

From one-half to one acre per man per day is thus planted by the "corn stickers."

Average yields of 30 bushels per acre are obtained. The "stuck corn" on Broad Acre Ranch this year will average between 40 and 50 bushels per acre.

In the spring of the second year, the corn stalks are burned and more of the stumps and timber are consumed. Again in the spring of the third year the stalks are fired for the last time.

FOURTH YEAR

After the third burning the land is practically cleared. Occasionally stumps remain but with the exception of the cypress stumps, which are by no means abundant, they are easily pulled out. By the constant settling of the soil and the three burnings, the earth about the stump has subsided some three or four inches. After these stumps have been pulled, piled, and burned the fields are ready for cultivation and planting by machinery.

The soil during these years has settled into a firm and consistent texture. The large amount of vegetable matter found in the virgin soil has been more thoroughly incorporated with the sand and silt of the underlying sub-soil and sub-surface soil by cultivation, and large air-holes commonly found in virgin land have been filled up. As a result, there is considerably more body to the soil and the springiness noticed on virgin land is largely gone. Naturally such compactness produces a better seed-bed.

On such land yields are dependent largely upon the care given the crop and will vary from 50 to 80 bushels per acre in all probability.

For husking corn on "stuck corn" land, the negroes are paid 10 cents per bushel, since they are obliged to shuck into baskets and carry these to carts which are driven through lanes made in the stump-covered field. For corn planted on the cleared land they are paid 7 cents per bushel.