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PLANTS, SEEDS

T. K. GODBEY

WALDO, ALACHUA COUNTY, FLA.



A PARTNER WITH NATURE

By H. E. STOCKBRIDGE

In *The SOUTHERN RURALIST*

The journals of the country have of late given much discussion to the work of the "Wizard of Horticulture." They refer to the wonderful success of Luther Burbank, of California, in transforming and developing plants. The seedless plum and spineless cactus are usually mentioned as the acme of his achievements, while new varieties innumerable, hybrids and new creations of plant, fruit and flower much of this skill in interpreting nature, and persistence in following her suggestions, quietly working in partnership with nature on a Florida farm. The result of this partnership has been the development of many new and better products, sometimes as wonderful and often as useful as those with which the "Wizard" has been associated.



T. K. GODBEY, OF WALDO, FLORIDA

show a mastery over nature which seems to justify the characterization of "wizard." The term, however, is inapt since it supposes the exercise of occult power contrary to nature's laws.

Mr. Burbank's phenomenal success, however, is really due to a genius for comprehending the laws of nature and an infinite patience in co-operating with these laws.

For years there has been a man with the name of this partner with nature has occasionally appeared as a contributor to the Ruralist. These articles, always filled with practical ideas, are signed T. K. Godbey.

This gentleman is so retiring and little disposed to self-commendation—that thousands who have been benefited from products he has originated, or have been helped by suggestions he has made, have no knowledge of the man himself.

He is a native of Missouri, but has been for a quarter of a century a resident of Waldo, Florida.

It is with great pleasure, shared we are sure, by our readers, that we present a likeness of Mr. Godbey, and a list of some of the most important of his creations.

First in this list comes the Waldo Peach, originated by him in 1889. It is most interesting and important to know that this wonderful fruit was not a chance seedling. It is the product of a true partnership with nature—an intelligent cross between two distinct types, the Peento and the Honey peaches.

About four years later the Jewell peach was produced. This is a seedling of the Waldo. The care and patience exercised are illustrated by the fact that this is the chosen survivor of some three hundred such seedlings.

These two peaches have made a revolution in the horticulture of a great region. They have transformed a section previously believed incapable of producing commercial peaches into one of the great peach sections of the world.

In Florida, and the gulf sections of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and Mexico, they are planted more extensively than all other peaches combined. They have brought millions of dollars to this section. Already peaches are pressing oranges hard in importance in Florida, and yet the business has but fairly begun.

The Clara and Marguerite peaches were originated later and are also becoming important commercial varieties.

Next came Godbey's Seedless Persimmon, a seedling of the Japanese type. The fruit is practically seedless, extremely fine flavored and often weighing over a pound. More valuable still is the fact that the tree is more hardy than any other cultivated persimmon, proved by its having been the only persimmon to pass unharmed through the great freeze in 1895.

In 1898 Mr. Godbey originated an Everblooming Wistaria, a beautiful climber, remaining in full bloom from April to August. This is propagated and widely sold by a great Northern firm.

More recently the partnership with nature has been turned toward developing commercial plums adapted to Florida and the Gulf region.

Hybrid plums between the Kelsey and the natives, and Kelseys and Prunus pissardi promise to become as popular as the peaches already mentioned.

The Triumph Sweet Potato is the latest result of Mr. Godbey's endeavor. He has tested every known variety and declares this seedling to be superior to all. It is of the best quality, very productive, but more important yet possesses very remarkable keeping qualities, this being the object particularly aimed at. It will keep from November till August without deterioration.

This achievement alone would place the originator high among the developers of improved plants, and the South under lasting obligation.

Mr. Godbey has recently given much attention to the development of commercial camphor growing in Florida. He has devised a plan which he confidently believes will in the near future enable the State to not only produce all the camphor required in America, but furnish a surplus for export.

At present his special effort is toward the development of a hay and forage plant which shall be to the Gulf section what Timothy is to the world. There is good reason for soon expecting such an achievement from the skilful development of a native Florida grass, still characterized by botanists as "of no recognized agricultural value."

May this partnership long remain active. The South should take pride in it. The world should know of it.

TO OUR FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS

In presenting this, our annual catalogue and price list, we wish to thank our customers for their very liberal patronage in the past, and assure them we have done all in our power to merit a continuation of the same in the future.

To those who may receive this catalogue for the first time, we only ask that you give our goods a trial, feeling confident you will become regular customers in the future.

Our business has increased at an enormous rate, and while we have done all in our power to grow stock enough for the rapidly increasing demand, we have had to turn off many orders for lack of stock, and many orders were delayed in shipment, because stock was not produced as fast as we expected.

Plant growing is the most difficult branch of husbandry. If this were not so, every one would grow their own supply, and we could not have built up the enormous trade we have. Our goods go to all parts of the United States, and some to foreign countries. It not only requires the highest degree of skill in preparing the soil and planting the seeds, but it also requires special equipment in drainage, irrigation, etc., that is very expensive. Also the soil, climate and location must be especially favorable before the plant-grower can hope to succeed. We possess all of these favorable conditions in an eminent degree, and yet part of our crops are often cut short by forces over which we have no control.

In view of the many difficulties that beset the plant-grower, our customers can greatly assist us in overcoming some of them by placing their orders for plants at least 90 days ahead of the date the shipment is to be made. Many of the most successful truckers understand this, and have been placing their orders very early. Our books show that 95 per cent of all such orders have been filled on the very day designated in the order, while those who have waited until nearly ready to plant before sending in their orders, have had their money returned, or had to wait, from a week to a month, before they could get what they wanted.

Plants cannot be grown and held for market like trees or seeds, but the entire work of sowing the seeds, growing the crop and shipping the same must be done in a period of about 60 days. It is evident to the thoughtful buyer that the plant-grower must have a customer ready for his plants as soon as they are ready to go, or be constantly losing large lots of plants, because a customer did not come along just at the right time, allowing the plants to become overgrown, and consequently worthless. Now, in order that our customers may secure their plants far in advance of planting time, and thereby greatly add to their success in farming, we make the following very liberal offer:

TERMS. All orders that are sent in before January 1st, for plants, etc., that are for spring delivery, will be accepted if ten per cent accompanies the order, the balance to be sent in ten days before goods are to be shipped. All orders received after January 1st, must be accompanied by cash in full. Where orders are not filled on, or near the date designated, the order may be countermanded and the money will be returned.

QUALITY OF OUR PLANTS. Our plants are all grown in the open ground and are of the very highest quality possible to grow them, under prevailing conditions. At times the weather is more favorable for the development of plants than at others, so that plants will vary a little in quality; this cannot be

Take Advantage of Our Liberal Offer for Early Orders

avoided. Open ground plants are far superior to hot bed or cold frame plants, and you cannot afford to use hot bed plants as a gift when you can get strong, open ground plants at the prices we offer them.

ACCEPTANCE OF ORDERS. All orders for plants are taken subject to the uncertainties of the season and crops, and it is impossible to tell, even a week ahead, what the supply will be, as part of the crop is often destroyed by insects or bad weather in a very short time. We do all in our power to fill all orders promptly, on the date specified, and if there is any delay, it is simply because the plants are not ready to go. We never disappoint a customer if it can possibly be avoided, because our living is in the business. If we cannot fill your order we will return your money by return mail, or as soon as we find we cannot fill the order.

If you order plants from us there is no use to have them rushed out before danger of frost is over with you, as the plants will be growing faster with us than they could with you, and will reach maturity just as soon, though the transplanting should be delayed a week or two. The only difference it will make is, they will cost a little more express by being larger. We prefer to send out large, strong plants, and will always do so, if not hurried too much by our customers.

COUNT. Plants are tied in bundles of 50 each. This work is done by children, and they sometimes make mistakes in the count. We have found bunches that had only 35, and others that had 70 plants. If the total count falls short, we will make good the loss; if it runs over, keep them; this is what we want them to do.

TREATMENT OF PLANTS ON ARRIVAL. If the plants cannot be set out the same day they are received, take them from the crate immediately, dip the roots in water, untie the bunches and heel out in the ground, spreading the bunches out a little. In no case should they be left in the crate.

GUARANTEE. We guarantee our plants to reach destination in good order, and will replace all plants that fail to do so. We have shipped vegetable plants successfully 2,000 miles.

EXPRESS RATES. The express rate on plants is 20 per cent less than merchandise; the minimum charge being 35 cents. Medium sized plants weigh about 12 pounds per 1,000, and the Southern Express Company, on whose line we are located, will carry a package of plants of this weight to almost any point on their route for 35 cents; but if the plants are handled by two or more express companies, the rate will be about double the above amount. Also, large plants will cost more than small ones, as they go entirely by weight, after the shipment amounts to 12 pounds or more; the number of packages then having nothing to do with the charges. Don't order less than 1,000 plants at a time, as the express is just as much on 100 as 1,000. Don't order less than 50 plants of one sort, as they are tied in bunches of 50 by the pullers in the field, and we cannot afford to untie the bunches and divide them in the packing house. You can make up an order for 1,000 out of the various sorts we offer, and they can all be put in one package. Don't order plants by mail. We do not ship that way, and do not ship C. O. D.

SWEET POTATOES

In the production of this vegetable, Florida possesses advantages superior to any other State in the Union. The sweet potato is absolutely free from disease

GODBEY'S POORLAND CORN HAS NO BARREN STALKS

here, and when properly housed will keep all the year round; new and old potatoes being offered on our market during July and August. Our loss from rot has been less than one bushel in 100. The sweet potato also blooms and bears seeds here like a morning glory, to which family it belongs, and by planting these seeds new varieties are produced, many of which are decided improvements. Being on the northern limit of seed production, the tendency is to produce varieties of quick maturity. The Nancy Hall, Triumph and Providence are all Florida seedlings, and are the earliest potatoes in cultivation. Our list of varieties comprises the very best in cultivation, and are selected with the object of suiting a wide range of soil and markets. There is no one variety of sweet potato that will suit every soil and everybody. We have had fields that would not make over 25 bushels per acre of one variety of sweet potato, and would make over 200 bushels of another variety. In another field the results might be reversed.

SWEET POTATO PLANTS

Price \$1.50 per thousand. No discount.

Ready April 1st to August 1st. Please make first and second choice.

NANCY HALL. Tubers round, or oval, smooth and attractive in appearance. Very early, making potatoes ready for the table in 60 days after planting. Skin yellow, flesh deep yellow, fine quality, very productive and a good keeper. Vines short and vigorous, leaves large, round and dense. Nancy Hall begins to sprout later in the spring than any other sort, and we can seldom ship plants of this sort before April 15th. If you wish to set plants extra early, order Triumph, as it is the first to sprout.

PROVIDENCE. Nearly identical with Nancy Hall, in every respect, except leaves are not so large and vigorous. One of the best.

TRIUMPH. Originated by us, and is the best out of 20 seedlings. Skin russet white, flesh creamy yellow, fine quality. Tubers large, oval oblong, and very attractive in appearance. Early as Nancy Hall, enormously productive and keeps very late. Vines short, dense and vigorous. Triumph has always made a larger yield with us than any other sort.

NORTON YAM; also known as Pumpkin Yam, and Pumpkin Spanish. A very popular market sort.

BIG STEM JERSEY. This is the most popular sort in the northern market, and is in demand by truckers, who ship to that market.

SEED SWEET POTATOES

We are prepared to furnish a large supply of strictly pure seed potatoes, to those desiring to grow their own plants. It is a great advantage to have your own plants at home, when the weather is favorable for planting. We have a great many customers that get their seed from us every year, because the sweet potato is absolutely free from disease here, and a crop grown from them is much less liable to rot, than a crop would be that was grown from seed produced in a section where rot is troublesome. Remember that good seed is the very foundation of successful farming.

Seed potatoes can be shipped by freight at a small cost. All orders for seed should be sent in before March 1st, as we bed out all potatoes not sold during March. We hold all seed, sold, and ship whenever our customers are ready to bed, so they run no risk of loss from rot or freeze. Price of any of the varieties in our list, \$1 per bushel.

GODBEY'S POORLAND CORN is nearly WEEVIL-PROOF

CABBAGE PLANTS

We are often asked by parties that have never tried our cabbage plants, if they are as hardy as those grown on the coast of South Carolina. Our cabbage plants are as hardy as can be found anywhere in the world. We have heavy white frosts here, nearly every week during the winter, followed by bright, clear days—just such weather as the plants must stand when transplanted a little way from the coast. It is also a fact that we get more orders for our cabbage plants from truckers in South Carolina than anywhere else. Why do the truckers of South Carolina get their plants from us when they have them right at home? Because plants grown here are just as hardy as theirs, and will not run to seed as badly when transplanted as those grown further north.

Our cabbage plants are grown from the best Long Island seed. We have a big supply of cabbage plants, ready for planting from September 1st to May 1st. Varieties: Jersey Wakefield, Charleston Wakefield, Early Summer, Flat Dutch, Allhead, etc.

Price of Plants, \$1.25 per 1,000; in lots of 5,000 or more, \$1.00 per 1,000.

TOMATO PLANTS

Price \$1.75 per thousand. 10,000 for \$15. Ready from March 1st to June 1st. Varieties: Acme, Paragon, Stone, Perfection, Spark's Earliana, Beauty, etc.

PEPPER PLANTS

Price \$2.00 per thousand. 10,000 for \$15. Ready March 1st to June 1st. Varieties: King, Neapolitan, Bell and Celestial. The large sweet peppers are very profitable for market.

EGG PLANTS

Price \$2.00 per thousand. 10,000 for \$15. Ready April 1st to June 1st. Varieties: New York Improved, Purple, Florida High Bush, etc.

LETTUCE PLANTS

Price \$1.00 per thousand. All leading varieties: Big Boston, Tennis Ball, Deacon, etc.

BET PLANTS

Price \$1.00 per thousand. Early varieties: Egyptian, Crosby's Improved, etc.

BERMUDA ONION PLANTS

Price \$1.00 per thousand. Ready November 1st to April 1st. The Bermuda onion can be grown successfully all over the South, and is a very profitable crop to raise for early market. The onions are very large, mild and sweet, and bring a fancy price. We plant the seed in October, and by getting your plants from us in early spring you can have onions on the market as soon as those shipped from Florida. Our Bermuda onions are grown from the best imported Teneriffe seed.

PARA GRASS (*Panicum Molle*)

This is decidedly the best hay and pasture grass for the lower South, where a permanent meadow or pasture is desired, being far more desirable than John-

Godbey's Poorland Corn makes a Bigger Yield than any other sort

son or Bermuda Grass, having all of the good points of either, without their objectionable qualities.

It makes no seed, and will not spread all over the farm, where it is not wanted, like Johnson Grass does. It makes no underground runners, and can easily be destroyed by turning under very shallow in a dry time, or in freezing weather. It spreads entirely on the surface, by taking root at the joints, like Crab Grass.

Para Grass makes a very rapid growth, and can be cut every six weeks during the growing season. It makes a very nutritious hay, cures easily, and is greedily eaten by all kinds of stock. It does best on low, wet land, and is not injured by overflow. As soon as the land is well set in the grass, it assumes an upright growth, quickly reaching a height of 5 or 6 feet.

Para Grass is highly recommended by the Department of Agriculture.

HOW TO GET A START OF PARA GRASS. This grass is grown entirely from cuttings, and land should be prepared by turning it over smooth and clean; then, with a supply of cuttings, stick them into the ground 4 feet apart each way, leaving out one joint. It will soon spread all over the ground, and when it begins to lap across the rows, cut it up with a disc harrow. It should be cut up with a harrow once a year as long as you wish it to remain.

By getting cuttings enough to set an acre, you can grow enough in six months to plant 100 acres. 3,000 cuttings will plant an acre. **Price of cuttings \$2.00 per thousand.**

GODBEY'S POORLAND CORN

In the production of corn, the South is very much behind the rest of the United States. This is due mainly to the poor quality of the seed used. The Southern farmer pulls the fodder from the stalks before the corn is ripe, a practice followed nowhere else, causing the grain to ripen prematurely, weakening its vitality, and rendering it unfit for seed.

Such seed when planted has a tendency to produce large stalks, with long snouty husks, and very little grain.

I was raised in the best corn growing section of the West, where corn is king, and where corn-breeding is a perfected science. I have been farming in the South for twenty-five years, and by carefully selecting my seed corn, year after year, with the object of increasing the amount of grain in proportion to the amount of stalk, I have succeeded in producing a strain of corn that now yields more than twice as much per acre as the corn usually planted by the Southern farmers. I have not only doubled the yield, but have also improved its weevil-resisting qualities, until it is now nearly weevil-proof.

I now offer this corn for seed, knowing it to be the most productive, nearest weevil-proof, and the best milling corn in the South.

Give this corn a trial. You will find it a great improvement. **Price \$1.00 per peck, \$3.00 per bushel. Special prices on 10-bushel lots.**

FROGMORE, S. C., July 31, 1908.

Mr. T. K. Godbey, Waldo, Fla.

DEAR SIR: I wish to say that your Poorland Corn promises to be all you claim for it. It is in full roasting ear now. Planted on ordinary sandy land, with about 150 lbs. guano per acre, it will make 35 to 40 bushels per acre.

Yours truly,
W. R. PEARSON.

Plant Para Grass on your low, wet spots, and they will become the **Most Valuable Part of your Farm**

TALLAHASSEE, FLA., August 8, 1908.

Mr. T. K. Godbey, Waldo, Fla.

DEAR SIR: Your seed corn is all right. I have made a fine crop. My corn has been the admiration of all who see it. It is the very best in this part of the country.

Yours truly,

W. H. ANDERSON.

GRAY MOUNT, GA., August 11, 1908.

Mr. T. K. Godbey, Waldo, Fla.

DEAR SIR: I am very pleased with your corn. It is all you recommend it to be. My crop is very fine.

Yours truly,

E. L. COMART, SR.

GAINESTOWN, ALA., August 8, 1908.

Mr. T. K. Godbey, Waldo, Fla.

DEAR SIR: Your Poorland Corn beats all I have ever planted. I will plant my whole crop in it next year. I never see a stalk without an ear on it. I planted it alongside the Dent, which has been my favorite, and any one could tell to the very row; yours was so much more prolific and healthier and larger, and better every way.

The potatoes I got from you are the best I ever saw.

Yours truly,

E. L. SYLPHRIT.

SEEDS

A great many of our customers write to us for seeds, and, as we buy seeds in large quantities, getting them direct from the best seed growers in the world, we have decided to offer the following list for the accommodation of our customers, knowing them to be the very best seeds that money can buy, regardless of price. We will sell $\frac{1}{2}$ pound at pound rates, postpaid at prices quoted.

CABBAGE—Strictly Long Island Grown

EARLIEST VARIETIES \$1.50 per pound

EXTRA EARLY EUREKA—the earliest of all flat-headed varieties. Called also Maule's Earliest.

Extra Early Express—medium size, very early.

Extra Early Etampes—small, very early.

EXTRA EARLY WAKEFIELD—smallest and Earliest of the Wakefields.

EARLY JERSEY WAKEFIELD—original John Brill stock.

EARLY LARGE CHARLESTON WAKEFIELD—a selection from the preceding; larger, and the main crop a few days later; used largely by Southern truckers.

Early Spring—Henderson's round head.

Early Winningstadt—conical, popular for gardens.

CABBAGE—Second Early Varieties

Price \$1.50 per pound

EARLY ALL HEAD, BURPEE'S.

EARLY FLAT DUTCH, BRILL'S, very fine.

Early Dwarf Flat Dutch—Stein's.

Early Dwarf Flat Dutch—Strang's.

Early Dwarf Flat Dutch—Newark—original of Early Summer.

Early Summer—Henderson's.

BEET

Price 50 cents per pound

- Extra Early Egyptian.
- Crosby Improved Egyptian.
- Extra Early Eclipse.
- Edmand's Turnip Blood.
- Dewing's.
- Long Smooth Blood.

ONION

BERMUDA ONIONS—GENUINE TENERIFFE GROWN.—Thousands of acres of these are grown throughout the South, and have proved a most profitable crop. They make a beautiful, large, flat onion of mild flavor, and are particularly desirable on account of their quick growth. An excellent shipping variety, and usually bring high prices early in the season.

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|-------------------|------------|--------|
| WHITE | per pound | \$2 00 |
| RED | per pound | 2 00 |
| BERMUDA SETS..... | per bushel | 4 00 |

EGG PLANT

Price \$3.50 per pound

- N. Y. or N. J. Improved.
- Purple Perfection Thornless.
- Black Beauty.
- Florida Early High Bush.

PEPPER

Price \$1.50 per pound

- Ruby King—superior stock.
- Neapolitan—early and prolific.
- Long Red Cayenne.

LETTUCE

Price \$1.00 per pound

- Big Boston.
- Boston Market.
- California Cream Butter.
- Deacon.

Special prices on Pepper, Egg Plant and Bermuda Onion Seed in 10-lb. lots.

Prices on Velvet Beans, Cow Peas, Chufas, Spanish Peanuts and Soja Beans on application.

If you have any of the above for sale, give quantity and price. We will find you a buyer.

EVER-BLOOMING WISTARIA

25 cents each

We have no Fruit Trees for sale.

