Soils and Crops

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A Breeder's Problem.

There are many who do not believe very strongly in a careful, scientific breeding. There are many scrub cows that are enormous producers, both in quality and quantity, of milk. Then there are many pure-bred cows that are poor producers. A case has come to our notice of a pure-bred cow which produced about twelve thousand pounds of milk in a year, mated with a sire whose dam produced eleven thousand pounds in a year, and the result was a daughter which was capable of producing less than six thousand pounds of milk in a year. It is because of occurrences like this that some dairy farmers look with some suspicion on scientific breeding of dairy cows.

The principle of atavism, which is breeding back to some ancestor, is well shown in this case. This principle is frequently in the breeding of cattle, but in the breeding of all other animals. In such cases the sire and dam that bred back should never again mated. It may be that the fault was not entirely in either but in the combination of both. The intelligent breeder will see to it that the sire he uses is sound to the core.

[illegible] century, they are certainly beyond the experimental stage. They have brought success to agriculturists in every country. Most farmers who have tried their silos unpredjudiced have not told them nightly. Others made some serious mistake in their construction before building our silo we had [illegible] cows; yet, to provide ample [illegible] for them, winter and summer [illegible] years ago [illegible] something a bit like: "Now we have 20 cows, it is easier to provide feed for them than it was to provide for the other ten. Besides, our silage cows are in better condition, look better, and produced a higher grade of milk. For the last two years every cow has produced on the average [illegible] pounds of butter per year. This year, we have ascertained, has cost ten cents a pound less to produce butter coming from cows not fed silage.

Comparing figures with one of our neighbors who has no silo, we find that of our cows cost us, per year, $13 to feed than his. We are also able to produce beef $2 cheaper per hundred pounds than he can. Figuring at this rate, we came to the conclusion that the silo earned last year, at least, $[illegible]. Moreover we saved much of our hay, giving the cattle a share of the grass, when not [illegible]. I believe that the silo has paid enough to build a new one every for the last four or five years.

[illegible] when the corn crop has failed, we have made good silage out of clover, oats, or rye. We have had this with success even [illegible] but mostly we feed it during the latter part of summer, after the pastures fail out. In fall, again we fill the silo with corn, and if the season is favorable we fill it later with [illegible] taken from stocks in the field. The stalks are soaked with water [illegible] and make good [illegible]

[illegible] for manure. The cattle need [illegible] dry up and [illegible] silage in summer, we have had as much pasture land as we have [illegible] before. A piece of [illegible] silage crops will produce five or six times as much feed as will a pasture of equal size.

[illegible] needed a silo. Without one it is [illegible] to do a profitable dairy business. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the poultry house.

Smothering Out Quack Grass On My Farm.

It seems to me I have never seen the treatment for quack grass which I have been practicing for some time with gratifying results, mentioned in any farm paper. I do not use the spring-tooth, and have observed that the farmers who do use it have plenty of quack grass.

For several years I have been following the practice of always going the same way over the quack with wheel or disk harrow, smoothing harrow or cultivator where there is quack. Go the same way in the row when cultivating every time. The idea is to keep crowding it under and covering it. If one goes the opposite way in the row alternately, it just puts the quack in good growing condition.

I prefer the disks to be dull, so as to not cut the roots when disking, because the more you cut the roots the more quack you have. Sometimes quack is hard to pull, and at other times it pulls easily. One should watch and take advantage of it when it is weak.

Ivory-backed or ebony brushes can be quickly cleaned by rubbing dry bran into them and shaking them well to remove the grain afterwards. Lots of people dislike using water and ammonia because they believe it injures the backs of the brushes.

Potatoes

at 36 cents per bushel

THE cost items of Mr. Jos. Loughlin's potatoes, Dundas Co., totalled $5[illegible].50 per acre. In[illegible] $15.00 for fertilizers.

[illegible]ized Potatoes yielded 285 [illegible] per acre.

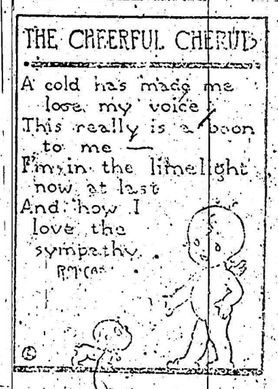
Unfertilized Potatoes yielded 50 bus. per acre.

At his rate of gain, what would YOUR potatoes have yielded?

Did you use Fertilizers?
He Did

Write for our free Potato Bulletin

Soil and Crop Improvement Bureau
Of the Canadian Fertilizer Association
1111 Temple Bldg., Toronto, Ont.
50A



Farm Meat for Farm Tables.

We have discovered in our neighborhood a plan for providing a nutritious and comparatively inexpensive supply for our tables. I know many who raise calves but who rarely kill a beef because they feel they cannot afford it. But they are among those who waste a great deal of what to the packer is valuable by-product—namely, the hides, tallow, feet, hair, and horns.

Let me tell you how we manage. Our poultry and pork are home-grown, killed and prepared.

For our beef, mutton, and veal we aim to co-operate with at least three neighbors, and each one of this group of four families butches one animal every four weeks, that means one beef and three sheep a year.

A suitable butcher shed was prepared where the work is done, and provision is made for saving all the good meat every part of the carcass. The bones below the knee and hocks of the feet are used the same as bones of fowl. The heads are used for soup, the hides are tanned, the hair is used for plaster, the horns are made into combs, buttons, etc. Even the hoofs are used for glue. The tallow is used for soap, candles, and greasing purposes. The blood is used for fertilizer, and the entire contents of the animal's stomach is used for fertilizer. The entrails are used for sausage casings. Which reminds me that the sausage meat may be transformed into many delicacies. Which reminds me of the delicacy of the hoofs, or feet, as food. The feet are used for jellied meat, and