

FOR FARMERS' STOCK BREEDERS AND GARDENERS

NEWSY NOTES

BY AGROCOLA

ANOTHER NEW PLANT

On a recent trip to the west of the island, Mr. H. A. Messervy, the Surveyor, called my attention to a yellow Loosetrife that was growing in profusion on the banks of a roadside water-course. Mr. Messervy identified it as Lysimachia terrestris (L.) B. S. P., which is the same as L. fruticulosa, which is the popular name "Bull-bearing plant," since after the following period is over, it often bears elongated bulbs in the axils of the leaves. I took specimens home for further study, and am now able to confirm the identification and to place the find on record. The word Lysimachia comes from the Greek words meaning a release from strife, but their application is obscure.

In John MacSwain's list of the plants of P. E. Island, the Tufted Loosetrife, which is slightly different in its floral structure, I have not yet met with this plant.

ODDS AND ENDS

Pasteurize the Milk. The Maritime Farmer is exceedingly good this month, and contains a couple of articles to which I must call attention. On one or two occasions I have mentioned the bacterium called "Brucella abortus," which is responsible for contagious abortion in human beings. Now, says the magazine referred to, it is found that milk from infected cows is also responsible for the tissue-damaging brain inflammation known as encephalitis. This had not previously been expected. Several cases have been reported in which infantile fever was the cause of complications whereby the brain inflammation sometimes resulted in total blindness, severe double vision and staggering and in one case permanent injury to the auditory gland. The writer of the article had in mind the losses from encephalitis on fox farms, one of which last year, in my view it is much more serious for the humans, and may possibly explain those cases of nervous prostration which have been reported so familiarly. The only safe milk is pasteurized milk, and something which I preach, I always tell the milk for household use. It makes little differences to the table, moreover it keeps better in hot weather—an advantage not to be lightly passed over just at this season.

Plant Diseases. The other article, "Some Fundamental Causes of Plant Diseases," is from the pen of Dr. R. H. Hurst, of the Laboratory of Plant Pathology, Charlottetown. The definition of a plant disease as given in this informative article, is "a disturbance of structure or function which may affect a part or all of the plant, thereby threatening its life or lessening its economic value." A consideration of the annual agent, or agents, of such disturbance is briefly undertaken in terms well within the knowledge of the average man; and in the case of non-parasitic diseases certain remedial measures are touched upon. The writer would do well to present this article for reference.

An enjoyable trip. Through the kindness of Mr. Harold Messervy I recently had a trip to Black Banks, a remarkable peat formation bordering on Stephen's Cove, in Lot 11. I had long had the intention of visiting this area, like Nainian's in the poem of "Caracas," something always turned up to thwart my aims. Happening to mention this to my good friend, he once proposed that we go in company and a most enjoyable trip it was out to be. The island scenery was at its best, and besides there were many indications of growth of artistic taste which added much to the beauty of the landscape. As one travels westward, the character of the flora changes and plants which are scarce in my home county are abundant west of Summerside. At Black Banks (from four to five feet high) right out of the ground, on sealing the wall one sees a sort of plateau, several acres in extent, covered with a unique carpet of cranberry plants. The cloudy (rubus crameris), which the Labrador is called the Baked Apple, is abundant at this spot, and had not heard of it at any other place on the island. There was a number of a pretty purple orchid, Calopogon pulchellus or Grass-creeper, in full bloom; the little bell-shaped, another dainty orchid, which I had passed its blooming period, I saw in the plants. Crowberries, (Vaccinium), the Round-leaved Andew, Sphagnum Moss, and Andew, were the most common plants of the peat. On the shore near by were the Red-rocket (Carnic) Sea-side Ar-

row-grass (Triglochin) and the usual Beach Grass or Marram. Some magnificent Purple Beech was noticed growing in a garden at Kensington. This is a tree which deserves more extensive planting as an ornamental.

Bordeaux Powder. The powder known as "preparé Bordeaux," has already proved its worth in my garden. A group of ill-shaded signs of the botrytis disease, and it was necessary to act quickly, for this fungus is very destructive. Two heaped tablespoonsful of the powder in half a bucket of water made an effective spray mixture. It could not be prevented the plants attacked, but the disease and the spread of the disease the normal manner instead of being distorted. The Bordeaux was applied with an ordinary "bucket pump." The garden peas are again attacked by Septoria pisi, (a fungus disease) which causes the leaves to wither and dry up) and have this fungus sprayed, but it is too early to be reported on the success or otherwise of the operation.

Swallows at Black Banks. Seeing a number of Swallows busy on the shore, we went across to see what the attraction was. It proved to be a small watercourse of brick clay, just at the edge of the water. The Swallows had found it out, and were taking it away piecemeal to build their nests with. Afterwards we went to the barn where the innumerable little birds were constructed their mud-funnels under the eaves of the building. The "Cliff Swallows" which attach their nests to the face of cliffs, or under the eaves of barns, whence has arisen another popular name the "Swallow Swallows." They can be readily distinguished from the Barn Swallows by their square (not forked) tails, and the lighter color of the underparts.

GERALD THE WELSHMAN (4). Not less marvellous was the natural history of Wales in Gerald's day. Like other primitive races, the Ancient British inhabitants of the Principality set great store on stones: circles, monoliths, cromlechs, which were in the districts through which our hero travelled, were two miraculous stones whose doing he expatiates upon. Near St. David's was a stone a beautiful piece of marble, ten feet in length six in breadth, and one foot thick, that served as a bridge over the little river. The stone was called the Lechlavar, the talking stone; and the custom tradition said that at a time when a corpse was being carried over it to be interred at St. David's, it burst into speech and by the effort it cracked in the middle, which fissure was visible in Gerald's time. As a superstitious belief, superstitions, corpses were no longer brought over it.

Gerald heard of the other stone while visiting the Island of Mona, the modern Anglesey. "There is a stone here," he says, "resembling a man, and which possesses this innate virtue, that if a blast of wind is blown against it, it returns of its own accord, the following night, as has often been experienced by the inhabitants." Among other instances of its marvellous powers, it is related that Hugh Earl of Chester, distinguished Henry I, having by force occupied the island, heard of the stone and determined to test its power. Accordingly he ordered it to be fastened to larger stone by means of strong chains, and both thrown into the sea. On the following morning, according to his custom, it was found in its original position; so the Earl issued a public edict that it was to remain unmolested in future.

The beaver was fairly plentiful in the River Teivy in those days and greatly took Gerald's attention. They were not to be found anywhere else in the British Isles, except in an unnamed Scottish river, and were scarce there. The "Itinerarium" tells us a good deal about the habits of the castor or beaver, as the beaver is called but much of it is unsuitable for publication. Amongst other things, he says that the beaver, when he is in a strange country, he is very glibly glibly of hybrids between the dog and the ape, which the rustic keeper of the stables killed, to the great displeasure of his liege lord when he heard of it. Another hybrid between a stag and a cow, resembling the stag in horns, legs, and feet, skin and color, being otherwise like the cow. Gerald tells of many other like happenings which, if not true, are certainly not inventions.

Very few of Gerald's observations were concerned with birds; but he says something having to do with Archibald Baldwin in that the nightingale was never heard in this country (Wales) the prelate, with a significant smile, replied "The nightingale followed wise counsel!" The woodpecker, another bird called an aureolus (oriole) was a cow, and the falcon are briefly noticed.

There is a charm and a versatility about Gerald's "Itinerary" that causes one to return to it again and again. Geoffrey of Monmouth's History I found tiresome and prolix; besides, it required little condition to see that the history was mostly imaginary. Gerald's "Description of Kambria" is as diverting as the work I have just reviewed, and will be treated of next week in a final note.

CAPE TOWN.—(CP)—Here's concentration for you. A roofer here in the rough—played an excellent iron shot to the green and looking on discovered he had cut the head off an 18-inch snake.

BRADFORD, ENGLAND.—(CP)—Epileptic of his wet season and thirteenth in regard to the state of the ground. Bradford Northern, Rugby League club, showed a profit of more than \$5,000 at the end of the season.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

INJURIOUS INSECTS

Special Methods of Control of Bud-Moths

It sometimes happens that a combination of conditions favorable to the development of the bud moth unite to permit very serious outbreaks of the pest, that refuse to yield to the ordinary methods of insect control. It has been found under such conditions, that the use of special sprays or dusts, in any form or at any stage in the development, cannot be depended upon to check the outbreak. Experiments have indicated that the use of nicotine either spray or dust form is more effective when the spraying method is followed by the application of nicotine sulphate, in pint or more to 100 gals. of spray, applied when the bud tips are showing green and the first bud moths enter the buds, in numbers and larger proportion of caterpillars than do applications of the regular arsenical poisons, and on later applications of nicotine sulphate while the insect is in the caterpillar stage are of some, though lesser value.

If later in the season, in spite of methods adopted in the spring, bud-moth adults are numerous, either from partial failure to control the larvae or as the result of migration from other orchards, the adults may be destroyed by the use of the same material. The first application should be made when the insects first appear in number that is during the first or second week of July, followed by one or more applications at five to eight day intervals. It was discovered that an application of nicotine sulphate, in pint to 100 gals. put on August 1st, destroyed the larvae of this insect as they emerged even though the leaves were not all out at the time the application was made. Needless to say, the problem of covering the lower surface of the leaves in very large trees is a great obstacle to the successful application of this method.

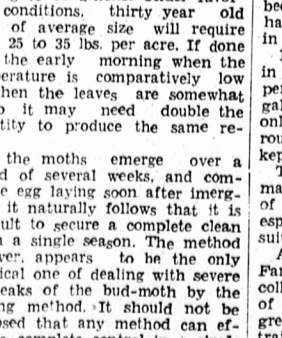
Where dependence is placed upon the dusting method, the application of nicotine dust at any time of satisfactory results. Light applications of standard nicotine dust against the adult applied at the same period as recommended for the spraying method, i. e. when the moths are flying was very effective in bringing down the moths. The dust must be done when the air is still and preferably when the leaves are quite dry. Evening dusting usually presents the best opportunities though advantage may be taken of any perfectly calm periods during the day, though it must be said that such periods are not to be depended upon. The adults will be found sheltering themselves about the lower part of the tree beneath the leaves and should the first blast of dust be directed towards the upper part of the tree there is a tendency for the moths to drop downward and escape. On the other hand it will be found that during the night, the moths are more evenly distributed throughout the tree and in night dusting if the first blast of the dust is directed towards the base of the tree there is a tendency for the moths to move upwards and escape. It will be clear therefore that if dusting is done during the day the first blast of dust should be aimed at the lower part of the tree, whereas at night the upper part should first be treated. In both cases dusting must be done before the moths have the time to direct their flight towards the ground about the tree in order that any moths dropping to the ground will drop into their destruction. The amount of dust to use will vary greatly according to conditions. Under favorable conditions, thirty year old trees of average size will require from 25 to 35 lbs. per acre. If done in the early morning when the temperature is comparatively low when the leaves are somewhat damp it may need double the quantity to produce the same results.

As the moths emerge over a period of several weeks, and commence egg laying soon after emergence, it naturally follows that it is difficult to secure a complete clean up in a single season. The method, however, appears to be the only practical one of dealing with severe outbreaks of the bud-moth by this dusting method. It should not be supposed that any method can effect a complete control in a single season.

AGRICULTURE

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SCANDIA No. 6 for large fox farms. SCANDIA No. 5 lighter than above without hand lever for small fox farms. Procureable from all Dealers. F. W. Lamplough & Co. Limited Montreal, Que.



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SILVER TIP BISCUIT CO. LTD. TRINITY HILL



WHAT IS HOME WITHOUT A GARDEN?

STOCKS GIVE SPICY SCENT IN EVENING

They Need Soil Lich in Lime. Work It Into Top Soil Now and Give Another Dose in a Month.

The garden filling the evening air with spicy fragrance makes a double appeal to the senses. A very handsome annual admirably adapted for flowering in the house which gives off a rich fragrance, particularly in the evening, is the ten-week stock.

Difficulty in growing stocks may be due to a lack of lime in the soil. When the stock bed gives thick bunches of vigorous foliage but no blossoms, lime is being demanded by the plant. Spade the ground thoroughly and when the stocks are set out give a good coating of hydrated lime and mix it into the top-soil. A sufficient quantity to whiten the soil like a light snowfall will do the trick. Give another dressing in a month or six weeks and the stocks will do their duty.

The dwarf German ten-week stock, the Bismarck and the newer column stocks are favorites. It is always best to grow some reserve plants for a small percentage are bound to come single and when poor plants appear they can be removed from the bed and suitable plants substituted from the reserve.

Do not be deterred by past failures.

Botanical Notes For July

One day in July is enough for memory to be enriched forever if only with the sight of summer flowers as seen in contrast with water, grass, foliage and sky.

Every day whatever of beauty is seen at its best by virtue of contrasting surroundings. A precious gem is seen to perfection only in its setting. At this season of the year a most restful lull in nature appears to follow the hills lie waiting to receive the shadows of the clouds that slip like birds from shoulder to shoulder. These clouds, like everything else, have a great richness this month, so proudly filled with white light that they quiver with intensity. Throwing paths of ghostly radiance on the water that is blue, here and there ruffled darkly like tarnished silver—a perfection of contrast, superbly exquisite.

The woods are in their prime, but before the end of the month—alas! there will be signs that Nature is on the wane. Several of the spruce and fir trees that had struggled after blossoming, soon after the influence of a hot sunshine; but not those fortunate ones which bloom later and are borne in marshy places, ponds and streams.

One of the most conspicuously beautiful of water-plants is the pickerel weed, which is a cause—it is said—that pickerel lay their eggs among the leaves. It is found growing from Nova Scotia to Ontario in mud, in the shallows of still waters. The bright beauty of its long spikes of blue-ringed flowers seen at a distance will perhaps suggest larkspur; close acquaintance, however, will soon reveal the difference.

Another lover of damp places is the gorgeous purple loosestrife, of European origin, with its brilliant spikes of large magenta flowers. A very attractive and beautiful plant as well as most interesting, because through Darwin's study it has assumed an important place in his theoretical origin of species.

In July, cultivated plant life is in its zenith or at the peak of its perfection. But here again this galaxy of bloom is seen at its best only by virtue of contrasting surroundings whether they be well-kept grass, fence, wall or hedge.

There is much to be seen and marvelled at in the introduction of choice new varieties of flowers and shrubs, seen against a suitably background or framework. At the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, there is the famous collection of hedges. Many species of trees, both deciduous and evergreen, also shrubs have been trained and clipped into row after row of infinitely trim hedges.

Great forest trees such as the pine, hemlock, larch, spruce, oak, beech, birch, elm and hornbeam are apparently all quite contented to be hedges in the merciful adjustment which Nature makes when they cannot be cured must be endured.

Flowering shrubs are flourishing in the form of lilac, dogwood, viburnum, caragana, spiraea, nine-bark, currant, honeysuckle and hydrangea, so are fruit trees, for the mulberry is also forced to bow to the topiarist's art. A veritable example of perfection in horticultural craftsmanship; some of them ten feet high—the result of many years' perseverance in the quest of a noble and living tribute to topology.

PETER'S LOSE PETERS

(By The Canadian Press) YEOVIL, England.—Owing to advancing age Sir Ernest Petter and P. W. Petter have retired from Petter's engineering works to be succeeded by A. P. Good and T. B. Kemp as chairman and managing director respectively.

THE AMERICAN FOX BREEDER

Charles E. Kellogg of the United States Bureau of Biological Survey, at a talk on the Minnesota Fox and Fur Breeder's Association summer school, reported figures showing that male silver fox pelts bring more money on the average than female pelts. Mr. Kellogg's figures were based on an analysis of one of the largest ranches in the United States. He stated that mature full silver males brought \$9.42, or 18 per cent. more than mature females in the same color phase. Pup males brought \$5 more than pup females. Another interesting observation was that on the ranch quoted 86 per cent. of the female pups run full silver, while only 55 per cent. of the male pups run full silver.

Mr. Kellogg believes that the fox game, who masters the art of polygamous mating is not easy and the breeder who practices it may suffer heartache, but it is the best method of quickly spreading desirable characteristics through a herd of foxes. Mink breeders who have made remarkable strides in breed improvement in a short time attribute this advancement to the judicious use of polygamous males.

The American Fur Breeder has a page of notes on the Western Fur Convention held at Winnipeg recently, in which among other items appear the following: "A distinguished guest was J. Walter Jones of Prince Edward Island. In case you don't know, J. Walter Jones wrote the world's first book on fur farming. It was called Fur Farming in Canada and was written in 1914. The book will be remembered by every pioneer fur breeder. I secured my copy in 1918 and keep it under lock and key. It is still a valuable text book...."

Dr. J. A. Allen presided over the Winnipeg meetings in fine style. The Doctor has an inimitable and humorous way of bringing out the little courtesies that help to make a meeting a success....

Winnipeg has both daylight saving and a long twilight. So twelve of us hied out to the Elmhurst Golf Links at 6:00 p.m. Friday and played until nearly 10:00 p.m. I never lived up to its reputation for being the worst left-handed golfer in the U.S. If there ever was a Sultan of Swat in golfing annals the honor should go to J. Walter Jones. He has broad shoulders and an unerring eye, and when he drives off that ball sure goes places...."

During the period January 1st to March 31st, 1937, United States dealers imported 17,114 silver fox skins valued at \$755,735. During the same period United States fur farmers exported a total of 4,538 silver fox skins valued at \$112,732. There is one instance in which we have taken more from Uncle Sam than he has received—the balance appears to be some \$640,000. Of course Norway got considerable of that amount....

Dr. E. Rendall Bowass, V.S., B.V.S.C., has been appointed to serve the fur farms of Ontario by the Department of Agriculture. He is a native of Summerside, where he served two years on the Laboratory staff with Dr. J. Cunningham. He is also an assistant veterinarian on the staff of one of Chicago's animal hospitals....

The Dominion Silver Fox Fur Sales Limited, Summerside, got a nice price for a skin belonging to B. L. MacDougall, Ellerslie—£25 15s, which works out in our coin to \$127.45. We quizzed Jack Wright about the pelt and he said it was a fox that won second prize at the Borden show last fall as a yearling, a full silver, right to the ears, large, heavily furred. "What on earth," we asked "did Mr. MacDougall pelt a fox like that for?" "He didn't intentionally," said Jack, "it died in February," but it sired sixteen pups!....

P. J. Drolet, well known fur merchant of 211 St. Paul's Street West, Montreal, died in hospital in that city last Saturday. He had recently undergone a serious operation and did not have sufficient recuperative strength to survive the ordeal. Mr. Drolet will be remembered by local silver fox men as one of the judges at the Montreal Fox Exhibition of 1920, and again at the Royal Winter Fair in 1922 and for several years afterwards. He was a very honorable man and highly regarded by everyone who had dealings with him. Many fox ranchers here forwarded shipments of pelts to him which were always disposed of to the best possible advantage. He was a personal friend and associate judge of Mr. Chester S. McIure at several shows. Mr. McIure and other friends and acquaintances are deeply grieved at his death....

At last after repeated requests, I have received some notes from B. Graham Rogers, Summerside. Graham for years was one of the most prolific writers on fox topics in the whole fox world but he needed some persuasion to get him printed again. I hope now that he has started he will be a regular contributor. This is a hint also to the dozens of other fox ranchers throughout the province who

TIMELY NOTES ON TOPICS CONNECTED WITH Silver Fox Farming

Charles E. Kellogg of the United States Bureau of Biological Survey, at a talk on the Minnesota Fox and Fur Breeder's Association summer school, reported figures showing that male silver fox pelts bring more money on the average than female pelts.

Regarding the feeding of Hake I visited a ranch the other day containing approximately 250 foxes young and old. The old foxes are being fed the same way as the young foxes, each morning 100 pounds of fresh hake is mixed in the feed seven days a week, the balance consists of some tripe, wheat-meal, hexite with some milk. The pups in this ranch were large for this time of the year. They have very straight legs, and in general were of a very healthy appearance. The hake has mixed in the latter part of May. There has been no trouble up to date with bloating of pups, or any other causes.

A large rancher with over 200 pups is feeding the old fashioned Bannock exclusively as the cereal portion of the ration. Some years ago this particular rancher was noted for his clear color, and at that time the old fashioned Bannock was the only cereal used. He says the only danger he knows of is in the cooking, it must be thoroughly cooked right through. He finds the cost of the Bannock to be somewhat less than most of the commercial preparations on the market. It is made daily in order to prevent any danger of mould.

A small rancher on the North side of the island last year was very hard up for money with which to buy feed for his foxes. He however, had quite a number of potatoes left over not suitable for shipping, and he cooked these potatoes and mixed them with some bread, and every day went to the shore and dug clams for his foxes. Sometimes these clams were fed raw, but mostly he steamed them, mixed his potatoes and bread with the clams and the juice. Many of his feeds were simply steamed clams.

Last fall this man sold in Summerside two of his pup pelts for \$62.50 each and these two pelts were not quite half silvers, the color was very sharp and clear and the depth and man did not feed any meat until the end of December and the result was that in 1937 he had a poor production of young ones. However, the thing is the very cheap way in which he fed and got by with it, whether this can be done permanently or not is another question.

During the month of June when we had so much wet weather it was quite evident that the ranchers who had wire bottom pens had their foxes under much more sanitary conditions than those who had their foxes on board floors with straw. Several ranchers have told us that at times the straw looked fairly dry on top but when it was turned over the underneath part was found to be very wet. Several ranchers who have wire bottom pens put straw on the wire bottoms and placed pups in these pens at three weeks of age with decidedly good results. Apparently the use of wire bottom pens is going to grow at a very rapid rate.

Mr. Mat C. Gallant of Abram's Village, who has been in the lobster business for many years at the Richmond Bay and Egmont Bay found at times during the past season on the North side the catches were very small. Being of an industrious turn of mind he thought of the idea of canning

herring for fox feed to sell at around a price of 5c per pound canned. They should be an excellent thing to mix with the feed during the winter months. Ranchers who have tried them out find that foxes are very fond of them. Next year we understand Mr. Gallant plans on canning a very much larger quantity.

A number of ranchers this year have been using extensive quantities of sweet buttermilk with very good success. This is a product that might be used much more generally were it not for the fact that many ranchers seem to be frightened of it. It would be greatly appreciated if ranchers who are using buttermilk would write to Editor, Timely Notes, Charlottetown, Guardian, Charlottetown, giving the results of their experiences.

This year it would be a fine thing if some ranchers would conduct an experiment on the feeding of hake during the fall months. There seems to be some doubt still whether hake fed during September, October, November, and December would cause any off-color, or bear that some ranchers go by with it all right last year but experiments so far conducted do not seem to be absolutely conclusive on this point as yet.

In conversation with a well known rancher the other morning, he says, "Any fool can raise foxes until September 1st, but it is the wise man that can get them along from then to January 1st with good color." It is coming to the time now when color must be given the utmost consideration by each and every rancher and if someone can only tell us how to feed our foxes after September 1st in order to have sharp colored pelts it would mean a tremendous sum of money. Several ranchers have told us within the past few days that it is their intention to keep their pups thin after the first of October and then start giving them lots of good meat. It seems that this system of feeding worked out satisfactorily eight or ten years ago, whether it will do the same now we don't know but it does sound reasonable. Many who think that from the 15th of July up to the first of October, but it seems to us that it depends considerably on the periods of hot weather.

Here is a suggestion for watering foxes in the fall months, which sounds good. A certain rancher found that his foxes were not drinking enough last fall, partly due to the fact that the water was freezing in the pans so quickly. He devised the idea of soaking some red meat in the drinking water, this put some blood in the water and he found that when he watered the foxes that this was drunk up almost immediately. He feels confident the added amount of water he gave them last fall helped them materially.

Silver Tip FOX CUBES and BREADMEAT CANNOT BE BEATEN FOR QUALITY SOLD BY Dillon & Spillett Charlottetown

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