

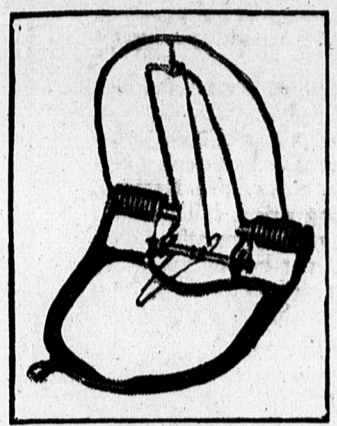
THE MAGAZINE GUARDIAN Teachers, Parents, Pupils, Farmers, Dairymen, Horsemen

REDUCING RAT DAMAGE

GUILLOTINE TRAP HAS PROVED THE BEST.

Where Food is Abundant It is Impossible to Clear Premises of All Rodents, But War Can Be Made Upon Them—Vienna Sausage or Fried Bacon Make Excellent Bait.

Owing to their cunning, it is not always easy to clear rats from premises by trapping; if food is abundant, it is impossible. A few adults refuse to enter the most innocent-looking trap. And yet trapping, if persistently followed, is one of the most effective ways of destroying the animals.



Guillotine Trap Made Entirely of Metal.

Probably those made entirely of metal are the best, as they are more durable. Traps with tin or sheet-iron metal bases are not recommended.

Guillotine traps of the type shown should be baited with small pieces of Vienna sausage or fried bacon. A small section of an ear of corn is an excellent bait if other grain is not present.

Other excellent baits for rats and mice are cornmeal, toasted cheese, toasted bread (buttered), fish, fish offal, fresh liver, raw meat, pine nuts, apples, carrots and corn, sunflower, squash or pumpkin seeds.

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KEEP THE CREAM COOL

SOME PRACTICAL HINTS TO DAIRY FARMERS.

Water is a Much Better Agent Than Air in Operating Cooling Tanks Because It Is a Better Conductor of Grades of Heat—How a Tank Can Be Made at Home.

After separation, cream should be placed immediately in cold water and stirred occasionally from the bottom with a stirring rod until the temperature is below 60 degrees Fahrenheit at least, and preferably below 50 degrees Fahrenheit.



Taking Temperature of Wash Water.

All water pumped for the stock passes through it. A spring or a stream of cold water is very satisfactory, because it performs the work continuously without attention.

Cooling tanks of various types may be obtained from dairy-supply houses or may be made on the farm. A satisfactory wooden tank may be made of two-inch planed cypress boards properly bolted together, painted on the outside and oiled on the inside.

Concrete makes a most serviceable tank which can be constructed by anyone accustomed to working with that material. A very simple and cheap cooling tank may be made also from two or more vinegar barrels—one for each cream can.

In order to afford protection from the heat, a cooling tank should have a tight cover and be placed in a tight house or under a shed, where it will be protected from the hot winds and direct rays of the sun.

Water does not flow continuously through the tank it may be advisable to insulate the tank, as an insulated tank uses less ice and requires less frequent changing of water than an ordinary one.

Valuing a Farmer's Time. The tendency to undervalue the farmers' time is confined to the south of the border.

CLEAN UP THE GROUND.

Danger Exists in the Refuse of the Crops.

The plant pathologists of the Experimental Farms inform us that of the many destructive plant diseases, none are more difficult to control than those living over in the soil.

As soon as crops are harvested, whether gathered in the field, garden or orchard, there is a danger of universal indifference and neglect on the part of some growers towards the condition in which the ground, trees or bushes are left.

When a sheaf is kicked out by the discharge arms it falls on a set of prongs attached to an arm which immediately carries it back over end in a half circle to the carriage. Here it is caught in a net and drawn to the needle of the binder, swings over and carries the end of the twine back to the knottor.

When several years ago, the late Joseph Goodfellow, of Barrie, declared that barberry carried rust to fall wheat in the south of Ontario.

More recently knowledge of the facts had reached Ohio. A bulletin, issued by Ohio Experiment station, states that evidence has come to light from recent investigations by botanists from the Ohio Station that the barberry is responsible for considerable loss in Ohio through wheat rust.

In southwestern Green County, a 20-acre field of wheat practically destroyed by stem rust was found by field men. On the same farm a barberry hedge severely rusted was located which was responsible for the rust getting into the wheat.

The temperature at which most vegetables should begin drying is 110 degrees to 120 degrees F. If the temperature is too high at first, the cuttings of the food become hard or scorched, covering the juicy interior so that it will not dry out.

There will, as a result of a cold wet September, be a lot of tomatoes that will fall to ripen. These need not be a total loss. Green tomatoes may be salted down in water-tight kegs and, as desired, made into tomato stew, stewed tomatoes, salad and pie, or converted into mince-meat and chutney.

One of the problems which confronts the average dairy farmer comes when there is a few feet depth of silage left in the bottom of the silo after the spring feeding is done.

An Annual Sweet Clover. A new annual sweet clover has been developed at the Iowa State College. This, planted in the field, made a growth of from four to four and one-half feet in three and one-half months' time.

TRACTORS MORE POPULAR.

Power Farming Has Already Proved Its Value.

Evidence of the growing popularity of tractors on farms is shown by reports made by more than sixty tractor owners, nine out of every ten reporting that their investment in a tractor had proved profitable.



Plowing Not Difficult Task for Farm Tractor.

less than 180 acres. The report of the investigators states that while the figures were obtained in only one province, they are applicable throughout the corn belt and that the prospective tractor purchaser may reasonably count upon equaling the average performances reported in the study.

Under disadvantages the difficulty of efficient operation was the principal point, and this fact should be kept in mind by everyone who considers the purchase of a tractor, says the bulletin.

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HARVESTING POTATOES.

Should Not Be Handled Except in Dry Weather.

One farm crop, the harvesting of which need not be hastened on account of frost danger, is potatoes, which can safely be left in the ground until the tops are killed by freezing.

Where the potatoes are intended for immediate consumption, the digging of a portion of the crop in wet weather is certain, but in no case should the product harvested under such conditions be offered for sale to any person likely to use them for winter storing.

In case the potato crop shows signs of late blight, it is more than ever desirable that it be left in the ground as late as possible, so that the disease tubers can be recognized and kept out of the cellar when harvesting finally takes place.

There is an exception to this late-digging rule with regard to potatoes, however, and it applies in the case of potatoes intended for seed purposes. It has been found that potatoes harvested a little on the green side give better results from planting than do those that have been allowed to attain full maturity.

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TOBACCO GROWERS.

Value of Fall Ploughing Has Been Tested.

Judging by the result of careful tests made during the last few years it appears as if the practice of fall manuring and ploughing tobacco land should become more general in Canada.

In the Province of Quebec it is obvious that there is hardly sufficient time from the end of the winter till transplanting time to allow a thorough preparation and manuring of the land.

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THE MARKETS

FARMERS' MARKET.

Table listing market prices for various agricultural products in Toronto, Nov. 4. Includes items like Hay, Straw, Eggs, Butter, etc.

WINNIPEG GRAIN MARKET.

Table listing market prices for grain in Winnipeg, Nov. 2. Includes items like Oats, Barley, etc.

CHICAGO GRAIN MARKET.

Table listing market prices for grain in Chicago, Nov. 4. Includes items like Corn, Wheat, etc.

CATTLE MARKETS.

UNION STOCK YARDS.

TORONTO, Nov. 4. Receipts of live stock of all kinds at the Union Yards for to-day's market consist, approximately, of 3500 cattle, 2500 sheep and lambs, 2000 hogs and about 200 calves.

EAST BUFFALO LIVE STOCK.

East Buffalo, Nov. 2.—Cattle, receipts 300; steady. Calves, receipts 100; \$1 lower, \$7 to \$18.50.

Austrian Flagship Sunk.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—The Austrian super-dreadnought, the Viribus Unitis, the flagship of the Austro-Hungarian fleet at the naval base of Pola, was torpedoed and sunk Friday morning by an Italian "Frigate" which succeeded in penetrating the mine-field at the entrance of the harbor.

A Vile Hun Plot.

LONDON, Nov. 4.—American troops occupying the village of St. Martin Riviere on the British front, found within the bell of the church a powerful bomb connected by wire with the monstrance on the high altar. The removal of the monstrance for benedictions must have caused the wreck of the church upon the kneeling worshippers in American ranks.

The Allied Bag.

PARIS, Nov. 4.—Since the great offensive began on the western front, on July 15 last, the Allied armies have captured 362,355 prisoners, including 7,990 officers, as well as 6,217 cannon, 88,522 machine guns and 3,967 mine-throwers.

Becomes a Republic.

BERNE, Nov. 4.—Count Karolyi, after obtaining a release from his oath of fealty to the Emperor, proclaimed a republic in Hungary, according to a despatch to the Bund from Vienna, quoting the Viennese newspaper Die Zeit.

Good Recovery in Saskatchewan.

The Provincial Department of Agriculture estimates that Saskatchewan's wheat crop at a little over ten bushels per acre, or 93 1/2 millions all told. While the crop is very much smaller than last year, the value is only five million dollars less than in 1917.