

## Wide Recognition Accorded Top Breeder, Island Hogs

Prince Edward Island Yorkshires have won national and international recognition as the ideal bacon type and one of the breeders who has contributed to this high standing proudly displays a coronation medal and certificate awarded him for having contributed the most toward the promotion of the breed in Canada.

The award was made on the recommendation of the Canadian Swine Breeders during their annual meeting at Saskatoon in 1958.

Although living in semi-retirement, Mr. Boswall who has been attending exhibitions since he was seven years of age is still a familiar figure at the annual provincial exhibition where his four sons still carry on the father's tradition of raising purebred Yorkshires.

**GRANTED ESTATE**  
The Boswall family, formerly Boswell, trace their ancestry to the time of William the Conqueror. One of the earliest members of the family was in William's army and fought against King Harold at the Battle of Hastings. King William granted the early Boswall an estate in Scotland and from the eleventh century on, the family adopted a Scottish heritage and changed the spelling of the name to Boswall.

Almon Boswall's grandfather

was a medical doctor and emigrated to Prince Edward Island during the early part of the 19th century. He carried on a practice at Bethel. His son, Albert was the father of Almon.

**PREMIER BREEDER**  
Almon's father specialized in Hackney horses and in the days when the equine species predominated at agricultural fairs, his steeds were invariably among the top prize winners.

It was about 35 years ago that Almon decided to go into swine breeding in real earnest. He had experimented for some years with the Berkshire and Tamworth breeds but his purchase of a

high class Yorkshire boar from Quebec really started him on the road to becoming Canada's premier Yorkshire breeder.

Looking back over the past 35 years Mr. Boswall believes that there "is a dollar in raising pigs". He does not depend entirely on his market hogs. As a matter of fact his biggest income comes from his breeding stock which has been shipped to all parts of central and western Canada and to the United States.

Swine is not the only phase of operation with which the veteran Dunstaffnage breeder is concerned. He has a fine flock of North Country Cheviots and his sheep and those of his sons have taken honours at many fairs throughout the Maritimes and at the Royal Winter Fair.

Poultry too has been one of the things which the Boswalls have specialized in and in this field they have been equally successful.

Willingness to work hard and

to get plenty of thought into it, is the motto which Almon Boswall has kept before him. With this motto most successful farmers will agree.

**LAMB WHIPS FOX**  
LONDON (CP) — A pet lamb fought off a raiding fox at a farm near this Cornwall town. The fox was trying to carry away a turkey. The farmer, awakened by the noise, saw the fox driven off through a gate.

## Cranberry Experiments Rewarding

(By G.C. Warren)  
(Experimental Farm)

Cranberries are native to Prince Edward Island and thrive along almost the entire coastline. Until recently, however, little attempt was made to establish new stands or improve existing ones and losses from insect damage and frost have sometimes been heavy. The fields now in production are chiefly on upland soil and the annual production runs into many tons. This crop responds to proper care and management and yields comparable to those of bog culture are possible.

Experiments with both native and cultivated varieties, over a period of eight years, have shown that the cheapest way to establish new stands is to disc chopped vines into ground prepared as for grain. Soils with a high sand content are the most satisfactory, but other types of soil may be fitted for production if sand is applied to the surface to facilitate rooting and prevent baking. The soils presently being worked with have a Ph of 5.4.

Once the vines are established fertilizer may be used, but complete fertilizers, while improving stands, also induce the growth of undesirable grasses and clovers. Ammonium sulphate has the same effect on vine growth and grasses but the growth of clovers is discouraged.

Varsol (Stoddard's Solvent) is a safe herbicide for cranberries and good weed control has been obtained at rates between 200 and 300 gallons per acre. This oil, however, is not effective for the control of many herbaceous perennials and hardwoods. A newer herbicide, amino triazole, has been found superior to varsol in most respects and is not injurious to cranberry vines if applied at the recommended rates.

Various methods of rehabilitating old stands are also being studied, but this work has not progressed to the point that any recommendations can be made.

Early frost damage to fruit, while not a factor to date in our Blooming Point plots, is occasionally serious but could be entirely eliminated by the installation of overhead irrigation. The variety, Early Black, usually ripens before frost injury occurs, but this selection is not as productive as our native varieties.

**ALBERT BOSWALL**, son of Almon Boswall, herds one of his pure bred Yorkshire sows and her little pigs into the barn at Dunstaffnage. These little sucklings have the prospect of forming part of a shipment of choice breeding stock within a few months. If they are not chosen for this purpose they will be marketed as grade A hogs for which the Boswall farm over the years has become famous.

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**Study Seeks Better Oats**

BY J.D.E. STERLING (Cereal Breeding)

The oat crop is the most important cereal grain produced on Prince Edward Island. Approximately 150,000 acres are grown annually in pure or mixed stands.

There are two oat production problems which affect virtually every grower in the Province. Septoria disease of oats attacks all fields to some extent since spores of the organism are widespread and all varieties of cultivated oats are susceptible. The second problem, lodging, is influenced greatly by precipitation, winds and fertility practices. Early seeding at rates not exceeding three bushels per acre, and the moderate use of nitrogenous fertilizers offer some measure of lodging control.

Cerealists at the Experimental Farm, Charlottetown, are giving major attention to these two important problems. Oat varieties from all parts of the world are being evaluated for their reactions to both lodging and Septoria disease. Several good parental stocks have been located for use in the breeding of lodging resistant varieties and several hybrid lines show considerable promise. High resistance to Septoria has been difficult to locate, primarily due perhaps to the absence of satisfactory testing techniques. However, through the combined efforts of cereal breeders and pathologists in Eastern Canada, improvements are being made in methods of testing breeding stocks.

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