

Farming and Agriculture :-: Special Features :-: Interesting Observations

NEWSY FARM NOTES

By Agricola

The Dominion Department of Agriculture has issued the report of the Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Canadian National Egg Laying contests. The report gives tabulations for all the provinces from 1924 to 1927, and it is worthy of perusal by all who desire to know to what extent the poultry industry has progressed.

Want of space forbids mention of many excellent records, but it may here be noticed that in the 300 egg class there were only four birds in 1927 as compared with 41 the previous year.

Hen B. C. L. C.—G 199, owned by J. C. Diederich, Edmonds, B.C. laid 307 eggs of 24oz to the dozen and scored 289.7 points. B. C. L. C.—G 323 owned by J. H. Mulford and Son, Milner, B. C. laid 301 eggs of 28 oz to the dozen with a score of 389.0 points—the highest going.

Prince Edward Island is somewhat short of this, perhaps because of our colder winter. In the individual production class of 1927 the three outstanding birds were P. E. I. L. C.—167 and P. E. I. L. C.—165 owned by H. C. Muttart, Marshfield and P. E. I. L. C.—1126 owned by Clifford McEwen, St. Peters. These birds B. P. Rocks—laid 285, 226, and 236 eggs respectively and scored 293.3, 288.3 and 276.4 points.

The pen production was (1) Pen 6 B. P. Rock, H. C. Muttart, Marshfield eggs 2,107; points 2,324.8, (2) Pen 2, W. Leghorn, Mrs. J. F. Easton, New Wiltshire eggs 1965; points 1,959.1, (3) Pen 12, B. P. Rock, Clifford McEwen, St. Peters, eggs 1930; points 1939.5.

The Island birds compared favorably with those of all provinces save Manitoba and British Columbia, and are superior in production to those of Nova Scotia. In the Maritimes, New Brunswick leads in pen but not in individual production; that is held by P. E. Island.

RABIES

Among the editorials yesterday (Thursday) there appeared a timely note on this disease, which has re-appeared in Ontario. We are fortunate in our insular position which permits of a strict embargo upon all dogs likely to seek entrance into the province. It is suggestive that all outbreaks in Ontario have occurred in the Niagara Peninsula and the adjacent counties; the infection probably comes from the United States where it exists to an alarming extent. The disease which has established itself in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta also, is

there thought to have been introduced by the dogs of new American settlers. Introduction into our province would be disastrous, since all warm blooded animals are susceptible. Man, the horse, ox, sheep, cat and fowl rapidly develop the disease when bitten by a rabid animal. The fox, first cousin of the dog, is perhaps more liable to contract it than other animals.

The Veterinary Director of Canada stresses two points. First, that the suspected animal should not be killed—if that can be avoided—but driven into some safe enclosure, and a veterinary sent for, for purposes of investigation. Second, that there are in Canada, as in other countries, too many useless dogs kept, a menace on account of their contracting (besides rabies) various other diseases which they may transmit to man and animals. The practice of allowing dogs to run at large indiscriminately and unattended, especially at night, he strongly condemns.

One means of reducing the number of useless dogs, would be to increase the dog-tax, more especially in cities. Another preventive of danger would be to order that no dog be allowed out without a muzzle.

BLUESTONE FOR WEEDS

An interesting experiment is going forward on the lawn in front of the Guardian Office. Two applications of the bluestone solution have been made on a portion of the 'up street' patch which was badly infested with dandelion and plantain. The thin leaves of the dandelion died out at once and on taking up the tap roots they were found to be soft and spongy as if rotting. The plantain was more resistant as the leaves were thicker and the spray ran off more readily. The tender young leaves were scorched but the roots did not suffer to anything like the extent that the dandelion roots did. Hundreds of seedling plantains were destroyed. The grass was entirely uninjured and began immediately to encroach upon the space vacated by the dandelions. It will take another application, or perhaps two to clean the lawn effectively but the experiment has proved its worth. The solution is made of one pound of bluestone to five gallons of water, as recommended by Prof. J. A. Clark, of the Experimental Farm.

A floor cushion made of black leather or oilcloth should be part of the equipment for every furnished porch.

Flowers have been so much improved of late that old time flowerers can hardly now be recognized. Time for planting—Annuals—do no plant before June. Perennials and Biennials are hardy. Early cabbage and cauliflower from May 25th to June 31st. Tomatoes and Celery not before June to July 15th. Late Cabbage, Cauliflower and Celery from June 20th to July 31st.

Please take notice that we will not accept an order by mail, express, or freight for less than two dollars; this can be arranged by having a neighbor or two join in the order, when requiring small quantities—Our terms are cash with order.

Annual bedding flower plants, postage must be included 25c per doz.

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Everything fully guaranteed.
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Gardening Notes

THE LAWN

When the really hot weather arrives, it is advisable to adjust the lawn mower so that it will not cut as close as it will only be necessary during the Summer to trim rather than cut. There should be at least one half inch of grass, if not more, after cutting, and to get the Turkish mat appearance a full inch is necessary. Leave the grass clippings where they fall, as these provide a mulch protecting the roots from the burning sun.

PINCH BACK FOR STURDINESS

Should the flower plants be somewhat weak and spindly, the top branches, and perhaps some of the side ones as well, should be pinched back to bring about a more sturdy plant. Cosmos will become too tall and spindly, a prey to the first strong wind or rain that comes along, unless treated in this manner. Pinching back the heads will not only make a more symmetrical and stronger plant, but will also induce earlier and more vigorous blooms in the case of those flowers like cosmos which are inclined to start flowering rather late. With Zinnias, a straggly plant is almost sure to result unless one nips back the main stem to encourage side growth. This often sacrifices the first bloom, but the sacrifice is repaid in more flowers later on and a sturdier and larger plant.

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His illness taught him a lesson. He now owns \$20,000 of Confederation Life Insurance. It only costs him \$12.50 a week—but it insures a life competence to Mary.

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Head Office: TORONTO
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GAY'S PLANTS

Flowers have been so much improved of late that old time flowerers can hardly now be recognized. Time for planting—Annuals—do no plant before June. Perennials and Biennials are hardy. Early cabbage and cauliflower from May 25th to June 31st. Tomatoes and Celery not before June to July 15th. Late Cabbage, Cauliflower and Celery from June 20th to July 31st.

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Annual bedding flower plants, postage must be included 25c per doz.

Aster, Phlox, Stocks, Fetunia, Veronica, Zinnia, Balsam, Salpiglossis, Snapdragon, Cosmos, Marigold, Alyssum, Golden Feather, Lobelia. Above 25 doz. prepaid by mail. Seeding Pansy, Sweet William, Carnation Pinks, Daisy, Kocchia, Columbine, at 30c doz. Hollyhocks, winter killed none. Wintered over Perennials and Biennials, Pansy, Daisy, Sweet William, and Perennial Poppy at \$1.20 or doz. Digitalis or Fox Glove, Canterbury Bell at 15c each, \$1.50 per doz. Perennial Larkspur two year old plants 35c each.

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Late Cabbage for planting from June 20 to July 31st at 40c per 100, 50c prepaid by mail. Wintered over Perennials and Biennials by mail

Do not forget to sign name and address. Write plainly. Remember postage.

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