Postpaid.

## TIMOTHY SEED

Iowa Chief Brand, 45 lbs per bushel.....	\$4.50
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## TIMOTHY AND ALSIKE MIXED

50 lbs per bushel (about 1-3 Alsike).....	\$6.00
Red Top, solid seed, new crop, 14 lbs per bushel.....	3.00
Kentucky Blue Grass, solid seed, 14 lbs per bushel.....	2.80
Canada Blue Grass, per bushel.....	2.25

## MISCELLANEOUS GRASSES

Bromis Inermis by express or freight.....	10 lbs \$1.60; 50 lbs \$7.70; 100 lbs \$15.00
Orchard Grass, 14 lbs per bushel.....	2.75
Italian Rye Grass, 14 lbs per bushel.....	1.50
Crested Dog's Tail, 14 lbs per bushel.....	4.50
Creeping Bent Grass, 14 lbs per bushel.....	5.00
English Rye Grass, 14 lbs per bushel.....	1.40
Tall Meadow Oat Grass, 14 lbs per bushel.....	3.25
Meadow Fescue or English Blue Grass 14 lbs per bushel.....	\$2.00
Sudan Grass, Iowa Grown per pound.....	.25
Sudan Grass, Texas Grown, per pound.....	.18
Billion Dollar Grass, 35 pounds per bushel.....	2.50
Johnson Grass, 24 pounds per bushel.....	2.50
Lawn Grass Mixture, high grade, not prepaid lb 35c; 3 lbs 1.00	
Pasture Mixtures, highest grades, per lb not prepaid 10c to	.20
Bermuda Grass per pound, prepaid.....	.75
Tall Oat Grass, 14 pounds per bushel.....	3.25

## HOG PASTURE AND MIXTURES

Quick Annual Hog Pasture Mixture, per 100 pounds.....	\$4.00
Dwarf Essex Rape, per pound, not prepaid.....	.12
Permanent Hog Pasture Mixture, per pound, not prepaid..	.15

## MISCELLANEOUS FORAGE PLANTS

Teosinte, per pound, prepaid.....	\$1.25
Milo Maize (yellow) per peck 90c; per bushel.....	3.00
Jerusalem Corn, per peck \$1.00; per bushel.....	3.50
Kafir Corn, per peck 60c; per bushel (50 lbs).....	1.75
Cane, amber, peck, 50c; per bushel, (50 lbs).....	1.75
Cane, orange, per peck 50c; per bushel (50 lbs).....	1.75
Feterita, 25 lbs. \$2.00; 50 lbs.....	3.50
Pencilaria, per lb postpaid.....	.25
1000 Headed Kale, per lb postpaid.....	.35
Oriental Grass, per lb, postpaid.....	.25
10 lbs, not postpaid, \$1.50; 25 lbs.....	2.50
Sunflower Seed, lb postpaid 25c; peck not postpaid 75c bu.	3.50

## MILLETS (50 lbs per bushel)

German Millet, Southern Grown, per bushel.....	\$2.20
German Millet, Northern Grown per bushel.....	1.70
Siberian Millet, Minnesota Grown per bushel.....	1.95
Early Fortune Millet, per bushel.....	1.50
Hog or Broom Corn Millet, per bushel.....	1.50
Japanese Millet (32 lbs) per bushel.....	2.25
Hungarian Millet or Hungarian Grass per bushel.....	1.75

**BROOM CORN**

Improved Evergreen, per lb post paid	\$ .25
not prepaid, peck 75c; per bushel (46 lbs)	2.50
Oklahoma Dwarf, peck 75c, bushel (46 lbs)	2.50
California Golden, peck 75c bushel (46 lbs)	2.50

**ROOT CROPS—MONEY SAVERS FOR STOCK**

Stock Beets, (Mangle Wurzels, per lb, postpaid)	\$ .45
Stock Beets, Golden Tankard, per lb postpaid	.45
Stock Beets, Crimson Tankard, per lb, postpaid	.45
Stock Beets, Mammoth Long Red, per lb postpaid	.45
5 pounds any above not prepaid	1.00
Mastodon Carrott, for stock per lb postpaid	1.00
Long Lemon Carrott, for stock, per lb, postpaid	1.00
Lobberich's Stock Carrott, per lb, postpaid	1.00
5 pounds any above not prepaid	4.00
Ruta Baga or Sweed Turnip, per lb postpaid	.50
Jerusalem Artichokes, (for hogs) per bushel	1.60
Turnips, all varieties per lb, postpaid	.50

**THE CYCLONE SEED SOWER**

It is the greatest labor and seed saving invention of the age. The working principles are a novelty of simplicity, the result of more than 25 years of careful study. It is so simple in construction and perfect in operation that even a boy can operate it. It will sow Alfalfa, Timothy, Wheat, Oats, Rye, Buckwheat, Hungarian, Red Top, Turnip, Millit, Kafir, Cane, Cotton and all other grains and seeds perfectly even, any desired amount per acre, and from 30 to 60 acres a day. Full instructions and directions on every machine. Price \$1.50

**APPRECIATIVE LETTERS FROM A FEW OF OUR CUSTOMERS**

Columbia, Tenn., Feb. 9, 1915—Last year was a very dry one with us, but am pleased to say my corn grown from seed I got from you done much better and made twice the yield that our native corn made. In fact, all the seed I sent to you for did remarkably well. I shall want a lot of seed again this year and will surely send you my order for what I want. Mrs H. W. Roberts

**90 Bushels Off One Acre: Got \$2.00 per Bushel for Seed**

Schell City, Mo., Feb. 20, 1915—I am pleased to tell you in regard to DIAMOND JOE CORN received from you. In 1913 I got my first seed from you. It was a bad year. Drouth here was most severe, but I made a fair crop. On one acre of timber land after it had made itself, I went through and counted the ears on one row, and then at another place done the same, counting 100 ears for a bushel and by this count it made 85 bushels per acre, but later I shelled some of it and it over-run six to seven pounds more than estimate; therefore think it made fully 90 bushels to the acre. And the best part of it was, I got \$2 per bushel for every bushel I had to spare. My wife also wishes to say: "Tell Mr. Ratekin my garden seeds grew fine and gave us splendid garden—best we ever had" Your very truly, Finis Christmas.

Wetly, Okla., Feb. 20, 1915.—Enclosed find order for seeds again. The Diamond Joe Seed Corn I got from you last year done fine—the best corn I ever grew and made an excellent crop. My neighbors all, or many of them, have spoken to me for seed. My wife says: "Tell you our garden seeds were fine."

Alf Hall.

Rutherford, N. C., March 4, 1915—Please send me a copy of your catalog. We have been sending to you for seed for several years, and always pleased with results, but failed to get your catalog this year. Rush it along. J. C. Green & Co.

Shilo, Ark., March 14, 1915—The seed corn arrived yesterday in good shape. Enclosed I am sending you another order. Rush it out quick; planting time is now at hand and some are now planting. C. C. McDonald.

Lyons, Ind., April 17, 1915. DIAMOND JOE is the "Farmers' Friend" and the best drought fighter I have ever found. We had a very severe drought here last season, but DIAMOND JOE'S BIG WHITE made me 55 bushels per acre, while other varieties made but 15 to 20. It is certainly the farmers' friend. Charles Alkire.

Superior, Wis., Feb. 20, 1915—Enclosed find my order for some of your "famous" DIAMOND JOE'S BIG WHITE. I got a small amount of this corn last year and it done fine at Gordon, Wis., and want some more of it this year. People there never seen such corn before. All were taken with it. Please send seed as soon as convenient, as I like to have it on hand when ready to plant. Yours truly, Pauline Hanson.

Ocean Co., N. J., Aug. 15.—Please send me your Winter Seed folder with prices and descriptions. DIAMOND JOE SEED CORN I sent to you for last spring is doing fine, shows two well set ears on every stalk and every one is so large the stalk is bending over. I shall want a lot of seeds next spring and will be pleased to receive your catalog as soon as in print. Very truly yours, H. E. Gerkin.

**Garden Vegetable and Flower Seeds**

Our garden seed department is very complete in every item and variety of seeds, and no one realizes more fully than we that a good garden is "half of the family living"—that farmers, gardeners and truck growers require and appreciate the value of select new crop grown seeds of the best strains. Knowing this and in the further view of the fact that the housewife usually makes up the garden seed list, and as a rule they are the most careful and critical seed buyers we have. And why not? They are more interested than any other member of the family. They are the ones that prepare the vegetables and garden truck and place it on the family board for the family, their friends and company. For all these reasons we cater to the first lady of the household and specially try to please them by growing and handling only the very best strains and varieties of new crop grown seeds that can be grown—all thoroughly tested before sending out to see that all seeds show good strong Germination and are true to name—seeds that will give you good results and will please you.

It is our desire and intention to serve our prospective buyers as well as old customers to the very best of our ability, and to give them the best seeds and service that we can obtain anywhere at any price. With this assurance to you, we will appreciate your orders for what garden and flower seeds you will want for the coming season's planting. We will also appreciate your orders early, as early as you can determine on what your requirements will be; thus enabling us to give them our personal attention, before the rush begins, which always comes after the middle of the buying season of seeds.

Cove, Union County, Oregon, Jan. 27

First Prize. You will no doubt be pleased to know that I took first prize at our recent fair and corn show with Diamond Joe's Big White Corn from seed I sent to you for. The prize ear measures 15 inches in length. Pretty good corn for Oregon.

Very truly yours, J. M. Rundall.

Aurora, Illinois.

Gentlemen: Please send me a copy of your seed catalog by return mail. I am quite interested in white blossom sweet clover. I have tried it thoroughly and find it superior to alfalfa. Very truly yours, J. H. Loucks.

Burbank, S. D., April 16, 1915.

Please send me a copy of your catalog, as I want to order some of your seed corn. I ordered and planted some your corn a few years ago and obtained the best results from it I have ever had from any corn I ever planted. Rush catalog along as it's getting near corn planting time. John Jackson.

Scottsville, N. Y., March 28.

Gentlemen: I received the large order of seeds which I sent to you for, including onions, carrots and other seeds. Among them I sent for a pound of Chantra Carrots, and I grew 795 bushels, 54 pounds to the bushel, and sold them in Buffalo for \$15.00 per ton, and could have sold more, had I had them. Yours truly, G. W. Sheffer.

Jacksonville, Ark., Feb. 26, 1915.

We received all our seeds all O. K. and wish to thank you for prompt attention. My husband is sure very proud of his seed corn and we hope and expect to obtain a good crop from all of them, one we can write and tell you about after it is made. Yours very truly, Mrs. Mattie Kyser.

New Castle, Tenn.

Our seeds ordered from you last year gave splendid results and I am again enclosing you my order for what seeds I will need. I also wish to thank you for your prompt service. Truly yours, Anna Hevline.

Bedford, Ky.

I have ordered my vegetable seeds from you for the past five years and have always had excellent results and success from them. Enclosed find my order for seeds again this year. Mrs. Martha Walker.

Comet, Va., Jan. 26, 1915.

I have grown crops from your seed corn, also your Red River Ohio Potatoes and have been highly pleased with results. Mrs. Jennie Bell.

Diggs, Va., April 23, 1915.

Gentlemen: I raised your Magi Queen tomato last year and believe there is none better. I planted the seed after others had set out their plants and had ripe tomatoes a week ahead of them. I thought that would do for me. Yours truly, W. J. Brooks.

(Continued on Last Page)



Appreciative Letters From Some of Our Customers

93 BUSHEL PER ACRE

St. Charles, Mo., April 19, 1915.

Enclosed find my order for seed corn. If you have nothing better just send Diamond Joe's Big Early White. I planted it last year and it only made ninety-three bushels per acre, which was a pretty fair yield for a dry year. Very truly yours, J. R. McConnell.

McKinney, Tex., Feb. 16, 1915.

Dear Sirs: I received my catalogue and seed order and I am pleased with the same. I planted your seed last year and had a fine garden. Please send me a packet of your famous Magi Queen Tomato. Mrs. Ethel Curry.

Bronson, Mo., Jan. 15, 1915.

Please send me a copy of your catalog. I am quite interested in seed corn, grasses, clovers and garden seeds. I have planted your seeds in past years and always found them of excellent quality. Mrs. Mary E. Hawkins.

Gentlemen: I am a boy 12 years old, but I want to tell you I received the seeds you sent me, yesterday, all O. K., and wish to thank you for your prompt attention, also for the extra seeds you put into my package. Very respectfully, Alton B Hale.

New London, Henry Co., Iowa.

Last year was remarkably dry with us, but your DIAMOND JOE'S BIG WHITE CORN DONE WELL—made over 50 bushels per acre, which was good considering the season. Your new Alberta Oats also done fine. I got a yield of over 50 bushels per acre, while no other variety about here made yields of scarcely above 25 and 30 bushels. Please mail me copy of your new catalog as I shall want to send to you for some more seeds for the coming year. T. Thordson.

Ocean Co., N. J., Aug. 15.

Please send me your Winter Seed folder with prices and descriptions. DIAMOND JOE'S SEED CORN I sent to you for last spring is doing fine, shows two well set ears on every stalk and every one is so large the stalk is bending over with weight. I shall want a lot of seeds from you next spring and will be pleased to receive your catalogue as soon as in print. Very truly yours, H. E. Gerkin.

Spickard, Mo., March 3.

Enclosed find my order for seeds. It's my first order to you, although I have been sending away for seeds to another seed house with very satisfactory results, but my father has been sending to you for a number of years and he speaks so well of his success from your seeds, I am going to give you a trial. He thinks the Seed Potatoes he gets from you beats the heater. Very respectfully, Mrs. E. Brownawell.

Janesville, Wis., April 15, 1915.

I received the six bushels Iowa Silver Mine ordered from you, all O. K., and have made test; gave 95 per cent good, strong germination and am well pleased. With many thanks for your prompt attention, I am, Yours very truly, W. C. Hugunin.

North Detroit, Mich., Sept. 17, 1915.

Diamond Joe's Big White Corn I got from you last spring is a little the finest corn I ever saw. Please send me your fall catalog by return mail and oblige. Yours truly, George J. Seifferlein.

121 BUSHEL PER ACRE

Findlay, Ohio, Feb. 30, 1915.

Last spring I sent to you for seven pounds Diamond Joe's Big Early White, which I planted on one acre of good ground and from it I raised one hundred and twenty-one bushels of fine corn, and can sell all I will have to spare, for seed, at \$2.00 per bushel. I shall want some more seeds for the coming year and will remember to send to you for them. H. C. Hardwick.

100 BUSHEL ON ONE ACRE

Willoughby, Ohio, Jan. 25, 1915.

I sent to you and got seven pounds Diamond Joe Corn last year, and planted it on one acre of good ground, gave it good cultivation and from it grew 100 bushels. It's without doubt the best corn I ever saw. Now I want some grasses and clovers. Please send me latest prices. Fred A. Roe.

65 BUSHEL ONE YEAR, 81 1/2 ANOTHER

Earling, Iowa, Jan. 21, 1915.

I have now been growing your DIAMOND JOE'S BIG EARLY WHITE and PRIDE OF NISHNA for two years with splendid success and results. In 1913 I obtained a yield of 65 bu. per acre from Diamond Joe, and in 1914 I got 1,220 bushels off 15 acres. Pride of Nishna also gave a fine yield, as also did the new Alberta Oats. Henry M. Heese.

Mt. Vernon, Ill., March 30.

Enclosed find order for three bushels of DIAMOND JOE'S BIG EARLY WHITE Seed Corn. I wish to say, we have been planting this corn before in this part of Illinois, and find it well adapted to our part of this state. Truly yours, Isaac Feltenstein.

Centerville, Ill., Jan. 21, 1915.

Some years ago my father sent to you for some seed corn which we found the finest and largest yielder I ever seen. Unfortunately we suffered from an overflow last year which washed our corn out and we lost the seed of it and I am sending for some more of the same variety. It was the LEGAL TENDER. Very truly yours, Fred S. Crane.

Pulaski, Ill., Jan. 24, 1915.

A number of years ago my father, C. H. Brown, sent to you for some Diamond Joe's Big Early White, which I have grown ever since, but if you have a bigger eared corn I wish to get some of it. I don't expect anything better than Diamond Joe, for I don't think you have it. Let me hear from you. F. R. Brown.

Adair, Ill., March 15, 1915.

Seed corn received and tested; result 96 per cent. This is good enough to plant. Yours truly, H. L. Merrill.

Venus, Neb., March 20, 1915.

Seed corn received and is certainly much better than I expected. The Soy Beans are also very nice. I wish to thank you for prompt attention and other courtesies. Very truly yours, A. H. Basler.

White Pigeon, Mich., Aug. 11, 1915.

I am greatly pleased with results from the Early Rose seed potatoes I received from you last spring, and shall want enough seed of the same kind, Red River grown, to plant 15 acres another year. Charles W. Walters.

Hopkinton, Ia., March 3, 1915.

Dear Sir: Enclosed find my order for potatoes. I want some of Ratekin's Earliest potatoes. I think they are the best potatoes that grow. I have some of the kind I got of you a few years ago, but would like to change the seed. Yours truly, P. C. Blanchard.

Greenwood, Ind., Feb. 6.

The alfalfa I bought from you last year proved all right. I sowed it and got as fine a stand as you ever saw; it was the talk of the neighborhood. Have you good seed on hand at the present time? And I would thank you to advise me where it was grown and if under natural conditions and what it is worth per bushel. I want the dry land grown seed. Truly yours, S. Minor Tilson.

Atkins, Ark., Feb. 11, 1915.

Gentlemen: Received my order and want to say that they are as fine looking seeds as I ever saw. Please send me some information about Billion Dollar Grass. You will receive my order soon. C. D. Underwood.

St. Genevieve, Mo., May 9, 1915.

Dear Sirs: Please find enclosed money order for which send me at your earliest convenience \$5.00 worth of your famous Billion Dollar Grass. I am well pleased with the corn I bought of you. W. M. Ziegler.

Jefferson Parish, La., Aug. 20.

Remarkable Yields Dear Sir: Replying to your letter of recent date, would say, I got six bushels Diamond Joe's Big White, six bushels Wallace's Favorite and three bushels your Iowa Silver Mine. It come up quickly, grew off faster, done better and come to maturity a month ahead of our native sorts. It all made remarkable big yields, Diamond Joe's Big White taking the lead. It is the earliest big eared corn I have ever seen, but the Iowa Silver Mine chased close after it. Will remember you with my orders again the coming season. Domineck Pittari.

UTAH AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE (Experimental Station)

Logan, Utah, Jan. 4.

89.6 Bushels It gives me pleasure to report the yield of seed corn donated by you last year as follows: The Diamond Joe's Big White yielded 89.6 bushels per acre; Queen of Nishna yielded 74.2 bushels. Both of these varieties of corn are good yielders here, yielding also a large quantity of fodder per acre. Very truly, J. C. Hogenson, Agronomist.

BIG STALKS AND BIG EARS

Lincoln Co., Mo., July 25, 1915.

Gentlemen: Diamond Joe's Big White corn is proving a grand success with farmers here who planted it last spring. It is hardier, standing both wet and dry weather better than any other variety. It has large thrifty stalks with much larger ears than any other variety. What I am wanting now is some good, soft beardless variety of winter wheat that will match up with Diamond Joe's big white corn, something that will withstand freezing and thawing winter and wet and dry weather. Send me your Seed Wheat catalog with prices and descriptions. Truly yours, Reubin Anson.

The corn is white, long even ears, and is known as "Ratekin's Diamond Joe." Two hundred and fifty pounds of fertilizer was used to the acre. The ground was in good order for planting, but no extra work was done in the way of cultivation.—Mitchell Tribune, Indiana.

# The Iowa Corn Growers Seed Company of Essex, Iowa

## Announcement

The Iowa Corn Growers Seed Company is an organization composed of experienced and practical growers of improved and thoroughbred varieties of corn for seed purposes. The business management is made up of men of high business capacity and executive ability, scrupulous in their business methods, who for many years have been associated with and engaged in the Wholesale Seed Corn Trade, and whose knowledge and experience in this line enables them to anticipate and meet the wants and requirements of the dealers in a most satisfactory manner. We are in no way connected with any other seed house or firm.

## Where We Are Located

We are located at **ESSEX, PAGE COUNTY, IOWA**, in the extreme Southwest part of Iowa. Our growing districts are in Mills, Montgomery Page and Fremont Counties—the cream of the entire corn growing section of the United States—a section that does, as a matter of fact, produce and ship more Seed Corn than any other of an equal area in the Corn Belt. A further fact of interest is that Page County, Iowa, 22x24 miles square, holds a record of producing more corn in one year than any equal area in the **WORLD**.

## Selected Seed Corn

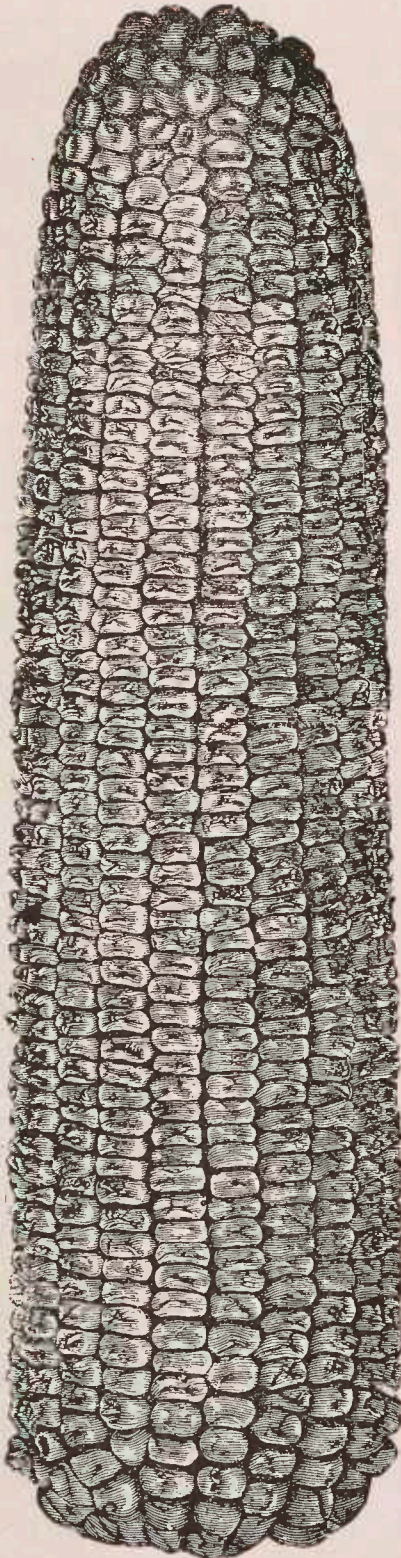
It is of the greatest importance to dealers and their customers to know the method employed in selecting Seed Corn. Our Seed Corn is not only of the best, pure, inherited varieties, but every ear is **HAND PICKED**; butt and tip taken off and each ear carefully examined as to vitality and germination. So remember when you handle, buy or plant our Seed Corn you are getting seed that has been carefully selected, butt and tip taken off and each and every ear examined as to vitality. **IT IS SEED CORN IN THE FULLEST SENSE**

## Our Aims and Our Policy

It is our aim and policy to send out a high grade and superior quality of seed only; to extend courteous and fair treatment to all, and to make "**A SQUARE DEAL**" our motto; to put forth every effort to make each transaction a profitable one for our patrons, and by prompt service, honest and fair treatment, and high quality of seed shipped, to merit and receive the confidence and continued patronage of our customers. And on this basis we earnestly solicit your orders and your trade for the coming season of 1916.

# Early Iowa Yellow Dent

## Earliest to Mature and Largest in Yield



Iowa Yellow Dent

**IOWA YELLOW DENT:** A most choice and excellent variety of Yellow Dent Corn. It has been extensively planted in every state in the Union, proving everywhere one of the very best and most productive. It is an early maturing corn making itself safely and soundly anywhere, in from 90 to 110 days, dependent on weather conditions. It is of unusual vitality and adaptability, and has been successfully grown over all the corn belt states from the Rocky Mountains to the Atlantic Coast, and throughout every Southern State, everywhere standing right at the head of all top notchers.

**DESCRIPTION:** Stalks large, thick and heavy. Broad blades and leafy foliage height from 7 to 10 feet, dependent upon the land—hill or bottom; ears run from 8 to 12 inches long, usually about 10 inches, 16 to 20 rows, deep grain solidly set on a small red cob; shells 88 to 90 per cent grain to 10 and 12 per cent cob, weighs out two or three bushels more per wagon load than other varieties, thus proving its soundness and maturity. It is one of the heaviest yielding varieties grown, and has a record of 80, 90 and 100 bushels per acre in almost every corn growing state where planted, under ordinary good cultivation and conditions. We can unhesitatingly recommend this variety anywhere, north, south, east, or west. In addition for fodder and ensilage purposes **THERE IS NONE BETTER** and few, if any that equals it.

### Our Corn is Carefully Selected

A subject of importance to the Trade and our Customers, and one they should **KNOW** about, is "What character of Corn goes to make my seed, and what method is employed in its selection?" Our Seed Corn is not only of the best pure, inherited varieties, but **EVERY EAR** is **HAND PICKED**, butt and tip taken off, and each ear carefully inspected and examined to be **SURE** of its **VITALITY** and germination. This is positively one of the most important details in the selection of good Seed Corn, for without a good stand of corn no one can expect to obtain a full crop however improved and highly bred the varieties may be. **THIS IMPORTANT FACT WE CANNOT TOO STRONGLY IMPRESS ON ALL WHO HANDLE OR PLANT CORN.**

The actual cost of Seed Corn per acre is so ridiculously small compared with the **RESULTS** that it is not worth while discussing. Remember, one bushel of Seed Corn will plant seven or eight acres and the best seed obtainable will cost less than 50 cents per acre. The farmer, who plants the corn, can better afford to pay \$5.00 per acre and get seed he can depend upon to grow and produce a full crop than 50 cents per acre for seed that will give but half a crop. **REMEMBER, WHEN YOU HANDLE, BUY OR PLANT OUR SEED CORN YOU ARE GETTING SEED THAT HAS BEEN CAREFULLY SELECTED BUTT AND TIP TAKEN OFF, AND EACH AND EVERY EAR EXAMINED AS TO VITALITY; SEED THAT WILL SHOW A GERMINATION OF 95 PER CENT, OR BETTER. It is really "SEED CORN."**

WRITE US FOR PRICES AND OTHER INFORMATION.



# Iowa Gold Mine

## Early Yellow Dent Corn—Matures Quickly

**IOWA GOLD MINE** (an early yellow dent corn) is perhaps more widely known than any variety of corn grown. It has made Iowa Famous as the mother state of this splendid variety of Yellow Corn. It is a favorite variety in every State in the Union where Corn is grown, and its popularity extends even beyond the borders of this country. **IOWA GOLD MINE** is the earliest maturing, the purest yellow, the deepest grain and best medium early corn between the later varieties and the extra early sorts.

**DESCRIPTION:** A Yellow Corn—Yellow as Gold itself—medium early; between Pride of North and the later standard field varieties, such as Reid's Yellow Dent and Iowa Yellow Dent, and a little earlier than Iowa Silver Mine, White. It is a pure, thoroughbred, wonderfully high yielding corn for an early variety, often producing a larger yield than later varieties; yields from 60 to 80 bushels per acre, and has record yields as high as 100 bushels. In the extreme north part of the corn belt it is a great favorite, and is perhaps planted more generally than any other yellow corn. It is also a splendid variety for medium or late planting in the central corn belt states, and also for late or second crop planting in the South. The ears are not large, but run from 7 to 10 inches in length, very symmetrical. Stalks grow from 7 to 9 feet tall, dependent on the land—upland or bottom—and every stalk has one and many two good sized ears. Certainly a wonderful early maturing, good yielding corn. It is an excellent fodder and ensilage corn for the northern and New England States where seasons are short. Do not hesitate to plant **GOLD MINE**. "It makes good," even where others fail!

### Let Us Help You Select Your Varieties

If in doubt as to varieties best adapted to your climate, soil and location, we earnestly request that you write us. Because of the many years of experience of those associated with **THE IOWA CORN GROWERS' SEED COMPANY**, in growing Seed Corn to supply dealers in every section of the country, we feel we can be of valuable service to you if you desire us to assist you in choosing varieties for your own locality, whether it be South, North or East of us. It has often been demonstrated that **OUR** seed of early varieties suitable for northern planting, will positively outgrow and outyield the same varieties from native, or Northern grown seed, because it more perfectly matures and is possessed of more vigor and hardiness when grown under the more advantageous conditions here. On the other hand, our very large and late varieties will be found more vigorous in the South and Southeast, and will mature earlier there than the same varieties from native Southern grown seed, and make themselves while the strength and moisture are still in the ground and before the dry weather and severe hot winds set in.

"AS YOU SOW, SO SHALL YOU REAP"

Cost of seed pr acre, Oats, . . . . .	\$1.00	Value of crop . . . . .	\$10.00 to \$20.00
Cost of seed per acre, Wheat, . . . . .	\$1.50	Value of crop . . . . .	\$15.00 to \$30.00
<b>COST OF SEED PER ACRE, CORN, . . . . .</b>	<b>\$.50</b>	<b>VALUE OF CROP . . . . .</b>	<b>\$25.00 to \$50.00</b>

More than anything else the **YIELD** depends upon the **SEED**.  
More than anything else the **PROFIT** depends upon **CORN**.



Iowa Gold Mine



Iowa Silver Mine, White

## Iowa Silver Mine, White

Pure - Thoroughbred

The Greatest Yields of All

White Varieties

**IOWA SILVER MINE** is drouth proof, of extreme vitality and does better on old, poor or hill land than any other variety. Early to mature, a big yielder and unexcelled for feeding, ensilage or fodder purposes. It is adapted to a wide range of conditions and a great success in the north, south, east and west. It makes good where others fail and brings satisfaction to the farmer who plants it. Because of the great popularity of this corn thousands of bushels of white corn are offered and sold every year under the name of **Iowa Silver Mine** which bears no likeness to it. Our Stock is Pure

**DESCRIPTION:** Stalk medium in height, ranging from 7 to 10 feet (dependent on the land, hill or bottom) very leafy broad blades type of corn even and uniform; ears running from 9 to 12 inches in length; 16 to 20 rows pure white kernels solidly set on a medium small cob. Matures in from 90 to 100 days in good corn weather.

We Cannot Too Highly recommend This Variety.

### Experience Counts in Growing Seed Corn

By associating ourselves with experienced, practical, reliable and expert corn growers; by growing pure varieties from the best seed obtainable, with natural advantages afforded us in soil, climate and ideal corn growing conditions we believe each and every variety we offer to be of the highest germination and heaviest yielding strain. Record crops raised by our growers is proof of the value and dependability of our Seed Corn, and the increased yields secured by farmers using our Seed Corn demonstrates that it is profitable for them to use our seed in preference to seed handled in the ordinary way.

Our interest does not stop in getting good strains of Seed Corn, but we are careful to the extreme in its selection and preparation for planting, for better Seed Corn means more bushels to the acre—more satisfaction and greater crops for the farmer—more trade for the dealer and bigger business for our Seed House. That's why we take the utmost pains to examine every ear for vigorous germination, and it is from this character of seed that hundreds of dealers have built a reputation for handling high quality seeds.

### It Means Profit to the Farmer to Plant Tried and Tested Varieties of Seed Only

One bushel of corn will plant seven to eight acres! A bushel of "SEED CORN" that increases the yield ten bushels per acre, makes at the rate of \$50.00 per bu. The cost per acre for pure bred varieties is but 40 cents, hence one bushel per acre increased yield more than pays all cost of seed. The commonest mongrel scrub corn costs you something. The corn we sell is not only selected seed, but is pure bred, carefully handled and examined, and will grow and produce a yield of from 10 to 40 bushels per acre more than ordinary varieties.

BE FRIENDLY! WRITE US ABOUT WHAT YOU WANT.

## Champion Early White

A former favorite expression among Iowa Orators was "Of all that is good, Iowa affords the best", but since Iowa won the GRAND FIRST PRIZE OVER ALL PRIZES ON CORN at the Panama-Pacific Exposition it may now be expected that the expression "Of all that is good in 'CORN' IOWA affords the best" will become UNIVERSAL, and of all the Counties in this great corn state, Page County, 22x24 Miles Square, holds a record of producing more corn in one year than any equal area in the WORLD, —over SIX AND ONE-QUARTER MILLION BUSHELS—and among all the varieties that went to make this unequalled record there were none that swelled the enormous yield so much as CHAMPION EARLY WHITE.

In the center of this page you see an illustration of it which better reflects the type and character than we can describe it. A medium large variety, very uniform, and one of the earliest maturing field varieties grown, size considered; is a little larger than Iowa Silver Mine and from 5 to 10 days later in maturing, but always ripens safely in from 100 to 110 days. Stalks grow strong and rugged, usually 7 to 10 feet tall; very leafy and a splendid fodder and ensilage corn, in fact none better. Ears run very even, 9 to 12 inches long, 16 to 20 rows compactly set on medium sized white cob and positively unexcelled as a big yielder.

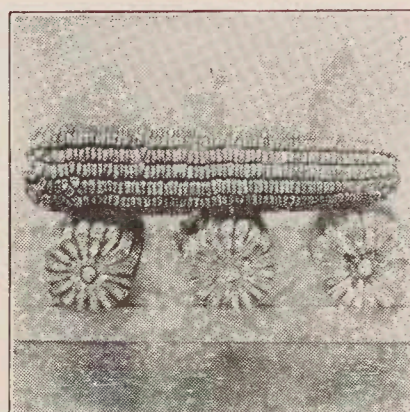
## Gold Standard Leaming

**GOLD STANDARD.** The variety stands for all the name implies. It is one by which all others are measured. Counterfeits are easily coined but the genuine never gets you into trouble. PURE GENUINE GOLD STANDARD LEAMING is one of the best, surest and most reliable. A thoroughbred yellow dent, one that has a history of "making good" wherever planted. The KING OF ALL CATTLE CORN, and of all fodder and ensilage varieties as well. It is adapted to every locality. It was first introduced in Southwest Iowa fifty years ago, long before scientific corn breeding was known to these parts. Its yield was enormous compared with other best varieties, and its popularity has continued to increase to this time. Anyone who has grown it can distinguish it from other varieties by reason of its distinct characteristics. Stalks 8 to 10 feet high, loaded with broad, heavy blades from top to bottom; ears 8 to 12 inches long, 16 to 24 rows set somewhat winding on cob, wedge shaped kernels and will mature in from 100 to 115 days, dependant on the season and weather.

Place Your Orders Today! It Means Profit to You.

Today is none too early to send us your order—now, before the market responds to the spring buying, and prices go up. You can place your order today at a price that will give you bigger profits than if you placed it at a later date. Good Seed Corn is scarce this year—more so than it has been for many years, and some dealers are bound to suffer because of non-deliveries on their contracts. True, there is excellent seed corn in this locality, but we have been especially fortunate this year and but a few miles east, west, north or south will take you out of the seed corn section and into a section where but five, ten or fifteen per cent of the crop can be used for seed purposes, and many sections have none whatever. This is not a local condition, but investigation will show that it is quite generally the rule all through the corn belt. Place your order at once and we will set it aside for delivery to suit your pleasure.

For the benefit of our customers who cannot use full car load we ship unbroken carlots to Buffalo, and if we may receive your order before February 15th we can ship in one of these cars and thus give you the benefit of carload freight rate from Essex to Buffalo. We have a number of customers in the East whose trade does not warrant them in purchasing a full carload, and for this reason we have arranged for shipping and storage facilities in Buffalo for their accommodation and in order that we may favor them with the very best possible prices.



Gold Standard Leaming

## Reid's Early Yellow Dent

Genuine Purebred

Famous For Its High Yielding

Quality and Early Maturity

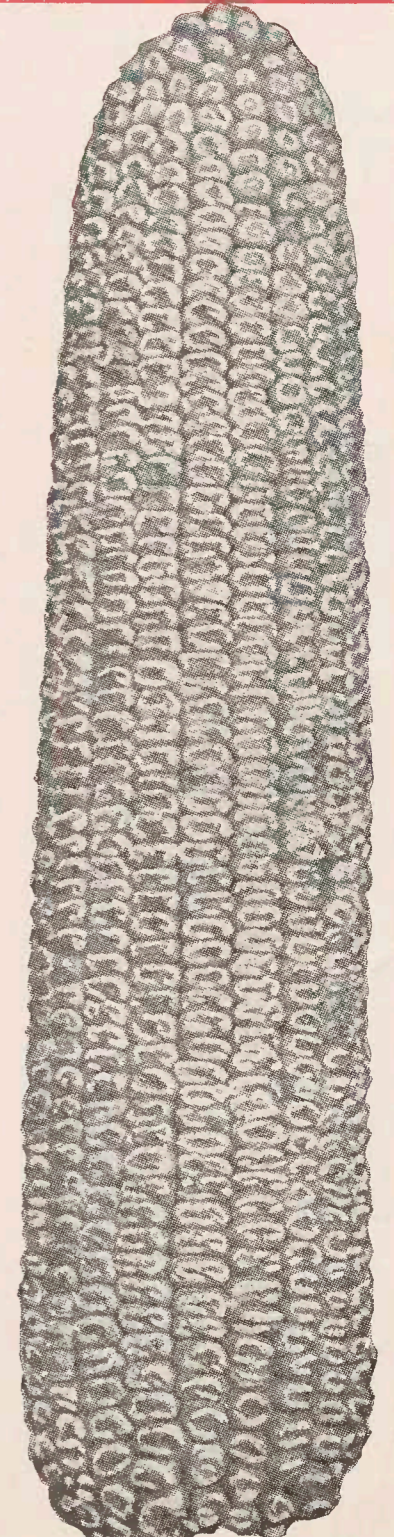
If any corn can truly be called pedigreed, Reid's Yellow Dent is certainly entitled to be known as such, as its history dates many years back. To those who are not familiar with this splendid variety we would say that it is of a peculiar light yellow color, ears 9 to 11 inches long, 16 to 22 rows with small cob and deep grain, shelling 85 to 90 per cent of grain when dry, is an excellent fodder and ensilage corn, and at the same time it yields 20 to 30 bushels more grain per acre than fodder and ensilage varieties. It is not a small early corn; neither is it a large late corn. It is a medium early variety requiring from 110 to 115 days. Our strain is earlier than most of this variety, and adapted to almost any soil or climate where corn can be grown

We have tested at least seven or eight different strains of Reid's Yellow Dent and have discarded all except the strain from which our seed was grown, believing it to be the best, earliest and most productive of them all.

### 'Iowa, The Only 'Billion Dollar Corn State'

For many years Iowa has been the Banner Corn State of the Union, and she again demonstrated her superiority in the production of corn of a superior quality by taking the GRAND FIRST PRIZE on Corn at the Panama-Pacific Exposition last year.

It is UNIVERSALLY CONCEDED that the conditions in Southwestern Iowa are most ideal for the growing of corn for seed purposes. There is perhaps no other section in the United States that is so generally favored with every natural advantage in soil, climate, rainfall and other conditions that tend to produce the largest yields of corn, unexcelled in quality and of perfect maturity. The soil is warm and sandy, and not only forces a rapid growth of the crop, but hastens its maturity as well. Our seed is perfectly matured, positively pure and true to name, and was grown by practical and scientific farmers who have had many years of experience in growing corn for seed purposes.



Reid's Early Yellow Dent

### It Pays to Plant Thoroughbred Varieties of Seed Corn

Prof. H. G. Holden of the Iowa State Agricultural College at Ames, Iowa, now Agricultural Commissioner with the International Harvester Company of America, says, "I went to the corn fields of one hundred farmers in Story County, Iowa, where the State Agricultural College is located, and took a quantity of corn from one hundred different corn planter boxes and planted it on our trial fields at the Agricultural College. Some made only TWENTY BUSHELS, while other lots yielded almost ONE HUNDRED BUSHELS PER ACRE. THIS WIDE RANGE WAS ALL IN THE SEED, the cultivation and land being identical. The best seed and varieties produced nearly four times as much corn of better quality than the lots of inferior seed."

IF WE HAVEN'T WHAT YOU WANT, POSSIBLY WE KNOW WHO HAS.

## Pride of North

The Great Corn For Short Seasons



Improved Pride of North

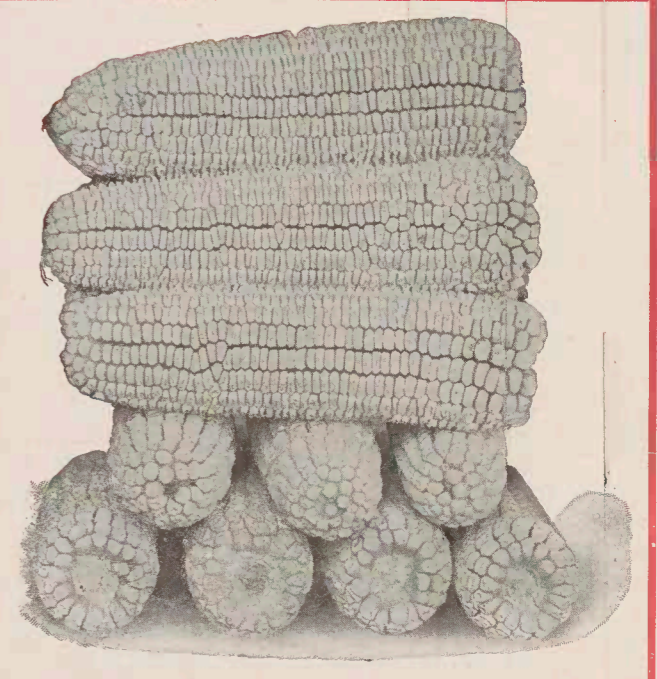
This corn is a great favorite in the extreme northern states. A pure yellow dent, ears from seven to nine inches long with small cob and deep kernels, ears carrying from 14 to 18 rows. Will ripen and mature any place in from 80 to 90 days; can be planted as late as June 25th and make itself by September 15th. Good soil is capable of growing four to six stalks to the hill. Many stalks have two ears and usually produce from 40 to 50 bushels per acre.

## Dakota Bloody Butcher

An extra early maturing corn and a great favorite in North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, as well as in Eastern and New England States, and states of high altitudes where the seasons are short. It is a large yielder among the early sorts, making itself safely in from 80 to 90 days. A variety of great tenacity to resist unfavorable conditions. Ears run from 10 to 12 inches long with 12 to 16 rows of compact grains of reddish flesh color and very nutritious; yields from 35 to 50 bushels per acre. We recommend it for planting anywhere that quick maturing varieties are required.

## Silver King, An Extra Early White

But comparatively recently brought to the attention of the farmers, though grown in Northern Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, North and South Dakota extensively for the past ten or twelve years and making an unrivaled record for its early maturity and enormous yields. Prof. Moore of the State Agricultural College of Wisconsin, who introduced this corn into that state, said, "In the first years of its introduction in 1907 it made a yield of 98 6-10 bushels per acre on our experimental grounds, an average of 57 bushels per acre throughout the state as compared with 33 bushels, the average of all other varieties." One farmer in Kosciusko County won over \$1200.00 in prizes and premiums at County, District and State exhibitions for large yields per acre in five years and many fine prizes have been won by others on this corn. Beautiful in appearance, ears from 8 to 10 inches long, uniform in size and type, pure white, grains set compactly in straight rows, strong grower and will mature 100 miles north of St. Paul. It is without a rival in early maturing white variety. It has a decided double eared characteristic, almost every stalk producing two good ears.



Silver King

## Iowa Corn Growers Seed Company, Essex, Iowa

**SEED CORN**

Eureka Ensilage . . . . . 120 to 140 days  
 Red Cob White Ensilage . . . . . 110 to 120 days  
 St. Charles White, Red Cob . . . . . 100 to 110 days  
 Longfellow's Flint . . . . . 80 to 90 days  
 Sanford's White Flint . . . . . 80 to 90 days  
 Stowell's Evergreen, Sweet Corn

**SMALL GRAINS**

Canada Grown White Oats  
 Kherson Oats, Extra Early  
 Texas Red Rust-proof Oats, Very Early  
 Big Four White Oats  
 Early Champion White Oats  
 Rye, Winter  
 Rye, Spring  
 Barley, White Hulless, Spring  
 Barley, Success Beardless, Spring  
 Barley, Mansbury, Bearded Spring  
 Speltz, For Spring Sowing

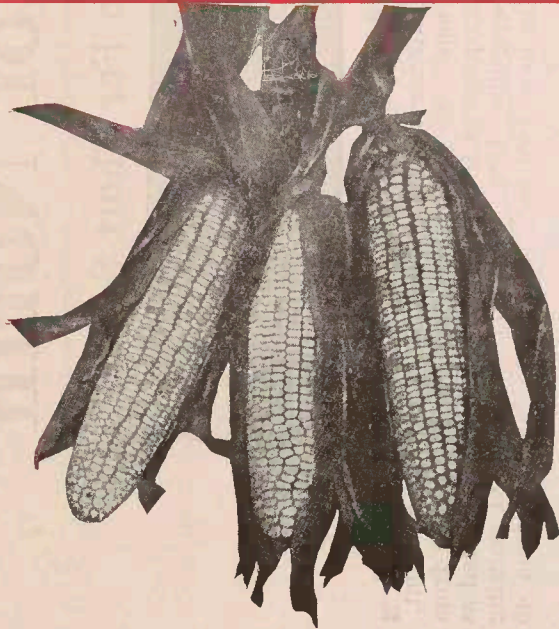
**TO OUR CUSTOMERS, PROSPECTIVE CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS:—**

In tabulated list on either side we have here given additional varieties of Seed Corn grown by us, not listed in the forgoing illustrations. Varieties listed in these columns are of the Same high quality and purity as all other seeds handled by us. Our supply of clover, alfalfa and other miscellaneous seeds here listed are all of the highest grade and quality and can be thoroughly relied upon. We extend an earnest invitation to all to write us concerning any seeds not shown in the forgoing folder, and any information whatever pertaining to the Farm, Filed or Garden. Our Service and Information Departments are at your command, and our motto "A SQUARE DEAL TO ALL."

**THE IOWA CORN GROWERS' SEED CO.,**  
 Essex, Page County, Iowa.

**CLOVER, ALFALFA, CANE SEED POTATOES, ETC.**

Alfalfa, Nebraska and Montana Dry Land Grown  
 Alsike Clover and Alsike and Timothy Mixed  
 Red Clover—Red Mammoth Clover  
 Sweet Clover, White Blossom, Biennial  
 Timothy Seed—Red Top  
 Orchard Grass—Bromus Inermis  
 Meadow Fisque, or English Blue Grass  
 Cane, Amber and Orange  
 Kaffir Corn  
 Billion Dollar Grass  
 Millets, German and Siberian  
 Dwarf Essex Rape  
 Annual, Quick Hog Pasture Mixture  
 Mangel Wurzel, Stock Beets  
 Red River Grown Seed Potatoes and all leading varieties.



If Not Delivered In Five Days  
 Please Notify us on form 3540.  
**IOWA CORN GROWERS' SEED CO.,**  
**ESSEX, PAGE COUNTY, IOWA.**

**1c Paid**  
 Essex, Iowa  
 Permit No. 1

TO \_\_\_\_\_

P. O. \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

# Iowa Seed Corn is the Best

Away with all the Buffoonery and Bunk going the rounds about Wisconsin and Minnesota grown Seed Corn "fully matured Bone dry 1915 crop" and other like fables intended to catch the weary corn growing farmer, when everybody knows or ought to know that all the corn north of the central part of Iowa, Illinois, Indiana and Nebraska and from there north and east in that latitude were hard hit with an early cold wave, killing frost and freeze in September, and early October that ruined all the corn for seed purposes and much of it for feeding and market purposes, except possibly some of the LITTLE DWARF VARIETIES that would require a magnifying glass to find them when compared with A FIELD OF CORN that yields 50-60-70 and 80 bushels per acre—varieties that mature and have matured every year for the past 15 years, except last year, 1915,—the coldest, wettest and most backward season known in the past 30 years, followed by early killing frosts that affected all the corn alike. No intelligent farmer should be led astray by such bunk. We know there are a lot of so-called seedsmen and seed corn speculators who will tell you how much they think of your family and children (whom they have never seen) on the one hand, while they are trying to take your money away from you for this so-called Wisconsin, Minnesota and Northern grown seed corn, and at the same time trying to make you feel good while they do it.

We can't hand you any of that kind of bunk, because for one thing it isn't in our line, and for another, we wouldn't insult your intelligence enough to try to make you believe it—But we can tell you some plain facts about the Seed Corn situation this year that will mean money in your pockets and that means more to you and your family than a lot of hot air.

Nor are we going to tell you that we are selling Seed Corn solely for your benefit. THAT'S another thing we believe you are too intelligent to swallow—But Growing Seed Corn has been a life's work—it's what we have done all our life and what we expect to do for the rest of our life. We began the business of Growing Seed Corn 32 years ago and our business has grown steadily each year since we began, and there is a reason why. There always is.

We grow our own seed corn—we know what it is and the conditions under which it was raised, and there's one thing it's a pretty good idea to keep in mind—GOOD SEED CORN IS SCARCE this year, and there are a lot of people—knowing that—who are figuring on a neat little profit by offering scoop shovel and elevator corn for seed, and much of it is 1914 corn too.

They don't care what results you get from it NEXT FALL as long as they get your money for it THIS SPRING. We've been here for thirty-two years and expect to be here as many more—We've got the goods and we're here to face the music and back them up. We don't try to sell you cheap, low grade corn unfit for seed at a cheap price, but we do sell you the very highest grade of Seed Corn at a fair price. If you try to save 50c per bushel by buying cheap, low grade Seed Corn, and get 20 bushels less per acre yield, we don't have to figure out how much you lose.

You may be from Missouri and have to be shown—All right. You don't have to take our word for it. Our Diamond Joe's Early White Seed Corn was awarded the Medal of Merit on an average yield of over 131 bushels per acre at the Pacific Panama Exposition recently closed in San Francisco, and it was grown from our seeds, by a man who has other business and does not give his entire time to farming. How much more can you do with our seeds, you who know your business from start to finish, and we've got thousands of letters in our files from our customers and friends in every state in the Union where corn is grown, who were so well pleased they wrote and told us the yields made by our different varieties.

And FACTS ARE FACTS and RESULTS are the things that talk. Good seeds are bound to make satisfied customers.

And one thing more—You hear a lot this year from men who have gotten themselves into the newspapers telling you that corn grown in Southwestern Iowa will not mature in the Northern counties of Iowa and Minnesota but once more facts are facts, and our Diamond Joe's Early White, Early Iowa Yellow Dent and many other of our varieties have been maturing in every county in Iowa, Illinois, Southern Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan for many years, but you do not hear these men trying to explain that. You can explain a whole lot on theory, and it sounds good, but when you have got the actual facts to back you up, theory goes into the discard.

Our catalogue will tell you all about the different varieties of Seed Corn we grow, and a postal will bring it to you if you haven't got one. And if there are any questions you want to ask in regard to planting, growing, or any other information we can give, we will very gladly do so.

Learn why thousands of farmers are enjoying real prosperity—learn about the new forage crops—how to GET BETTER CROPS AND BIGGER PROFITS. Every page is filled with descriptions of known varieties of all kinds, together with simple instructions for planting and cultivation. This catalog is a guide to better and more profitable farming. It tells things you want to know—that you ought to know—if you are to have every acre produce the biggest and most profitable crops.

THINK IT OVER.

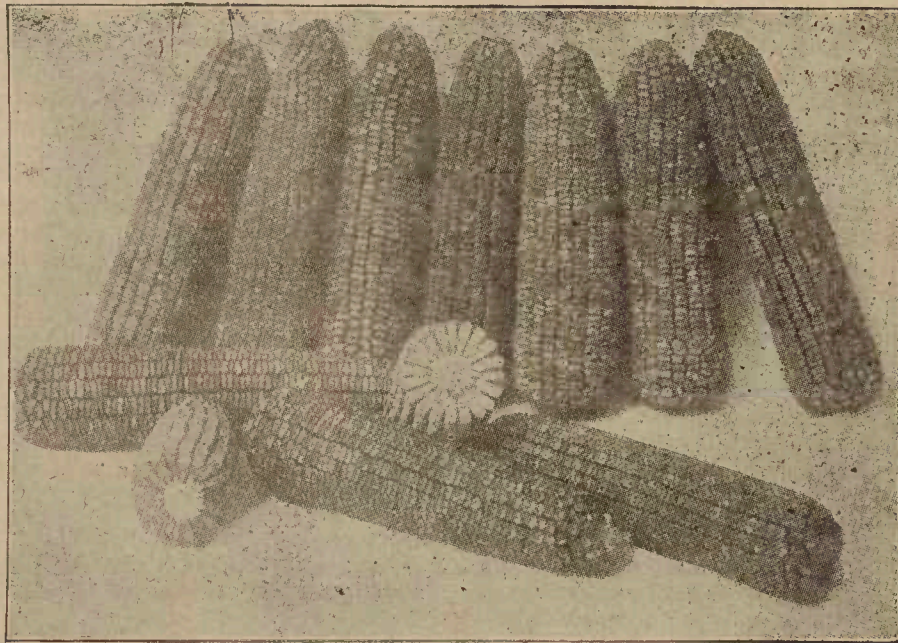
WRITE TODAY.

Address Me Personally

J. W. RATEKIN, President

Ratekins' Seed House, Shenandoah, Iowa

# Ratekin's Iowa Grown Seed Corn is the Best



## Ratekin's Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent, 90 to 100 Day Corn

Ratekin's Mammoth Early Iowa Yellow Dent is "famous" for its Early Maturity and High Yielding Qualities, also its medium size uniform ears. It's a variety we can fully recommend for any county in Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Southern Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and South Dakota.—There is none better—none that will produce as large yields and mature safely, and so early (90 to 100 days.) Many fields have made yields of 70-80-90 and 100 bushels per acre. Price \$3.50 per bu.; 5 bu. lots and over \$3.25 per bu.

## IOWA GOLD MINE

**The Earliest to Mature; the Purest Yellow; the Deepest Grain; the Best Early; Standard Field Variety.** This wonderful early variety of yellow corn has made the state of Iowa famous, as it is more widely known than any other variety grown and is planted in every state in the Union. **Gold Mine is a favorite** with every farmer who ever planted it. It matures in 80 to 90 days. Ears are medium in size, 8 to 10 inches long; color a bright golden yellow. It is free from barren stalks; every stalk bears one and two good ears. **Price:** bu. \$3.00; 5 bu or more, \$2.75. Bags free.

## EXTRA EARLY VARIETIES

Silver King White, Queen of Nishna Yellow, Dakota White-Cap Bloody Butcher, and Improved Pride of North, are four of the earliest maturing and most productive Dent Corns there are grown; largely planted in the EXTREME NORTHERN CORN BELT for general crop, and for late planting further south. These varieties can be planted 4 to 6 kernels to the hill; many stalks producing two well developed ears and all are excellent yielding varieties for northern latitudes, also for the high altitudes where nights are cool and seasons are short. For Prices see list below.

**PRICE LIST.** Below see PRICE LIST of all our Early and Early Improved Standard varieties of Seed Corn which will hold good throughout the season or as long as our stocks hold out. **YOU CAN ORDER DIRECT FROM PRICE LIST HERE GIVEN.** Ask for Special Prices on 10-20 and 50 bushel lots and over. If your order amounts to 5bu. or over you may select from any variety on the basis of 5 bu. prices.

	Bu.	5 Bu.		Bu.	5 Bu.
Diamond Joe's Big White, 100 day	\$3.50	\$3.25	Silver King, White (early) 90 days	\$3.00	\$2.75
Improved Silver Mine, 90 days	3.00	2.75	Queen of Nishna, (early) 85 days	3.50	3.25
Imperial White, red cob, 100 day	3.00	2.75	Pride of the North, (early) 85 days	3.25	3.00
Ratekin's Pride of Nishna, Yellow, 100 days	3.00	2.75	Dakota Bloody Butcher, (early) 85 days	3.25	3.00
Ratekin's Mammoth Iowa Yellow Dent, 100 days	3.50	3.25	Longfellow Flint, 80 days	3.25	3.00
Reid's Yellow Dent, 110 days	3.00	2.75	Sanford's White Flint, 80 days	3.25	3.00
Gold Standard Leaming, 110 days	3.00	2.75	Canada Flint, (early) 70 to 75 days	3.25	3.00
Iowa Gold Mine (early) 90 days	2.00	2.75	Stowell's Evergreen, 90 days	3.50	3.25

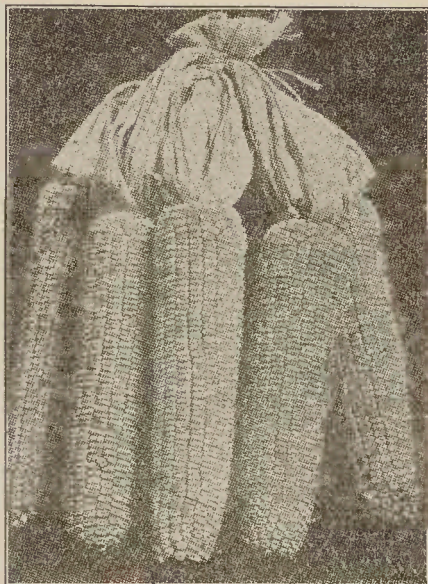
In conclusion :—DON'T BE LED ASTRAY ON CHEAP PRICES when ONE BUSHEL OF GOOD SEED CORN WILL PLANT FROM SEVEN TO EIGHT ACRES. Good Seed Corn and varieties will make you a yield of 10 to 30 bushels more per acre (and they often do make much greater yields) THE DIFFERENCE IN COST OF SEED IS LESS THAN ONE CENT PER BUSHEL FOR THE INCREASED YIELD over cheap, inferior varieties. It does not require a mathematician to figure your loss on cheap Seed Corn. We mention this because there are many SPECULATORS and Seedsmen who started out early in the season buying up old corn and corn grown, no one knows where, and are now offering it for Seed Corn at bargain prices, and like all bargains, may save you few a CENTS NOW, BUT WILL COST YOU MANY DOLLARS AT THE END OF THE SEASON. Think it over. Write today. Address me personally

J. W. RATEKIN, President

Ratekins' Seed House

Shenandoah, Iowa

# TESTED SEED CORN



## SOLD SUBJECT TO YOUR APPROVAL

LOOK OUT FOR YOUR SEED CORN! GOOD SEED CORN IS SCARCE THIS YEAR! This we know, for we have made Seed Corn growing our leading specialty for more than thirty years and perhaps grow and sell more Seed Corn than any other firm in Iowa or the United States—more than any half dozen dealers or growers combined, and are familiar with the Seed Corn situation, having visited large portions of the Corn Belt personally; also have reports from Grain Dealers, Bankers, Railroad Officials, Farmers' Associations and hundreds of Farmers direct, "from the man who grows the corn," and all reports agree.

Therefore we advise farmers to secure their Seed Corn early—at once! Try it and test it before it is too late. A half stand and a half crop means a loss of \$10 to \$20 per acre in the result of your crop. The most choice seed grown from early and heaviest yielding varieties and strains, with a record behind them, costs you less than fifty cents per bushel than plant poor quality and varieties as a gift. This is especially so when a bushel of seed will plant 7 or 8 acres of corn.

acre. Better pay \$10 per bushel for such seed than plant poor quality and varieties as a gift. This is especially so when a bushel of seed will plant 7 or 8 acres of corn.

### We Have Thousands of Bushels of Seed Corn Testing 94 to 98%

Consisting of all the leading Early and Standard Varieties, grown from high yielding and early maturing which we are offering at lowest prices, consistent with carefully selected seed of high grade and high germination. EVERY bushel guaranteed to show a satisfactory test. We will not accept an order that is not based on entire satisfaction or money back. If for any cause you are not pleased or satisfied, return seed at our expense any time within 12 days, and back goes your money paid for it. Every bushel sold on your approval.

### Our Seed is Hand Picked, Nubbed and Butted

Among other leading varieties we grow and have in stock are Ratekin's Mammoth Early Iowa Yellow Dent; matures in 100 days. Reid Yellow Dent; matures in 100 days. Gold Standard Leaming; matures in 110 days. Ratekin's Pride of Nishna Yellow; 100 days. Iowa Gold Mine; 95 days. Ratekin's Genuine Iowa Silver Mine; 90 to 100 days. St. Charles White, Red Cob; 100 to 110 days. Imperial White, Red Cob; 100 days. Silver King; 90 days. Pride of the North; 90 days. Queen of Nishna Yellow; 85 days. White Cap Bloody Butcher; 85 days. All our Seed Corn is carefully examined as to vitality, butt and tip taken off, shelled and graded ready for planter. Price ranges from \$2.75 per bushel to \$3.50 dependent on variety and quantity. Our Big 116 Page Catalogue gives prices and full descriptions of all varieties; also all the best varieties of Canadian and Northern grown Seed Oats; Grasses, Clovers, Alfalfa, Alsike, Sweet Clover, Pterita, Billion Dollar Grass, Potatoes, and all kinds of Farm and Garden Seeds. Samples and special low prices on highest grade seeds guaranteed, such as you are interested in. Write at once—today—for our big illustrated catalogue and farm guide. We can save and make you money. This Catalogue is free. We want you to have it before you place your order for seeds.

**Address RATEKIN SEED HOUSE SHENANDOAH IOWA, Box**

Save this advertisement. It will not appear again.

# A Personal Letter on the Question of Seed Corn

By J. W. Ratekin

TO MY FRIENDS, THE FARMERS:—

And when I say "My Friends," I mean just that. I know there are a lot of seed men who tell you how much they think of you and your family and the children (whom they have never seen) on the one hand, while they are trying to take your money away from you for low grade Seed Corn, on the other hand, and trying to make you feel good while they do it.

I can't hand you any of that bunk, because, for one thing, it isn't in my line, and for another, I wouldn't insult your intelligence enough to try to make you believe it—But I can tell you some plain facts about the Seed Corn situation this year that will mean money in your pockets and that means more to your family than a lot of hot air.

Nor am I going to tell you that I'm selling Seed Corn solely for your benefit. THAT'S another thing I believe you are too intelligent to swallow—BUT Growing Seed Corn has been my life's work—it's what I've done all my life and what I expect to do for the rest of my life. Our business has grown steadily for thirty-two years, and there's a reason why. There always is.

We grow our own Seed Corn—we know what it is and the conditions under which it was raised, and there's one thing it's a pretty good idea to keep in mind—GOOD SEED CORN IS SCARCE this year, and there are a lot of people—knowing that—who are figuring on a neat little profit by offering scoop shovel and elevator corn for seed, and much of it is 1914 corn too—at a price way below what good Seed Corn can possibly be furnished at.

They don't care what results you get from it NEXT FALL as long as they get your money for it THIS SPRING. They'll be doing somebody else next year. We've been here for thirty-two years and expect to be here as many more—we've got the goods and we're here to face the music and back them up. We don't try to sell you cheap, low grade corn unfit for seed at a cheap price, but we do sell you the very highest grade of Seed Corn at a fair price. If you try to save 50c per bushel by buying cheap, low grade Seed Corn, and get 20 bushels less per acre yield, I don't have to figure out for you how much you lose.

And one thing more—You hear a lot this year from men who have got'n themselves into the newspapers telling you that corn grown in Southwestern Iowa will not mature in the Northern Counties of Iowa, Illinois and Southern Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, but once more facts are facts, and our Diamond Joe's Early White Mammoth Early Iowa Yellow Dent, and many other of our varieties have been maturing in every county in Iowa Southern Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan for 25 years, but you do not hear these men trying to explain that. You can explain a whole lot on theory, and it sounds good, but when you have got the actual facts to back you up, theory goes in to the discard.

... And FACTS ARE FACTS and RESULTS are the things that talk. Good seeds are bound to make satisfied customers.

And just remember one thing—if you have got to have an operation, you don't go to the plumber, do you? You go to the best specialist in that line you can find. Why? Because it pays you.

It's the same proposition with Seed Corn. Go to the man who makes Seed Corn growing a specialty, who knows what he is giving you for Seed Corn, and who will back it up in every way—let you test it, try it and if not satisfied, return it and get your money back. You take no chances.

Special Prices if you order from this advertisement before May 20th.

	Per Bu.
Diamond Joe's Early White .....	\$3.00
Early Iowa Yellow Dent.....	3.00
Early Iowa Silver Mine.....	2.50
Pride of Nishna Yellow Dent .....	2.50
Reid's Yellow Dent.....	2.50
Iowa Gold Mine.....	2.50
Queen of Nishna.....	3.00
Silver King .....	3.00
Pride of North .....	3.00
Dakota Bloody Butcher .....	3.00

Sacks free f. o. b. Shenandoah, Iowa.

Cut out this list and prices and enclose with your order and remittance, and same will go forward on first freight out of Shenandoah, subject to your approval upon arrival.

Write Today! Address me personally.

## J. W. Ratekin

President Ratekins' Seed House, Shenandoah, Ia.

# RATEKIN'S SEED CORN

Grown by Ratekins Seed House, Shenandoah, Iowa

(Largest Growers, Wholesale and Retail of Seed Corn in the United States.)

## SUGGESTIONS WITH REGARD TO PLANTING

During our more than twenty five years experience in selling and shipping Seed Corn to the Southern States, we have had not only hundreds but thousands of farmers write us requesting suggestions as to the best method of planting and cultivating our Northern Grown Seed Corn, and it is owing to numerous inquires of this kind that—

### WE OFFER A FEW BRIEF SUGGESTIONS

**FIRST**— Plow your ground deep and prepare it in the best possible condition; harrow, drag and pulverise the soil thoroughly as close after the plow as you can, while it is moist and before becoming baked or hard and clody, hitch on to the harrow before noon and follow up what you have plowed before going to dinner, before quitting time in the evening do the same thing. Don't get in a hurry to plant too early and before the leaves on the trees start, but work off your nervousness in the preparation of your seed bed and wait for the ground to get warm enough to germ'nate your seed. Our seed corn will mature in the South a full month ahead of native sorts.

**Our Pure Bred Iowa Grown Seed Corn** will not produce as large stalk in the South as it does here, but maintains the size of the ear largely above the proportion to the stalk, and each and every stalk will produce, one, two and three good ears. It will bear planting much closer, thicker and heavier on the ground than native sorts. For best results, plant in rows 3 1-2 feet apart, 4 kernels to the hill. If drilled plant same distance apart one grain every 14 inches in the row or two grains every 24 to 26 inches, planted this way it will fertilize better and produce more, bigger and better ears than when planted as thin as many plant corn in the South. Commence the cultivation of your crop as soon after it comes up as possible; plow close to corn and deep first plowing, after which give shallow or surface cultivation about every ten days until 2 1-2 to 3 feet high then quit; one cultivation at the right time is better than two out of season. Work soil toward the corn row, but don't throw more dirt toward the corn than enough to cover up the weeds, where ridged to much, ground and ridges with deep furrows will cause the ground to dry out and burn out the corn roots.

**DON'T PLANT "Dog-Tail" Scrub Corn** because it is Cheap when one bushel of **RATEKIN'S PURE BRED SEED CORN** will plant eight acres of ground. If the Seed Costs you \$2.00 per bushel this is but about 25 cents per acre for the seed and an increased yield of but half bushel per acre more than pays all the cost of good, high bred grade and quality of Seed will make you a yield of 10 to 40 **BUSHELS MORE PER ACRE** than **DOG-TAIL SCRUB VARIETIES** offered and sold for Seed Corn. Write for prices and send us your orders and get Seed Corn of highest grade and of most prolific varieties, and seed that will grow.

## RATEKIN'S SEED HOUSE

SHENANDOAH, IOWA



# SEED CORN!

**TO THE TRADE: Seedsmen, Merchants and Dealers:-**

Good Seed Corn is scarce this year. Whether you buy it in Ohio or the Western states, it is well to keep in mind that there were very few localities that were not affected by the frost last year, and where the corn was thoroughly ripened and matured.

**Seven Reasons Why We Can Furnish You With the Corn You want For Seed This Year, and of the Highest Grade and Quality**

1. In our locality here at Shenandoah, which is known the world over as a corn growing section, we were favored with ideal weather and corn was planted at the usual time.
2. We have the soil that is adapted to corn growing, such as is not found in any other section of the United States.
3. Our Seed Corn was all thoroughly ripened and matured and has been stored in our drying houses and kept in perfect condition during the winter months.
4. Our Seed Corn is grown strictly for seed purposes, and planted from the most select strains and stock.
5. Our Seed Corn is prepared by experts who have been in our employ for the past ten to twenty years and who thoroughly understand the selection of corn for Seed purposes.
6. Our Seed Corn is all nubbed and butted before shelling and thoroughly screened and graded and shows a germination of from 92 to 98 per cent.
7. We ship hundreds of car loads each year and have the facilities for getting out your orders promptly.

**AND ANOTHER THING:** If you have to have an operation, you don't go to the plumber, do you? You go to the best specialist in that line you can find. Why? Because it pays you. It's the same proposition with Seed Corn. Go to the man who makes Seed Corn growing a specialty and who knows what he is giving you for Seed Corn. It will pay you.

Below we give you a list of the different varieties which we grow for seed purposes also the time of maturity, as well as prices. Look our list over and write us for whatever you may be interested in. If you can handle as much as a carload we will quote you delivered carlot prices, or if you are unable to use a full car we can ship in unbroken carload lots to Buffalo, giving our customers the benefit of carload lot freight rates to that point, and make reshipment by local freight from there. Let us hear from you.

	Time of Maturity	Less Than 100 bu.	100 bushel or over		Time of Maturity	Less Than 100 bu.	100 bushel or over
Diamond Joe's Big Early White	100 days	\$1.27	\$1.25	Pride of North	85 days	1.27	1.25
Improved Leaming	95 days	1.27	1.25	Queen of Nishna	80 days	1.27	1.25
Iowa Gold Mine	90 days	1.27	1.25	Dakota Bloody Butcher	85 days	1.60	1.50
Mammoth Early Yellow Dent	100 days	1.27	1.25	Giant Fodder Corn	115 days	1.27	1.25
Reid's Yellow Dent	110 days	1.27	1.25	Red Cob Ensilage	100 days	1.27	1.25
Gold Standard Leaming	110 days	1.27	1.25	Large Red Cob Fodder	110 days	1.27	1.25
Iowa Silver Mine	90 days	1.27	1.25	Sanford's Flint	80 days	2.00	1.75
Silver King	85 days	1.27	1.25	Longfellow Flint	80 days	2.00	1.75

**Bags Extra at Cost, f. o. b. Shenandoah. Write or wire for prices in Car Lots Delivered**

**RATEKIN'S SEED HOUSE, Shenandoah, Iowa**

# WINTER SEED WHEAT

Thoroughbred Hardy Northern Grown.

**62**  
**Bushels**

Per Acre.



80-Acre Field of Malakoff, That Made a Yield of 62 Bushels Per Acre, Grown by John McLarnen, Fremont County, Iowa, Near Shenandoah.

For many years we have made the growing and handling of Seed Wheat a specialty, and have perhaps handled and sold more Seed Wheat than any other seedsman or seed house anywhere in this country. The reason why we have been able to do this was because we have watched with the closest attention, at all times, for new and improved varieties that have proven their ability for productiveness and best yield and results. Meantime, we have made a number of importations of Seed Wheat from Russia, the natural home of the wheat plant, thus securing the hardiest and most productive varieties to be found. By reason of this, we have, in part at least, contributed to making winter wheat growing in the northern latitudes not only a great success, but also one of the most profitable farm crops to the northern and northwestern farmer.

Our own experience and that derived from wheat growers of central and southern states, we have at the same time found improved varieties better suited to climatic conditions in those latitudes than have been grown there before. In fact, out side of Missouri, Southern Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee, there was very little wheat grown in southern states until recent years—since the southern farmer has come to appreciate the folly of the one crop plan, and the folly of importing products that can be raised at home. As to central and northern states, it has only been within the past 25 years that hardy improved Russian varieties of winter wheat were introduced into Kansas, now the banner winter wheat growing state. Not until some years later was it was found possible to grow winter wheat in Nebraska and Iowa with any hope of success, but Iowa and Nebraska will make a showing this year of over one hundred and twenty-

five million bushels, 30, 40, 50 and 60 bushels of the finest wheat per acre in the world. Meantime, the winter wheat belt is being and has been extended to all parts of northern Illinois, Indiana, south half of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and South Dakota. Conditions have changed as the natural result of education and improved seed varieties.



## RATEKINS' NEW IMPROVED MALAKOFF—Absolutely Winter and Drouth Proof

While THE MALAKOFF WHEAT may be a new variety, unknown in many places, we wish to say that this new wheat was imported direct from Russia a few years ago, since which time we have grown it very extensively specially for our Seed Wheat trade, and have sold and shipped many thousands of bushels direct to farmers in every state where winter wheat is grown, and have also supplied a large number of Seed Houses and dealers in car lots for their mail order and retail trade, and everywhere it has given highly satisfactory results—the heaviest yields, the finest grade and quality of wheat and has also proven the hardiest and most certain cropper of all the improved Russian varieties, often withstanding forty degrees below zero.

The MALAKOFF is a hard-bearded variety and like all bearded wheat it stands adverse weather conditions better and is also better adapted to low grounds and rich soils than the beardless varieties, but can be successfully grown on any lands where other varieties will succeed. It produces a strong, stiff straw and being the greatest stooling variety of which we have knowledge, requires one-fourth less seed per acre than ordinary varieties. It is also as nearly absolutely rust-proof as any other known variety, medium early to ripen, but neither the earliest nor latest.

Our seed has been kept absolutely pure—grown especially for seed purposes, and is all re-cleaned, screened and graded. All small, light inferior and cracked grains are taken out and the seed is ready for sowing when you receive it. Our price for Red Russian MALAKOFF Wheat, in view of our painstaking care, is a little higher than you can buy wheat for grown on the warm and sunny prairies of Kansas and Nebraska, but we think our wheat is worth a good deal more for seeding purposes, and if our price was \$3 a bushel more for our wheat, it would be cheap, compared with the price asked for common stocks and varieties which will give you only one-half or less yield per acre.

PRICE of Ratekins' Red Russian Malakoff Wheat; One pound .25c, postpaid; One peck not prepaid, 80c; one-half bushel \$1.50; one to ten bushels \$2.50 per bushel; ten to twenty-five bushels \$2.25 per bushel; twenty-five to fifty bushels and over \$2.10 per bushel Bags free.

**RATEKINS' SEED HOUSE, SHENANDOAH, IA.**

Oldest and Largest Farm Seed Growers in Iowa--Thirty-three Years

# The Genuine Turkey Red Wheat

## A GRAND PRIZE WINNER

A Record of 58 Bushels per Acre at the Iowa Experimental Station



### THE HARDY BEARDED TURKEY RED WHEAT

pronounced it one of the hardiest, most productive and surest croppers there is grown.

The Turkey Red has a very hard, plump kernel of dark reddish color with a white chaff—is very rich in gluten and makes the finest flour and bread. It has stood weather conditions of forty degrees below zero, in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Dakota. At the Iowa Agricultural College and the Lincoln, Nebraska and Manhattan, Kansas Experimental Stations, it has stood at the head of the heaviest yielding varieties. Our seed of this variety is all grown here in Iowa from the very best—pure strains, same as all our varieties, especially for our seed trade. Next to our new Malakoff, we sell more of this variety than any other.

The Malakoff being of much later importation is sought after owing to its new inherent qualities, but we have a very large trade on the Turkey Red, shipping seed to almost every state in the union. Our Iowa grown seed has given everywhere larger yields and is much to be preferred to the ordinary strains of wheat grown for market purposes.

OUR ADVICE is to change your seed wheat every few years—keep abreast of the times. There is nothing so desirable or profitable as the variety, quality and purity of the seed you sow.

WE WANT TO SHOW YOU and can PROVE to you that by sowing our new and improved varieties of Wheat that you can more than double and treble the average yields of the country.

PRICE of our Pure Genuine TURKEY RED WINTER WHEAT 1 lb. 25c Postpaid; not prepaid  $\frac{1}{2}$  bu. 75c;  $\frac{1}{2}$  bu. \$1.40; 1 to 10 bu. \$2.25; 10 to 25 bu. \$2.10; 25 to 50 bu. and over \$2.00 per bu. Bags free.

The Turkey Red—sometimes called Turkish Red, is another of the best Russian varieties and was first introduced by Mennonites, from the Crimean District of Russia, into Kansas, about twenty five years ago, since which time it has made Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Oklahoma and portions of Illinois, famous as Winter Wheat growing states. It has also been grown quite extensively as far north as central Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota and Montana. Being exceedingly hardy and adapted to a very wide range of conditions—a sure cropper and an enormous yielder of the best grade for milling purposes, it is no doubt more generally grown than any other known variety, either hard or soft varieties. Experimental stations everywhere, who have given it a trial, have

## The Kharkov Wheat \$1.50 per Bushel

The KHARKOV WHEAT—Originally one of the first varieties of Russian hard wheats introduced into this country (first introduced into Kansas) and one of the first varieties found there that proved a success and started that state on the road into growing wheat as the chief farm crop and with other improved varieties has made Kansas famous as the banner wheat growing state of this union. This, however, because of the larger acreage grown there than any other state. The government reports, however for the past ten years have shown the average yield of WINTER WHEAT IN IOWA, has been larger and exceeded the average yields of Kansas by from FOUR TO FIVE BUSHELS PER ACRE. Whether this increased yield is on account of the difference in soil or in improved varieties grown by our farmers, it is up to the farmer to decide.

THE KHARKOV WHEAT is a hard bearded red wheat and a very hardy variety and it is claimed by the Hays Experimental Station of Western Kansas to withstand drouth and aridity better than most other varieties, and on account of this, it has given better yields than most other varieties. But here where we have tested it and while we have found it a splendid variety, it does not show as large yields as either our New Malakoff or improved Turkey Red, yet it is a great favorite with some of our farmers.

In view of the demand by many of the wheat growers we have just purchased and have in stock the product of one of the finest fields of 50 acres we have ever seen grown of this variety, yielding an average of a little over 37 bushels per acre and weighing out 60 lbs to the measured bushel.

PRICE—prepaid lb. 25c; not prepaid pk 50c,  $\frac{1}{2}$  bu. 90c. Bags free. Per bushel in either large or small quantities \$1.50 per bushel. Bags 20c extra f. o. b. Shenandoah.

LET US REASON TOGETHER—Let us talk business from a practical business standpoint. Just one moment, suppose you sow 10 acres of Ratekin's New Malakoff and 10 acres of common home grown wheat like you usually sow?

Ten acres New Malakoff yield 450 bushels; 10 acres common home grown like you usually sow, yield you 200 bushels. Here is the difference of 250 bushels in favor of sowing the New Malakoff, worth \$1.00 per bushel; a difference, of \$250.00 in cash. But even if there is only half this difference, would it not be a paying proposition? If it was practical, we would gladly furnish our Malakoff Seed Wheat to any good progressive farmer and take one-half the increased yield over the best home grown sorts, and would feel absolutely sure of getting much more than double the price at which we are selling this variety.

RATEKIN'S NEW MALAKOFF, A PURE BRED PRIZE WINNER. Imported from Russia by Ratekin's Seed House. In 1907 it made the enormous yield of 60 bushels per acre, and the following year from 20 acres of measured ground it threshed out 1,192 bushels, or an average yield of over 59 $\frac{1}{2}$  bushels per acre, proving the highest yielding hard wheat ever grown in this country. It has many times weighed out 66 lbs per measured bushel, and seldom less than 62 to 63 lbs. per bushel.



KHARKOV WHEAT

## RATEKIN'S SEED HOUSE, SHENANDOAH, IA.

OLDEST AND LARGEST FARM SEED GROWERS IN IOWA. 33 YEARS

# Minnesota Red Cross Winter Wheat

**Hardy, Iron Clad, Soft Wheat without the Beards**

This variety introduced into this locality from Southern Minnesota several years ago has become a great favorite among some of our best wheat growing farmers. In our section it has turned out to be, not only one of the hardiest varieties of soft beardless wheats ever known here, but one of the heaviest yielding, often making from 50 to 60 bushels per acre, and it is no uncommon thing for it to make an average yield of 35 to 40 bushels per acre.

This handsome beardless wheat succeeds on almost all soils, on light sandy, gravelly, clay loams, as well as on river bottom lands; it also has extreme hardiness to recommend it. A strong healthy grower with thick dark foliage, it covers the ground quite early in the spring. The straw is strong and rugged-medium tall, stocky, and does not lodge easily on rich land.

The heads are long and compactly filled with amber kernels of excellent milling quality. All wheat growing farmers who grow soft or beardless wheat should sow liberally of this grand variety. Sow  $1\frac{1}{2}$  bushel per acre.

PRICE—1 lb. prepaid, 25c; pk. not prepaid 75c;  $\frac{1}{2}$  bu. \$1.40; 1 to 10 bu. \$2.25 per bu. Bags free.

## Pure Fultz Wheat, Soft Beardless

STANDS PRE-EMINENTLY AT THE HEAD OF ALL SOFT BEARDLESS VARIETIES



### IMPROVED NORTHERN GROWN FULTZ

**THE FULTZ WHEAT**—A wheat without a spot—a wheat without a blemish—a standard variety that has always made good everywhere. For general crop purposes, we consider the Fultz to be one of the best varieties of soft beardless wheats there is grown anywhere, everything considered. In this opinion we are sustained by hundreds of our patrons who have tried almost every variety of soft wheat that has ever been introduced. One of the distinguishing features of the Fultz is its hardiness and ability to resist extremes of weather conditions—severity of low temperature in the northern wheat belt, also as being one of the very best for the south and southern states. It will grow and succeed on any soil in any locality where wheat can be grown. It seems to be able to resist insects and disease better than any other soft variety. It does not winter kill in the northern latitudes, and wheat belt, in seasons when other kinds of soft wheat grown in the same community is badly injured by hard dry freeze and often winter kills or injured so badly that the crop has the appearance of screenings, the Fultz has come through and from the threshing machine looking fat, fine, plump and marketable at high grade prices.

The Fultz is a smooth-head variety. The straw and chaff are of golden yellow color. It does not grow as tall as some other varieties, but the straw is coarse strong and stiff, and the crop seldom lodges, whether grown on rich land or on poor thin land, whether thick or thin. The berry of Fultz is plump and round—nearly always perfectly formed. Even though weather conditions may shorten the crop somewhat, it will be found that the Fultz kernels are usually plump. The market value of the crop is largely increased by this fact, and it is one of the best reasons and arguments why it is one of the very best varieties of wheat to sow.

The milling qualities of the Fultz wheat are fine. It has just the right texture to grind to advantage—the separation of the flour, midlings and bran is easily made. The plump berries yield a large percentage of the flour and is considered one of the best soft wheats for bread purposes by millers of winter wheats. No larger yields of wheat of any kind have been made in this country than those from the crop of the Fultz. It ripens very early, but may be left standing some days without danger of going down or shelling out—a very important point when the ground happens to be soft or a binder cannot be obtained, or the farmer is pressed for time. For these reasons our advice is to sow liberally of the Fultz Wheat. Price 1 lb postpaid 25c; not prepaid pk 75c;  $\frac{1}{2}$  bu. \$1.40; 1 to 10 bu. \$2.25; 10 to 25 bu. \$2.10; 25 to 50 bu. \$2.00 per bushel. Bags free. F. O. B. Shenandoah



NORTHERN GROWN RED CROSS

## Mammoth White Winter Rye

We want to tell you something about our Winter Rye. But to those who have ever tried or grown it, you need not be told. It is the best cereal crop for sandy soils; and the salvation of the farmer in every sandy section. But this is not all. Winter Rye is one of the most valuable crops for all sections of the country, and can be depended upon more than any other grain to always produce a sure and certain crop anywhere and on any kind of land, rich or poor that will produce anything from a crop of corn to a crop of cocklebur.

It is the hardiest of all other crops sown or planted, never winter kills, is suited to cold climates and will mature even in Alaska, while hot weather does not affect or injure it.

Winter Rye has been successfully and profitably grown all over the central and northern states for ages, and is now being largely grown all over the south, being used there for fall, winter and spring pasturage, but produces a splendid grain crop after being pastured during early spring, and if the stock is taken off when half knee high, and owing to its early ripening, a second crop can easily be made after it is harvested and taken off the ground. In Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska and other northern states it is often sown in the corn before the last plowing, at the rate of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 bushel per acre, then it makes a splendid winter pasture and starts fully two weeks earlier in the spring than winter wheat, making an excellent pasture before grass gets started, and if the stock is taken off in time it will produce a good crop of grain or it may be plowed under as a fertilizer and planted to corn. It will astonish you to see what a big crop your ground will produce. Winter Rye is the best plant for green manure on poor soils where clover will not grow, as it has much nitrogenous matter that is available for the following crop. It also makes the best nurse crop on which to grow grasses and clovers, or which to sow them in the fall. It likewise makes a splendid cover crop—a conserver of the natural resources of the soil as it prevents the leaching. Sow  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 bushel for general crop. 2 bushel when sown exclusively for pasture.

PRICE—1 lb. 25c postpaid; not prepaid, pk, 50c;  $\frac{1}{2}$  bu. 90c; bu. \$1.50; 10 bushel and over \$1.40 per bushel. Bags free. F. O. B. Shenandoah.

# RATEKIN'S SEED HOUSE, SHENANDOAH, IOWA

OLDEST AND LARGEST FARM SEED GROWERS IN IOWA 33 YEARS

# WHOLESALE PRICE LIST

Good to September 15, 1916. (Subject to Stock Unsold) On Clover Alfalfa and Other Grass and Field Seeds which fluctuate in price

Address All Orders and Correspondence to RATEKIN'S SEED HOUSE, Shenandoah, Iowa.

NOTE—Prices on Alfalfa, Clovers and grasses are so unsettled and always changing and fluctuating in prices—therefore, we can not quote definite or firm prices longer than time limit here given, Sept. 15th. Meantime if prices should decline below these prices, we will add enough seed to your orders to cover the difference. For prices after September 15th, write for special quotations on seeds wanted, or send along your orders and we will give you the benefit of lowest possible prices.

These Prices are F. O. B. Shenandoah, customer to pay freight, but if you want delivered prices, we will make special estimate on request. **We make no extra charge for sacks.** All seed sold "sacks weighed in" with seed. Prices are strictly net, spot cash with order, no discount. **Safe arrival guaranteed. All our seeds are sold on approval,** you to be judge and jury, and if not found entirely satisfactory, they may be returned any time within ten days at our expense and your money will be refunded. We handle and quote you on **one grade only,** the highest possible grade and quality. **The best is always cheapest** and gives the most satisfactory results for the money paid. **Free Samples.** We will gladly send free samples of any kind of seed wanted or here quoted. **All prices are subject to stock being unsold on receipt of your order. Order early.** When your ground and weather conditions are right and you are ready to sow or plant, you will want your seed at hand. The time to order is now.

## SOW WINTER WHEAT.

As this price list and descriptive folder goes to press the European war continues unabating, the end of which we can no nearer see than when it began two years ago and it may be years before this greatest war the world has ever known comes to an end and the soldiers of the belligerent countries return to the culture of the soil. Until that time prices and the demand for wheat and wheat products will command high prices all over the world. The American farmers have already greatly profited by this war—sold all of last years surplus grain at very high prices, and as we write this, August 10th, train loads after train loads of new wheat are coming out to the markets at Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis and Chicago at 1.45 to \$1.48 per bushel with a strong demand at advancing prices and wheather peace or war, prices another year cannot go below \$1.25 per bushel and if the war hold out, as it probably will, wheat will sell for \$1.50 to \$1.75 per bushel on the markets a year from now. Mind what we say, mark your 1917 wheat crop at \$1.50 per bushel. We advise the farmers to sow WINTER WHEAT wherever possible and if you sow our Pure Bred Improved hardy varieties anywhere between Central Michigan Wisconsin, Minnesota and South Dakota to the Gulf States of the South they will give you a SURE CROP (sow our hard varieties in the North and the soft varieties in the South) they will give you at least a third or half better yield than any of the spring varieties and will increase your yields equally as much over common winter varieties. The world's supply is short on wheat this year, many millions of bushels. We advocate the sowing of lots of WINTER WHEAT.

## Alfalfa

### The Giant Agricultural Clover--King of All



**HINTS ON ALFALFA**—The presence of lime in some form, either in the soil or subsoil, is essential. If it is known there is no lime in the soil lime should be applied as a top dressing, when the land is being plowed preparatory to sowing the seed. Good Drainage Is Necessary, for an excess of surface water rots out the roots.

The great bulk of commercial seed is grown under irrigation and does not possess the vitality nor adjust itself to normal conditions like seed does that is grown under natural conditions. We purchase all our seed direct from the growers in Central Nebraska and South Dakota and know what we are getting; therefore you can rely upon the seed that you get from us as being grown under natural conditions and of the best quality that can be produced Price 1 lb postpaid 30c; 4 lbs \$1.20. freight or express pk \$3.50 1-2 bu. \$7.00 bu. \$14(60lb per bu)

Sweet Clover (60 lb per bu) per lb  
White Bloom Biennial hulled .18  
White Bloom Biennial unhulled .12

Clover (60 lbs per bu) per bu  
Medium Red ..... \$12.00  
Mammoth Red ..... 13.00  
Alsike ..... 12.60  
White ..... per lb 50c  
Crimson ..... 10.00

Timothy and Clover Mixed  
(45 lbs per bushel)  
Timothy-Alsike Mixture. 4.50  
Timothy-Red Clover Mixture 5.40

Timothy (45 lbs per bushel)  
Home Grown ..... 3.60

Red Top per lb  
Solid Recleaned Seed ..... \$ .20  
Unhulled Seed ..... .16

Blue Grass (14 lbs per bu per lb  
Kentucky ..... \$ 15  
English ..... .15  
Canadian ..... .15

Orchard Grass ..... .20  
Grass Seed Mixtures per lb  
Permanent Meadow Mix \$ 13  
Permanent Pasture Mix... .13  
Lowland Pasture Mix .... .13  
Quick Action Hog Pasture .4 1-2  
Lawn Grass Mixture. .... .25  
Timothy-Alsike Mixture .. .10  
Timothy Red Clover Mix.. .12

Rape Imported per 100 lbs \$10.00  
5 lbs (will sow an acre pre-  
paid ..... 1.10

Winter Sand Vetch per lb. .20c  
Turnip Seed any variety, 50 c  
per lb postpaid

Billion Dollar Grass per lb ..10c  
Millet (50 lbs per bu) per bu  
German ..... \$2.00

Bromus Inermis It's the Uncrown-  
ed King of the Desert and Dry  
Sandy Soils.. Of all the grasses

that grow or have been ever in-  
troduced into this country it is  
the greatest. None has ever proven  
so valuable. It is a hardy per-  
ennial withstanding the extremes  
of heat, drouth and cold better  
than any other cultivated grasses  
Price mail, post paid per lb. .30c  
By freight at purchasers expense  
10 lbs or more, per lb .....16c  
100 lbs ..... \$15.00

Sudan Grass Iowa Grown  
per lb .....20c

## The Cyclone Seed Sower

It is the greatest labor and seed saving invention of the age. The working principles are a novelty of simplicity, the result of more than 25 years of careful study. It is so simple in construction and perfect in operation that even a boy can operate it. It will sow Alfalfa, Timothy, Wheat, Oats, Rye, Buckwheat, Hungarian, Red Top, Turnip, Millit, Kafir, Cane, and all other grains and seeds perfectly even, any desired amount per acre and from 30 to 60 acres a day. Full instructions and directions on every machine Price \$1.50

## READ THESE REPORTS:

Iowa State College, Experimental Station, Ames, Iowa, Gentlemen: Have just finished compiling data of Winter Wheat. We find the New Malakoff furnished by you come first in yield among ten varieties grown here. Sowed 1 1-2 bu. to acre; good stand; 93 per cent plants came thru the winter strong and vigorous.  
L. S. Klinck

Illinois Agr'l Experimental Station, Urbana, Illinois, Yours of the 12th inst., at hand. The Malakoff among the best varieties and largest yielders on our plots this year.  
Albert N. Hume

Nebraska State Agricultural Station, Lincoln, Nebr. Replying to yours of recent date would say the Malakoff gave excellent satisfaction. As regard to yields, one of the best varieties. T. L. Lyen

Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station, Manhattan Kansas: Gentlemen—We count the Malakoff as one of the best varieties. The yield from Ratekins' Malakoff in 1909 was 52 52-100 bu., 1908 44 93-100 bu. A. M. Ten Eyck Prof

Shenandoah, Iowa—Gentlemen:—I have just finished threshing my wheat and take pleasure in informing you that the Malakoff Seed Wheat which you furnished me last fall made an average yield of 52 Bushels to the Acre on an 80 acre field or a total of 4160 bushels for the crop. In view of the fact that my neighbor's wheat fields under the same conditions with common seed made but 25 to 30 bushels per acre, it is evident that the greatly increased yield was due to my selection of the Malahoff. This, at the present market price, makes me about \$1700.00 more on the 80 acres than I would have received had I planted the common wheat. Yours truly George Shuen Greer, County, Oklahoma.

I am pleased to say that the new Malahoff seed wheat purchased from you last fall has proven everything you claim for it and I am well pleased. Please send me your seed wheat catalog for this year and a sample of your Turkish Red as I am thinking of trying it. Very truly yours, L. W. Simms, Ashland County, Ohio, August 16th.

Stoddard County, Mo. The New Malahoff seed wheat ordered from you has been received and it is not only up to my best expectations but but fully up to sample. I weighed out a struck measured half bushel, which weighed 33 pounds equivalent to 66 pounds per measured bushel.  
A. J. Mc Ferren

Calhoun County, West Virginia. The New Malahoff Seed Wheat ordered from you has been received and I am well pleased. I have certainly always been well pleased with all the seed I have got from you. Very truly yours, A. A. Stump.

Ratekins' Seed House

Shenandoah, Iowa