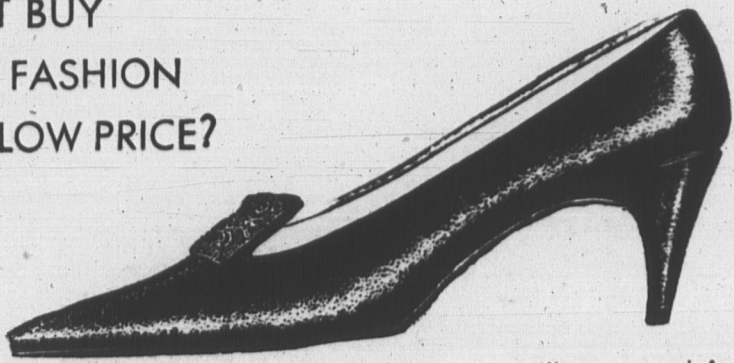


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FACTS FOR FARMERS



Fall Liming Permits Time For Neutralizing Acidity

By A. W. HUMPHREY
Soil Analyst
P.E.I. Dept. Of Agriculture

In the Maritimes our soils are very acid to extremely acid due to the high amount of rainfall which has severely leached the soils. The acid nature of these soils limits the number of crops that can be grown successfully, and also decreases the efficiency of applied commercial fertilizer. Soil acidity is therefore a major limitation to crop production, unless corrected by liming.

The term "sour" and "sweet" have long been used to indicate relative degrees of soil acidity. These terms, however, are indefinite; they fail to indicate satisfactorily the degrees of acidity. Today it is customary to refer to soils termed "sour" as acid soils and to "sweet" as neutral or alkaline soils. The degree of acidity is expressed as pH levels.

WHEN TO LIME

Lime may be applied any time during the year when it is convenient to work it into the soil. For immediate response and maximum yields, lime should be thoroughly mixed with the soil before the crop is seeded. The most efficient practice would be to plough the field, apply lime and work in, preferably in the fall in order to permit time for the lime to neutralize the soil acidity.

Fall liming is also favored by such factors as: (1) inability to use heavy equipment on wet fields in the spring and (2) the immediate availability of lime from dealer in the fall versus the spring.

BULK SPREADING

In recent years a number of bulk limestone spreaders have been doing custom work in the province. The owners of the ones that we are aware of are as follows:

J. Smith, Millview; G. Lawton, Pownal; S. Nicholson, Belfast; D. Wood, Kensington; B. Wood, Brudenell; W. Nunn, Oyster Bed Bridge.

The price range of limestone spread on fields is from \$7 to \$8 per ton. This price may vary slightly depending on the amount applied per acre, type of limestone, etc. If you are interested in having limestone spread by one of these machines contact the persons listed above. Bulk spreading appears to be a very cheap and efficient way of getting limestone spread on fields. The only problem that has been mentioned is the possibility of wind drift when using bulk spreaders and this can be controlled by use of the machines when only light wind is blowing or on calm days.

LIMING SOD LAND

Lime applied on surface sod penetrates very slowly and requires many years to cover the acidity to a depth equivalent to plough depth. In view of this, light applications of lime applied frequently are preferable to a heavy rate at one time.

MAIN TYPES OF LIME

Lime is normally applied in the Maritimes as a calcic limestone (calcium carbonate) or a dolomitic limestone (calcium and magnesium carbonate).

A pure calcic limestone has a neutralizing value of 100 while a pure dolomitic limestone has a neutralizing value of 109. The higher the neutralizing value, the more efficient the limestone will be for neutralizing soil acidity.

Dolomitic limestone contains both calcium and magnesium carbonate, both of which are necessary in our soil for optimum plant growth. If a plant is low in calcium, its growth may be adversely affected. Animals that eat plants without calcium may in turn suffer from calcium deficiency. Magnesium is an essential component of chlorophyll—the green coloring matter in plants. It is also necessary for animal life. The use of dolomitic limestone will prevent deficiencies of both calcium and magnesium.

HOW MUCH LIME IS REQUIRED

Although soil testing is but a guide to the kind and amount of fertilizer and lime the soil requires it is the best method available for making this determination.

The soil test however is only as good as the care taken in extremely important that representative samples be obtained—this could be achieved by taking 20 to 30 borings from a field—mix them thoroughly in a clean pail and fill the soil sample box with this mixture.

The fall of the year is the recommended time for taking soil samples—soil sample boxes and crop history forms are available,

free of charge, by writing The Soil Advisory Laboratory, Experimental Farm, Charlottetown P.E.I.

The soil probe, if properly used, takes the "work" out of soil sampling, and is a guarantee that you will obtain a satisfactory representative soil sample. The soil probes are now available at cost (which is five dollars) and may be obtained from either The Brookville Dolomitic Lime Co., Brookville, N.B., The Soil Advisory Laboratory, Experimental Farm, Charlottetown, P.E.I. or The Department of Agriculture Office, Summerside.

When a field has been properly limed, a few years may elapse before another application is needed. The soil needs replenishment of lime from time to time. Soil requirements in respect to quantities of lime is best determined by chemical tests. This is as true of land that has to be re-limed as it is of that to be limed for the first time. Without such tests, it is possible to apply too much lime as too little and this could be harmful and uneconomic.

OVERLIMING

Using more lime than the soil needs may be wasteful and may cause yield deductions. Excessive limestone applications on certain soils may be accompanied by a marked reduction in availability of such nutrients elements, as boron, manganese,

'Equality' Plea Covers All French

By CLAUDE HENAUULT
QUEBEC (CP) — Premier Daniel Johnson said that when he asks for "equality or independence," he does not want this for Quebec only but for all French-speaking Canadians.

Questioned before a cabinet session, Mr. Johnson said the French-Canadian nation is not restricted by geography and extends beyond the province.

He is, therefore, misinterpreted, when reports are published in which it is said he is asking for the equality of Quebec with the rest of Canada, he said.

What is sought "is the independence of the French-Canadian nation, of which Quebec is the hearth, the point of support."

Mr. Johnson did not say how he intended to overcome the geographic problems of granting nationhood of independence to French-speaking Canadians outside of Quebec.

IS HE SPOKESMAN

Asked whether he had the authority to speak for French-speaking Canadians outside the province, Mr. Johnson replied: "It is true we do not have a mandate to speak in the name of the minorities. It is, however, necessary to create a new dimension when we speak of the problems of French-Canadian and the French-Canadian minorities living outside Quebec are this dimension."

Mr. Johnson said that government services, which he did not name, now are conducting an inquiry among the French-speaking minorities. The inquiry was a type of opinion poll on the province's stand of equality or independence.

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given to all Motor Carriers operating into the United States to attend a meeting to be held in the National Film Board Theatre, Charlottetown at 2 P.M. WEDNESDAY, the 28th day of SEPTEMBER 1966.

Present at this meeting will be Mr. Robert Abore, Regional Manager, and Mr. Donald G. Weller, District Supervisor of the Interstate Commerce Commission to advise all who are presently operating into the United States or are interested in extending their operations into the United States on new regulations and requirements of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

All operators presently operating into the United States must attend this meeting. All operators interested in extending their operations to the United States should attend.



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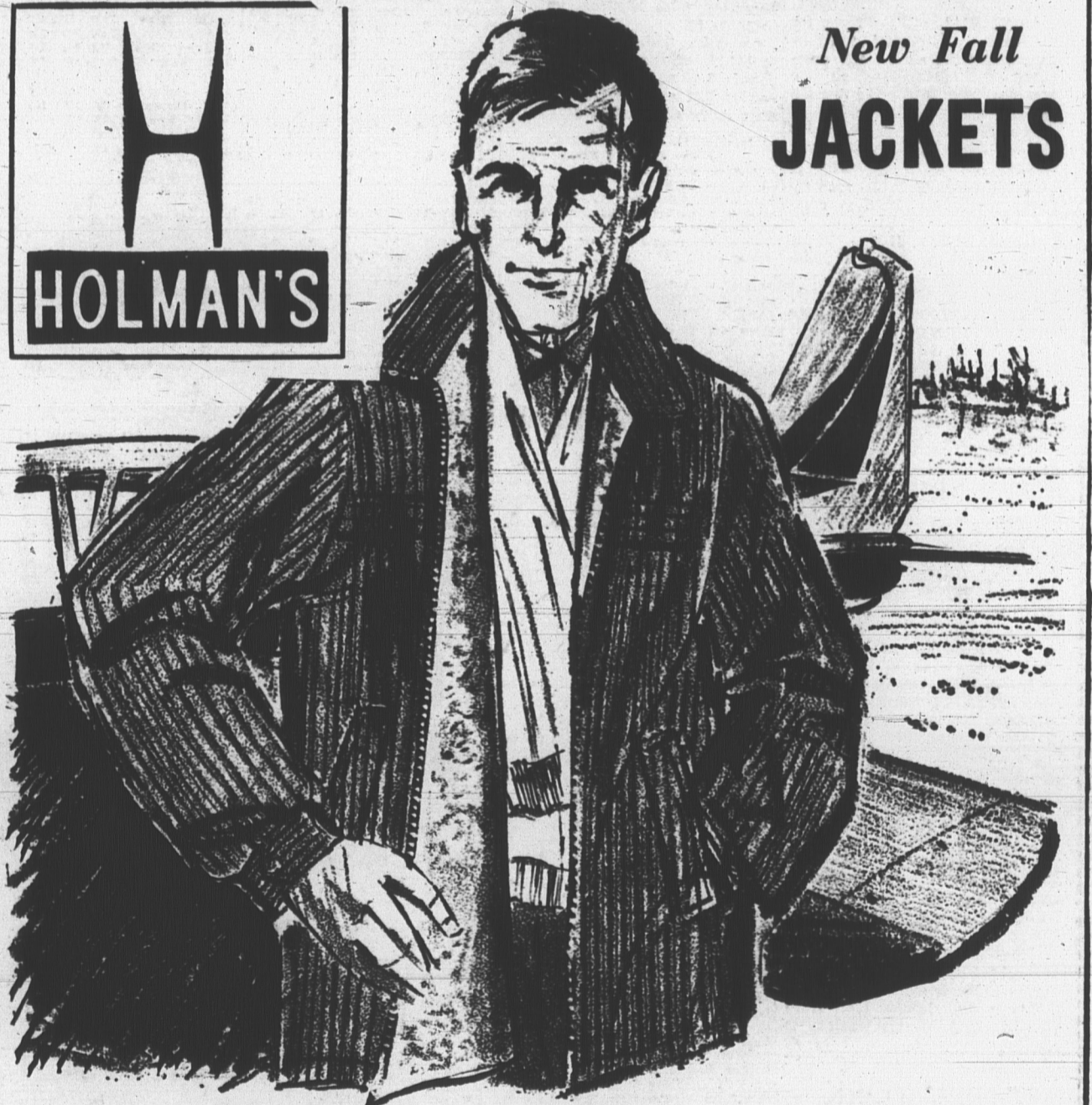
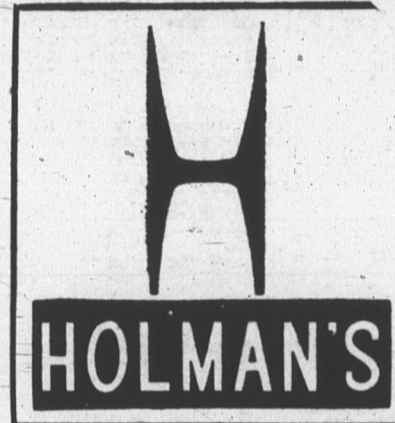
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