

FOR FARMERS, STOCK BREEDERS AND GARDENERS

Gardening

POINTERS FOR SHRUB AND TREE PLANTERS

Never allow the roots of shrubs and trees which are being transplanted to be exposed to the sun, or drying winds or to frost. Keep them wrapped in damp moss, or straw, or in the ground.

When you cut or prune wood, make a sharp, clean cut; leave no ragged or jagged ends on roots or top.

Be sure that holes dug to receive plants are large enough to receive all roots without cramping. Spread out the roots in a natural position and work fine loam among them. Be sure that no air holes remain but that all roots are in contact with earth which is firmed and compacted.

Never allow any undecayed manure to come in contact with the roots; nor undecayed leaves or wood, in any quantity.

Be careful not to plant too deeply but always set the plant about an inch lower than it grew in the nursery row. The mark of the surface will usually be plainly seen.

Remove all broken branches in the top and cut back at least one half of the previous year's growth if wood.

In cutting back dormant stock is in pruning. Be careful to cut just above a bud and close to it and let this be an outside bud, that is, one which will send the new wood which grows from it away from the centre of the plant. This keeps the centre open to let the air and light and lessens the likelihood of crossed stems.

SHOULD GROW NATURALLY

Shrubs and trees should be allowed to grow naturally, unless they are to be shaped to conform to a set pattern; and it is important to place them in their new location in the same position relative to the sunlight to which they have been accustomed. They will usually incline a trifle toward the sun. Set them so this inclination need not be changed as it will take energy to change it. In the open, plants will incline slightly toward the south; but in sheltered and partly shaded places they will bend in the direction from which the sun shines upon them.

SPADE PREFERRED TO FORK FOR DIGGING

Some veteran gardeners will not consider the garden as properly dug unless it is dug with a spade. Others will never think of using any tool but a spade fork. The spade is the better tool for clean digging where the gardener wishes to follow straight lines. It also will turn the soil more completely and thoroughly and if the trench and fill method is used the spade is indispensable because the soil will remain in the spade to be tossed into the waiting trench. A portion of it is bound to fall through the lines of the fork.

Heavy soil is more easily penetrated by a fork. It is more easily turned with a spade, so there is an argument on the better tool right here. A spade in the long run will

Farm Notes

THERE IS MONEY IN BROILERS

The production of soft, tender, juicy broilers has become a business in which many poultrymen are engaged. Some great changes have taken place in the broiler market. Up until a few years ago, there was the usual seasonal demand for broilers during the early summer months, with extremely high prices for the first broilers that reached the market. During the remainder of the year there was little demand for fresh broilers nor were they available.

The consumer has come to appreciate the exceptionally fine eating qualities of broilers and there is today a year-round market for them. Not only is there a demand for broilers, but the producer is equipped with modern brooding methods and feeds which make it possible for him to economically produce them.

The ration plays a very big part in raising broilers under confinement. These chicks do not have a chance to pick up on range certain deficiencies which might exist in the ration, nor are they able to take advantage of the direct sunlight. A broiler, to produce the best results must contain all of the food nutrients in the proper proportions. To promote maximum growth, maintain good health and produce a broiler which will demand a premium on a quality market.

ALL GARDENS REQUIRE SPADING

There is no garden so good that it doesn't need and won't greatly benefit by spading. From a quarter to a half of a garden should be spaded over each year thoroughly. In spading a garden the blade of the spade should be driven into the soil as nearly vertical as possible. The closer to vertical the blade goes into the soil, the deeper it can penetrate and the better the job of digging. It is customary to send the spade or fork into the ground at a slant. The result is that, while it may look like a good job of digging when it is done the soil has not been turned for more than six or eight inches.

Soil needs deep digging to let the air into it. This helps to make the plant food more readily available for the growing plants. The roots of the plants also must have a certain amount of air to thrive.

HOGGING CORN SAVES FEED

In a series of four tests at the Brandon Experimental Farm of the Dominion Department of Agriculture the practice of "hogging" corn, i. e., turning hogs into a field of mature corn to feed, show that material economies in meal feed are possible and that the returns from hogs so fed are substantially greater than the cost of growing the corn. The type of hog developed is entirely satisfactory; the practice of "hogging" saves considerable labour in feeding; and it supplies considerable grain for growing hogs at a time when farm grains are most scarce. An ample supply of fresh water must be available on the hogging lot and tankage supplied by a self feeder is desirable.

PROPAGATION OF SHRUBS INTERESTING PRACTICE

The propagation of shrubs presents many problems for the amateur gardener, yet offers many interesting experiences and gives practice in gardening which the student usually gets by greenhouse lessons.

Most shrubs that the average gardener comes in contact with may be rooted in a shaded frame. Well drained soil, covered with a couple of inches of sand, suffices for the rooting of many plants.

Take any shrub you want to increase in your own garden and try cuttings during the summer up to the end of August. There are of course, beautiful and rare shrubs which do not root except at certain stages of growth or maturity. Some favorite new shrubs such as Viburnum Carlesii root easily from leaves; others may start from root cuttings, as do some of our herbaceous perennials.

Propagation by seed is still one of the most useful methods of increasing shrubs. Seeds of such flowering shrubs as rhododendrons respond to a reasonable amount of skill and home treatment. Feet moss or peat moss and sand or any material making an acid soil, will grow rhododendron, azaleas, and laurel seed with surprising results.

In raising plants from seed, efficient drainage, uniform moisture, absence of fungus pests and adequate nourishment are important factors. In boxes or pots for home seed growing, broken pots or stones and sand make for good drainage. Watering should be carefully done; seeds should not be washed away or uncovered and never should they be allowed to become dry.

"Damping-off" is the worst disease to afflict seedlings. Thin sowing, plenty of air, lack of standing moisture are conducive to protection from this fungus.

GOOD GROOMING PAYS

An old horseman claims that good grooming brings about a better circulation of blood under the skin. This means that, in addition to improved appearance and polish brought about by actual brushing and combing, the health of the animal is also improved.

Capillary action is increased and more of the oily substance which causes glossiness exuded from the skin; the latter is kept more healthy, which in its turn has a beneficial effect upon the muscles.

Good circulation of the blood, which is maintained by constant grooming, is the best way possible to help in removing fatigue.

That is why horses benefit so much from grooming at night after the day's work.

Lined and bran are the best foods to promote bloom in horses, while roots, swedes and mangolds in season and grass, are the best cooling corrections to the effects of highly nitrogenous foods such as

NEWSY NOTES

A NEW POLYGONUM

There is a pesky weed known to farmers and gardeners as Wild Buckwheat or Black Bindweed and it has so bad a reputation—which it lives up to—that it has a separate colored plate in the Dominion book of "Farm Weeds." Readers will recognize the plant when I say it has halber heart-shaped pointed leaves of a dark green color, and several twining stems springing from a tough rootstock and matting cereals, beans, peas and other plants, together in a way that impedes both their growth and their harvesting. The botanical name of this weed is Polygonum Convolvulus L. The genus is well represented in P.E.I. by eleven members already listed, and by the courtesy of Mr. Harold Messervy I am enabled to add the twelfth, Polygonum ciliolobum Michx., which Mr. Messervy found growing on the Brackley Point Road.

The Black Bindweed introduces this paragraph because it stands at the head of a small section of the Polygonums which have twining stems or as the botanist says "terraceous vines." Our new P. ciliolobum is next on the list, and Britton calls for it the popular name Fringed Black Bindweed. All the Polygonums have a membranous sheath (called an ocrea or ochrea) running round the stem where the leaf joints; in the present species has a fringe of reflexed bristles at the base of the ocrea. Otherwise, the plant is not nearly as coarse in appearance as our common Bindweed, nor does it give the trouble, since it confines itself to rocky places instead of to arable land. The leaves are heart-shaped and long pointed; wrinkled and of a light green. The stems are slightly woody and more inclined to stand erect than to twine. This is a very interesting find and it should encourage our botanists to be on the look out for additions to our list.

ONE REMEDY FOR BALKING

The other day I was watching a balky horse (when I might have been doing something better) and incidentally learned a new remedy for balking. When the animal had decided to go on with its work, a young fellow who had been watching it also, turned to me and said: "Did you hear how So-and-So cured his horse of balking?" "No," said I. "Well," said he, "he got two car batteries into his wagon and ran a wire from the positive terminal under the pad, and another wire from the negative terminal under the breeching. When the horse began to balk, he threw in the switch and gave it a shock. It soon got too scared to balk. There was no need to beat it."

Very ingenious: a trifle akin to electrocution! Another application of a similar character comes to mind. In the old days, the attendants in a circus or menagerie always had red hot irons in readiness to cow any animal that had lost its temper or attacked its trainer.

When electricity came into use as a means of lighting, the hot irons went into the discard. Iron rods connected to the lighting system by wires, and insulated along to the end, inspired a wholesome fear in the minds of the ill-tempered animals.

RHUBARB WINE

One day last week a recipe for making rhubarb wine was published in The Guardian. The ferment recommended was an ordinary yeast cake, and I recall to mind some experiments I once made in this respect. Probably the best of the "native" wines are those made from

Spinning and Weaving

Send me your wool to be spun into yarn and woven into Blankets. The charges are: Single yarn 23 cents, doubled 26 cents per pound. Blankets \$2.00 and if unlanded \$1.85. It takes five lbs. of wool per blanket. Wool must be well washed and all dirt and burrs picked out. The size of single yarn is medium and doubled yarn fine, medium and coarse. Put slippers name, address and owners name, address and instructions inside. Send by mail or freight. Freight will be paid on 100 lb. lots.

Wm. LANDRIGAN,
65 Queen Street,
Charlottetown.

CANADA'S POULTRY WEALTH

A report recently issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics estimates the number and value of farm poultry throughout Canada for the year 1931 as follows:

Kind	Number	Value
Hens and chickens	61,972,000	\$36,908,000
Turkeys	2,232,000	4,196,000
Geese	904,000	1,385,000

NEWSY NOTES

BY AGRICULTURA

CAN YOU SELECT GOOD VEGETABLES?

Some pointers in choosing the Best

Fresh string beans, sweet garden peas and field, ripened tomatoes, which are now reaching the market in quantity from Canada's own farms, should form an important part of the diet of every household. In addition to supplying quantities of the more important minerals used by the body, fresh vegetables are a rich source of health giving vitamins and the most appetizing and economical articles of diet available to the housewife at this time of year.

If she is to procure full value for her money, it is important that every woman should keep the following facts in mind when making her daily purchases.

String beans, either green or the butter variety should be young and tender. The finest quality are conspicuous for their long straight pods and meaty walls. If the pods are ribbed or swollen, they are old and past their prime and will prove to be tough and leathery. String beans should always be crisp enough to snap cleanly and evenly when bent.

Green garden peas, like beans, should be young and free of any bulging in the pod. It is easy to distinguish over mature peas by their thin, tough shells and white or silvery colour. Usually, long pods denote high quality. As in beans, the pods should be crisp and brittle.

Tomatoes, which are among the tenderest products of the farm, must be selected with great care. The best tomatoes are bright red in colour, globular or heart shaped, with smooth, glossy skins. When cut across or sliced, they should show thick meaty walls and well filled seed cavities. Mismatched, angular, ribbed or scarred tomatoes are a poor buy as there is a heavy waste which more than offsets the lower price you pay for them. For salad purposes, good tomatoes which average four or five to the pound are most economical.

ROMAN BRITAIN—2

The population of Britain, according to the Roman historians was divided up into an extraordinary number of tribes whose names have been handed down to us by the celebrated geographer Claudius Ptolemaeus. These tribes, though they had no national unity, fall into three natural divisions. On the south coast, and up to a line extending from Devonshire to the mouth of the Humber, were the descendants of settlers from Gaul (France) who had a higher civilization than the rest of the Britons and were extensively employed in cultivating the land. To the north of these were the descendants of the aboriginal Britons whom they had displaced and who had no fixed habitation, but wandered over the interior of the island, driving their little white cattle from pasture to pasture, and throwing up temporary places of security for themselves and their herds.

Round the lower valley of the Severn there were tribes variously thought to be of Basque origin or else the descendants of neolithic man: little dark people traces of whom exist in South Wales to this day. North Wales had its strain of tall, fair haired or red-haired people, with a more excitable temperament. "The Britons," say the Roman historians, "are tall of stature, and corpulent, but not well made," a description which might well fit the African tribes at the present day.

An outlying province like Britannia was very much at the mercy of its Roman governor. In general it was the policy of the Emperor's representative to keep the province tranquil and prosperous, and to tax the people lightly. But sometimes Rome itself was troubled by the accession of a worthless Emperor, and his appointees saw in their position an opportunity for plundering the hapless natives. In the time of Nero, when the license of the Imperial officers in the provinces was at its height, the avarice of the officials precipitated a catastrophe which cost them dear. This was the insurrection of the Iceni, which was promised as the subject of this paper.

This extensive and powerful tribe occupied the modern counties of Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridge, and Huntingdon, Ostrovia Scopolia had defeated them about the year A.D. 50, but they were warlike and only kept in obedience by fear, and consequently were harshly treated. Their King, Prasutagus, had amassed immense wealth, and attempted to secure protection for his family by leaving one-half of his riches to the emperor and the other half to his two daughters. This left nothing to gratify the cupidity of the Roman officers, who when he died in A.D. 61 seized his kingdom. His queen Boadicea (or Boudicca as the Romans spell it), a woman of high spirit, having resisted this spoliation, was seized and scourged, her two daughters were dishonored, and

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We learn from reference to literature that plant diseases have been known to man since the dawn of history. In the efforts to explain scourges which befell crops, possibly the nearest approach to accuracy was in attributing various forms of injury to climatic or weather conditions. There was more truth in this belief than in any of the countless evil influences to which were ascribed the diseases of cultivated plants; for just as climate is an important factor governing the existence and distribution of higher animals and plants, so is it important in the life of lower animals and plants recognized as plant pests. All notions regarding plant diseases were inspired by superstition rather than by scientific facts; yet it is to the credit of the ancient people that such deductions were based upon the observation that outbreaks of disease were accompanied by certain weather conditions. It was only in comparatively recent times that scientists discovered that certain micro-organisms were responsible for disease. Then, as the science of plant pathology grew, it was realized that in certain years some diseases were conspicuously severe and others very mild or perhaps entirely absent; and the direct, opposite occurred when different weather conditions prevailed.

In recent years weather and disease relationships have been the object of intensive research, constituting a problem which, although exceedingly important, is still in its infancy. The ultimate goal is a system of weather forecasting which will be sufficiently reliable to enable the plant pathologist to forestall outbreaks of plant diseases. Fruit growers, gardeners and farmers informed from this source would be able to take the necessary measures to prevent crop injury through disease outbreaks.

In the literature on this subject there are numerous references to the relationships between weather conditions and plant diseases. In Canada, at the various laboratories of the Division of Botany, some important advances have been made in the study of the factors which comprise "weather," the most important being recognized as temperature, humidity and precipitation, wind and light. For example primary infection with the fungus causing potato blight is dependent upon comparatively cool weather and once the disease has started to develop warm weather is essential for an epidemic; yet excessively hot weather arrests its progress. Powdery scab of potatoes is known to be a cool weather disease as it is common only during years that are cool and wet. Common scab on the other hand is a hot weather disease. As a result of carefully organized research, information of great value has been gathered throughout Canada in connection with stem rust of grain and, among other things, it would seem that the wind carries the rust spores into Canada from the more southerly wheat growing areas. Finally, with the aid of aeroplanes equipped with spore traps it was learned that rainy weather cleared the air of these spores, since only a very few spores were trapped in wet weather.—R. R. Huret, Dominion Experimental Station, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES PRIME FOR CANNING

Market Well-Supplied With Canada-Grown Produce

With the strawberry season past or passing, most Canadian housewives are turning their attention to the preserving of many other seasonal fresh fruits and vegetables for next winter. The market just now is well supplied with local Canadian raspberries, field ripened tomatoes, succulent beans and garden peas, at the moment in their prime for preserving purposes.

It is well in planning the preserving operations to remember that there is nothing magic in the process and that to have choice preserves next winter it is necessary to use only choice products now. Housewives would therefore be well advised to choose their fruits and vegetables for canning carefully. Only the strictly fresh, firm berries should be used and vegetables such as peas and beans should be young, crisp, and as tender as possible.

Many have found that the time required for preparing fresh vegetables for canning can be considerably reduced and the sterilization more effectively accomplished, by adding from one to two teaspoons of lemon juice to each pint of preserve. When the preserves are opened later it may be found that this process has imparted a slightly acid flavor but an eighth of a teaspoon of soda, added while the vegetables are being reheated will effectively neutralize this condition.

Preserves, both fruits and vegetables, must be stored in a dark, cool place; otherwise the colour may be partly bleached out, thus detracting from the appearance of the jars.

THE FARM POULTRY FLOCK

"Poultry is at last definitely recognized as one of the essential departments of every up-to-date farm where a program of mixed farming is carried on," states George Robertson, Assistant Dominion Poultry Husbandman. "Not only is it recognized as a necessary department of farm work but more and more farmers are coming to realize that for the capital invested and labour involved there are few if any departments that give as high returns. For the mixed farm, general purpose breeds such as the Plymouth Rocks, which are good both for laying and for the production of market poultry, are recommended. A flock of a hundred such birds carefully managed are returning to many a farmer a profit over cost of feed, of from \$200 to \$500 a year which is something not to be dissatisfied by even the most successful farmers."

KILL WEEDS WITH CHEMICALS

There are now many chemical weed killers on the market which have proved very successful in wiping out small plots of these pests and for cleaning up driveways and paths. For poison ivy, one application any time during the growing season has been effective, according to Professor J. E. Hewitt of the Ontario Agricultural College. Other weeds eliminated in this way are ox-eye daisy, bind weed, Canada thistle and most of those things like dandelions which make so many lawns unsightly.

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