

**FIELD LORE FOR YOUNG
FARMERS: A
TEXT-BOOK FOR
THE GRADED SCHOOLS**

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Field Lore for Young Farmers: A Text-Book for the Graded Schools by Katharine Atherton
Grimes

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KATHARINE ATHERTON GRIMES

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FIELD LORE FOR YOUNG FARMERS

A TEXT-BOOK FOR THE GRADED SCHOOLS

BY

KATHARINE ATHERTON GRIMES

ASSOCIATE EDITOR OF SOUTHERN AGRICULTURIST

EDITED BY

W. L. HUTCHINSON

PROFESSOR OF AGRONOMY,
CLEMSON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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To every boy and girl who loves the fields, the woods and the open skies, this little volume is sent forth by a comrade whose delight in these things is as great as their own.

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FOREWORD

The most healthful indication in present-day educational systems is the tendency to look toward Nature as the base of all essential culture. Nor is this a new phase. There were days when the natural world was made the foundation for the most elaborate and delicate mythological and religious systems history knows—when “rays of twisted rain” were deemed fit weapons for a god, and heaven was a Grecian mountain. The world grew gradually out of this childhood, but always there remained with it a sense of the pulsating harmonies of nature. This became educationally submerged for a period in artificialities of more or less cultural value, but its undercurrent still ran powerfully beneath. It remained for the acumen of twentieth century science to find true balances, and to reread the pages of the physical world’s great book with new insight. Greater than myth or fable, lovelier than the most graceful pagan imagery could delineate, truer than the most acute symbolism could represent are these new meanings of star and clod, of cloud and flower. And greater than all is the conception of life as a unit—a manifold interpretation of one universal vitality that from a single heart

sends its rich current through the veins of every living thing.

In this conception of Nature there is a buoyant grandeur that no statement of mere facts can possess. It is urged upon the teachers who shall make use of the material in this little volume that its garment of detail shall be made to clothe this vital body of unified animation; that through all the lessons shall beat the pulse of the Universal Mother. With this hope it is sent out to make its fellowship among those who hear infinite voices in the whispering of winds and waters and the soft uprush of growing things.

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