

# OF INTEREST TO FARMERS

## VETERINARY INSPECTION OF EXPORT CATTLE

All cattle arriving at our larger stockyards, not accompanied by a clean bill-of-health, are placed in "uncertified" areas in such yards. It frequently happens, that no veterinary inspector is available at point of origin of cattle shipments and that, therefore, the needed veterinary certificate cannot be obtained. The skipper, therefore, cannot very well help himself.

But once cattle have been placed in the "uncertified" area of any stockyard, they forfeit absolutely all right to a clean bill-of-health for export purposes. The result is, that the owner must accept a substantial cut in the market value of such cattle. This seems to be unlimited, a somewhat severe regulation. We are jealous as to the health of our live stock. Overseas markets depend on a clean bill-of-health; but it would seem as if all useful purposes could be served without penalizing the stockman who happens to be located tributary to shipping point where no veterinary inspector is available.

Cattle prices to-day are quite sufficiently demoralized without adding any handicap due to our local preventive regulations.

## SOIL SURVEYS

From time to time the various governments are asked to make appropriations for soil surveys in the West. A reconnaissance investigation covering the physical features of our soils might be of some value although it would be largely built on guess-work. A chemical analysis would be exceedingly costly—a fact which is almost always a deterrent to the farmer. The fact of the matter is, that we have made no great strides scientifically in regard to soil chemistry. The chemist can tell what amount of ingredients the soil contains, but he cannot tell how much is soluble—that is, how much will be dissolved in the soil water—and this is the information the farmer desires to know. The Department of Agriculture at Washington aban-

doned the chemical analysis of the soil on this account some time ago.

The Virginia Department of Agriculture has handed out some good advice on this subject. It makes the assertion, that until we have the progress, the plant farmer how much of the elements of fertility in the soil dissolve in the soil water and becomes useful to vegetation. Almost all our soils contain potash and phosphoric acid, and of course most of them contain nitrogen. Sulphur is also present, and additions to this supply matter contains nitrogen, which is liberated as it decays. An acid called humic acid is formed from decaying vegetable matter and helps to dissolve the potash and phosphorus. All the clovers in Canada much and sweet clover, importance of green and stable manures. It is obvious that the farmer must study his soil for himself. It is no use relying on the oil chemist.

## WHEN HAS CORN MOST FEED VALUE

In every livestock centre where corn is grown for ensilage or to be cured alfalfa and other purposes, many farmers have conflicting ideas on the subject. Some think the tallest, stalkiest, green corn they can grow, while others put their bet on well matured corn—in full well ripened ears.

Well, here's the statement of the man who has watched the corn from planting to harvest; he has weighed it at different stages, and analysed it chemically to find out just how the supply of feed stacked up at different stages.

Purdue University grew 10,000 corn plants in an ordinary field, giving ordinary care. Samples were cut each week and studied. Practical Ontario livestock men know that corn supplies four kinds of feed:

Fibre, or bulk feed.  
Carbohydrates—starch, sugar, &c., that gives heat and energy, and builds up fat in the animal.  
Protein—that builds up flesh, muscle and milk.  
Fat—that acts like carbohydrates, producing fat in the animal.

These feeding materials in the crop, come from the soil and the air.

Nitrogen in the soil causes stalk and leaf growth, and builds up the protein of corn.

Phosphoric acid from the soil pushes forward root growth, and ripens the crop.

Potash in the soil causes the formation of carbohydrates, starch, sugar &c., in the corn plant.

So you see the quality of soil has a great deal to do with the quality of the feed.

Here is what the Purdue men discovered in the growing corn:

1. Every ingredient continues to increase uniformly in the plant until October 1st.

2. After the ear begins to form, the nitrogen (protein building) decreases quite rapidly in the stalk, but the nitrogen in the whole plant increases rapidly.

3. Corn has its greatest feed value at the time its ears are fairly hard, and the crop is ready to cut for the silo; (about September 30th in Ontario).

4. The study shows the importance of a continuous and abundant supply of available plant food for the growing crop; especially phosphoric acid and potash.

5. When supplied with sufficient water, the corn crop took up about the same amount of phosphoric acid, about 35 times as much nitrogen, and more than twice as much potash as authorities usually state the crop to contain.

HENRY G. BELL

## PLANTING

There is such a rush in the Spring to get seed sowing and planting done in good time that anything that can be accomplished in the Fall to lessen the work in the Spring should be done and particularly where Fall planting is preferable.

At the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, it has not been found satisfactory, taking one year with another, to plant trees of any kind in the Fall. Exposure to the long, cold winter beginning shortly after transplanting is not favorable to the trees. Any which will be below the snowline, however, have a much better chance, although in soils where there is danger of heaving, late Fall planting is unsafe.

When low-growing shrubs and herbaceous plants are planted in the Fall, which is good time, the sooner it is done the better after

the soil becomes moist enough to ensure their not dying from lack of moisture as, when set out early, the plants have a chance to take root before winter and in the case of herbaceous perennials to make some growth.

Raspberries, gooseberries, and currants may be planted successfully in September, and the advantage over Spring planting is that if any die they may be replaced in the Spring, whereas if planted in the Spring it is too late to replace them if they die and a season's growth is lost. If strawberries should be planted in September or before to ensure their rooting well and lessening danger from heaving.

As soon as bulbs can be purchased in the stores they should, if desired, be procured and planted at once as the longer time they have in the ground before winter the better the bloom is likely to be in the Spring. The bulbs referred to include tulips, narcissus, hyacinths, crocus, squills, and other hardy kinds.

The Fall is a good time to plant both rhubarb and asparagus. They may be planted with success any time between now and winter.

Usually there are good results from planting seeds of herbaceous perennials, trees, and shrubs in the Fall. The action of the frost, especially on tree and shrub seeds, makes germination easier. When seeds of perennials are planted in the Fall it is best to wait until just before winter sets in to make sure that the seed will not germinate before winter as if seed germinates a short time before winter the seedlings are liable to be killed. Seeds of trees and shrubs, however, and especially of fruits, should be planted as soon as ripe so as to prevent their becoming dry. Usually Fall planted seeds germinate very early in the Spring.—W. T. Macoun, Dominion Horticulturist.

## CANADIAN WHEAT WIZARD.

Sager Wheeler, "wheat wizard," whose improvements on growing methods have made millions of dollars for Canadian farmers, has had conferred upon him the degree of doctor of laws by Quebec's university, Kingston, Ont.

To wheat Wheeler, his friends say, is what Luther Burbank is to flowers.

Thousands visit his Saskatchewan farm yearly to study his growing methods. Although others have profited, he, it is said, has remained a comparatively poor man.

"You have added enormously to the wealth of Canada and every settler is a gainer by your researches," R. Bruce Taylor, president of Queen's university, said in conferring the degree. "What you have done can never be undone."

## CORN BEST SILAGE CROP WHERE IT CAN BE GROWN

Much interest is being taken both in Canada and the United States in the value of sunflowers as a silage crop, particularly in districts where corn is not a reliable crop. The claim is made that sunflowers are a harder crop to grow and withstand both drought and frost to a greater degree. Insofar as the claims put forth for sunflowers as a food for cattle are virtually of recent origin, experiments and investigation regarding them are practically in an introductory stage. It is interesting to note, however, that an analysis of sunflower silage fed at the Idaho agricultural experimental station indicated that it compared favorably with corn silage. In Canada also studies of the relative value of sunflowers and corn for silage purposes suggest that in nutrition there is not any great difference, although corn is to be preferred where it can be planted fully and easily grown. Where this is not the case, sunflowers are an excellent substitute.

## CLEARING OUT TUBERCULOSIS IN CATTLE

The accredited herd system put in operation two years ago by the Health of Animals Branch of the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa has been well received by the stockmen of the country. It is confined to pure bred cattle and is intended to rid as rapidly as possible the disease of tuberculosis from Canadian herds. Figures given out by the Veterinary Director General show that thirty-six herds had up to October 1, been fully accredited. The breeds represented are the

Shorthorn, Jersey, Short-horn, and Aberdeen Angus.

The accredited herds which have been tested once or more in process of accreditation, and 64 herds awaiting the first test, making a total of 648 herds. As the herds in this list fulfil the necessary conditions, they become fully accredited. The inspectors of the Health of Animals Branch are making as rapid progress as is possible under the circumstances, taking into consideration the limited number of men engaged in the work and the great importance of doing the testing carefully and accurately rather than rapidly.

The reactors are always removed from the herd at once and under veterinary supervision. Applications for tests have been coming in fasten than they could be dealt with. A waiting list has therefore been formed and as soon as circumstances permit the herds in this list will be tested, taking them as far as possible in the order in which applications have been received.

## TIMELY GARDEN PRACTICE

Now that the Fall rains are visiting many localities, potatoes which have ripened should be lifted without delay. Every tuber should be saved, as prices are likely to be higher than those of last winter. When thoroughly dry, the potatoes should be sorted and the edible tubers be stored in a cool, dark, frost-proof place in shallow boxes or bins.

Brussels sprouts will now grow nicely, that is the small cabbage-like growths will be filling out and there will be a temptation to do these as soon as of fair size.

Do not do so, rather allow them to remain until they are perfectly solid. They are especially desirable in early winter, after a few hard frosts, and will withstand temperatures almost to zero for a short while. This vegetable is one of the very few which may be used direct from the garden when the ground is deeply covered with snow.

## The Corn-Ear Worm.

The corn-ear worm, often confused with the European corn-ear, an entirely different creature, has during the past year worked havoc with corn in many localities; so has the corn ear proper. The corn-ear worm may be discovered in the apices of the ears, where it eats its way downwards and renders the ears valueless.

Care should be taken in every case to destroy the caterpillar. Often the ends of the ears attacked and containing the worm are simply cut off and thrown out into the garden, or upon the manure or compost heap; when such has been done it will pay the grower to collect and to burn these portions and so prevent infestation next year.

## Blanching Endive.

Endive is not very palatable unless blanched. This may be done by loosely tying the leaves together at the top, allowing room between for the heart to develop, when by inverting large flower pots over the plants, blanching takes place very rapidly and unless the pots are removed every two days or so for examination the plants may decay. It may be a few days or perhaps weeks before the late sown endive is ready to blanch. If so these remarks will be a reminder.

## Lettuce.

Any patches of late sown lettuce may be saved from early frosts, and be aided into growth by simply placing a garden frame or sashes over them, or if the plants are scattered they may be lifted after a shower with plenty of soil adhering to the roots and be transplanted closely together in rows, and the frame be placed over them in this position. At this time when grown under frame conditions they will be well for the grower to examine the plants and to remove any leaves which have been attacked by fungus.

## Bush Beans.

Many plots of bush beans are still unharvested, the plants should be pulled at once and be laid on a dry floor or be hung up by the roots until thrashing time. To allow the beans to remain out longer may result in loss as the rain will cause them to germinate in the pods, and to immediately decay.

Where beans are harvested in large quantities they should be thoroughly field dried before thrashing.

## Wire Worms.

Many plots have during the past

at least two days. Soak in clear water several hours before making pickle.

Prepare seasoning as follows: One half gallon good (cider) vinegar; two cups sugar (granulated or brown); two tablespoons black pepper; one half tablespoon cayenne; two tablespoons white mustard seed; one tablespoon celery seed; two tablespoons white root ginger; one tablespoon cloves; one half tablespoon mace, one tablespoon allspice; six or eight onions (small) and six or eight cloves of garlic, cut in slices.

Place all on the fire and heat thoroughly. After it has boiled about ten minutes put in stone jar, adding two tablespoons horseradish. Tie a cloth closely over jar, cover with a plate or lid, and let stand several days before using.

## HOME PRESERVED MEAT

The following is a recipe for beef hearts and tongues preserved together:

Boil the tongues until quite tender in salted water; remove them from the saucepan and skin. Boil the hearts also in salted water, until tender and then put both tongues and hearts together into a stone jar, and cover with spiced vinegar. To make this you add to one gallon of vinegar two tablespoons of ground cloves, two of allspice, two of cinnamon and two of mustard seed tied in a muslin rag.

Meat preserved in this way is very nice sliced off for sandwiches or for cutting with salad.

## Fried Meat with Raisins

1 teaspoon salt.  
5 cups boiling water  
1 cup corn meal  
1 cup chopped Sun Maid Raisins

Add salt to boiling water. Add cereal slowly, stirring constantly, and allow to boil 10 minutes. Cook in a double boiler. 1 hour. Add raisins 15 minutes before it is done. Pour into greased loaf pan and set aside until cold and firm. Cut into slices. Dress lightly with flour and brown in a small amount of hot melted fat in a frying pan. Serve plain or with syrup.

## Quince and Raisin Marmalade

6 cups quinces  
4 cups water  
3 cups sugar  
1 1/2 cups Sun Maid Raisins

Wash, remove the seeds and cut up enough quinces to make 6 cups. Cover with water and cook slowly until soft, about 1 hour. Rub

through a strainer. Add sugar and raisins and cook slowly until thick, about 15 minutes. Stir occasionally to prevent burning. Pour into sterilized glasses and seal to paraffine. This makes about 6 glasses.

## Raisin Pie

3/4 cup sugar.  
1/8 teaspoon salt.  
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/4 teaspoon clove

1 egg.  
1/2 cup molasses  
1/4 cup vinegar  
1 1/2 cup chopped Sun Maid Raisins.  
2 crackers rolled.

Mix equal parts of chopped raisins, chopped blanched almonds and orange marmalade. Spread between thin slices of bread which has been spread with creamed butter. Remove crusts and cut in fancy shapes.

## Raisin Sandwiches

Mix equal parts of chopped raisins, chopped blanched almonds and orange marmalade. Spread between thin slices of bread which has been spread with creamed butter. Remove crusts and cut in fancy shapes.

## PICKLING SEASON SUGGESTIONS

Stuffed and Pickled Green Peppers

Mince enough cold chicken or veal to make 1 cup and stir into it 2 tablespoons of minced ham and 1 of melted butter. Season to taste. Cut the stems green, so that they will stand upright. Cut off the tops of the peppers, remove the seeds and membrane and fill with the minced chicken and ham. Stand the peppers on end in a baking pan, pour over them a cup of chicken stock or hot water and bake an hour. (b) To make a quart of pickles, take about 4 good sized peppers balance with green tomatoes and cabbage all chopped fine; the tomatoes should be chopped, and a tablespoon of salt added, then let them stand twelve hours. Drain and add the peppers and cabbage. To the mixture add a heaping tablespoon each of whole cloves and cinnamon bark, 1/2 cup of sugar and 1/2 cup of vinegar as so enough water to cover the whole. Let come to a good boil and can, ready for use.

## Catsup Recipe, Large Quantity

Use two pecks of ripe tomatoes, 4 large onions, 6 sweet red peppers, or not more than 4 if they are the strong kind; 1 cup of sugar and 1 quart of vinegar. Wash the tomatoes, cut in pieces and cook long enough to become soft, then sift through a strainer or sieve to take out the seeds. Cook longer until the pulp begins to thicken, then add the onions, chopped fine or grated, also the peppers chopped fine, the sugar and vinegar. Cook until of the right consistency, then seal in bottles.

## Cucumber Pickles

Wash cucumber well and drop into brine, strong enough to float an egg. Leave cucumbers in brine

at least two days. Soak in clear water several hours before making pickle.

Prepare seasoning as follows: One half gallon good (cider) vinegar; two cups sugar (granulated or brown); two tablespoons black pepper; one half tablespoon cayenne; two tablespoons white mustard seed; one tablespoon celery seed; two tablespoons white root ginger; one tablespoon cloves; one half tablespoon mace, one tablespoon allspice; six or eight onions (small) and six or eight cloves of garlic, cut in slices.

Place all on the fire and heat thoroughly. After it has boiled about ten minutes put in stone jar, adding two tablespoons horseradish. Tie a cloth closely over jar, cover with a plate or lid, and let stand several days before using.

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