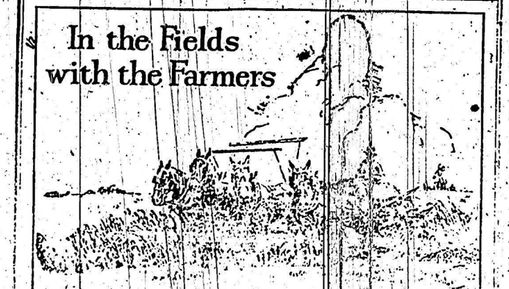

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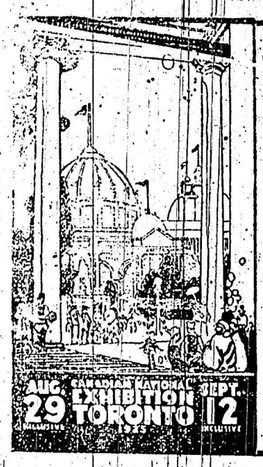

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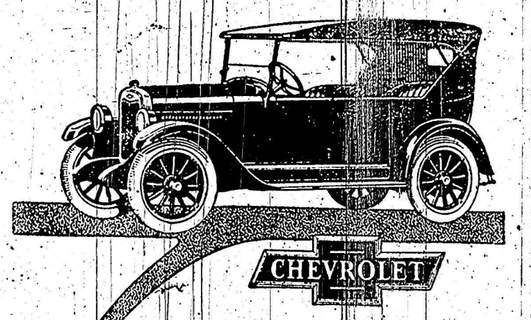

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QUALITY AT LOW COST

GETTING BEST BY TEST

FARM CROP EXPERIMENTS CONDUCTED BY DR. ZAVITZ

List of the Varieties to Be Tested This Year and Directions for Those Who Would Co-operate In This Work—Good Seed.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

The Ontario Agricultural College has been particularly fortunate in originating, through hybridization and selection, the highest yielding varieties of several of the farm crops of Ontario as shown by results of experiments at the College and over the Province. Leading varieties of other crops have been secured locally or through importation. Some of the new and interesting crops are: Field Cabbage; Sudan Grass, Rye Buckwheat, Hubam Sweet Clover, Golden Nugget Corn, Sorghum, Perfect Model Swede Turnips, etc. The following list indicates the material available for the co-operative experiments for 1925:—

Number.	Crops	Plots.
1	Three varieties of Oats	3
2	O.A.C. No. 21 Barley and Emmer	2
3	Two varieties of Hulless Barley	2
4	Three varieties of Spring Wheat	3
5	Two varieties of Fall Wheat	2
6	Three varieties of Field Peas	3
7	Two varieties of Spring Rye	2
8	Three varieties of Soy, Soja, or Japanese Beans	3
9	Eight varieties of Flint and Dent Husking Corn	8
10	Three varieties of Mangels	3
11	Two varieties of Sugar Mangels	2
12	Three varieties of Swedish Turnips	3
13	Two varieties of Fall Turnips	2
14	Two varieties of Carrots	2
15	The planting of Corn at six distances in the row	6
16	Sudan Grass and two varieties of Millet	3
17	Sunflowers, Sorghum and Corn for Fodder	3
18	Grass Peas, Vetches and Soy Beans	3
19	Rape, Kale and Field Cabbage	3
20	Two varieties of Biennial Sweet Clover	2
21	Two varieties of Alfalfa	2
22	Hubam, Biennial White and Biennial Yellow Sweet Clover	3
23	Three varieties of Field Beans	3
24	Sweet Corn for table use from different dates of planting	3
25	Low and High Grade Fertilizers and Manure with Oats and Red Clover	4
26	Different quantities of Lime with Sweet Clover	4
29	Three grain mixtures for Grain production	3
30	Three grain mixtures for Fodder production	3
31	Hubam Sweet Clover at the rate of one pound and four pounds per acre in rows for seed production	2
32	O.A.C. No. 72 Oats, at three dates of seeding	3
33	O.A.C. No. 3 Oats at three dates of seeding	3
34	O.A.C. No. 85 Spring Wheat, at three dates of seeding	3
35	O.A.C. No. 211 Soy Beans, sown broadcast and in rows	3
36	Perfect Model Swede Turnips, thinned at three distances in the rows	3

Any person in Ontario who grows field crops may apply for any one of the experiments for 1925. Each applicant should make a second choice, as the material for the first choice might be exhausted before the application is received. The material will be forwarded in the order in which the applications are received while the supply lasts. No charge is made for the experimental material, and the produce becomes the property of the experimenter. A report is required after harvest. Each person applying should carefully write his Name, Address and County. All mail should be addressed to the Agricultural College, Guelph, Ont. Requires full page.—Issued by the Dept. of Extension, O. A. College.

At Lambing Time.

Cleanliness and gentle treatment are two important things to keep in mind at this particular time. The hand and arm of the attendant should be first washed adding a little disinfectant such as carbolic acid or one of the coal tar dips to the water, then smeared with vaseline or linseed oil, and the hand gently inserted into the vagina. The object should be to ascertain whether or not the lamb is coming in the proper position, that is head and front feet first. If the presentations appear normal then it is a question of aiding delivery by gently pulling on the front feet of the lamb. At such times the insertion passage of the ewe should be well lubricated with linseed oil which tends to soften the vagina and allow it to stretch. Unless the case is a very severe one it will usually yield to this treatment. Under conditions where the lamb is not coming in the proper position, then the case is a much more difficult one to handle. The lamb may be coming front feet first with the head turned back, or again the hind end may come first, in any case it will be necessary to correct the position of the lamb; it requires considerable patience and very gentle handling to do this in order to prevent injury to both lamb and mother. When the lamb has been put in the right position, the ewe may be able to deliver it herself, but if weak and unable to do so help may be given. A lump of pure hog's lard inserted into the womb of the ewe after difficult parturition will be very beneficial in healing it in case it has been injured in any way. If she is weak and exhausted give a stimulant to revive her. If the case has been a severe one it might be advisable to flush the ewe for two or three days by means of a rubber tube attached to a funnel using some coal tar disinfectant or boracic acid in warm water.

Use of Marl.

Marl is a good form of lime for the soil that needs lime. Two to three tons per acre of air-dried marl will not be too much. Broadcast on the ploughed land and harrow in. It is always best, however, to have marl sampled and analyzed before using. Marl, on air-drying it, readily crumbles, falling into a more or less fine powder which is easily distributed on the land.

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SAVE THE GIRDLED TREES

MICE DO DESTRUCTIVE WORK UNDER THE SNOW.

Bridge Graft to Save the Tree—Also a Word or Two About the Rotation of Crops.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

The field mouse is the most destructive rodent orchard pest that we have to contend with in Ontario. With the passing of the snow each spring the girdling work of Mr. Mouse is brought to light, and many a tree owner gets quite a shock when he sees destruction, where everything promised so well at the beginning of the winter. Hundreds of trees die each year, many of which might be saved if a little timely work was done to enable the tree to make repair and carry on.

The effect of mouse injury in girdling is to destroy or restrict the downward circulation of elaborated foodstuffs to the roots. The problem is therefore to re-establish the bark connection immediately, either by means of bridge grafting or inarching. Earliness in treatment is without doubt the most important factor in determining success or failure.

Bark Regeneration.

Trees injured by mice will sometimes make recovery without treatment, providing that the injury is limited and does not completely encircle the tree. These minor cases can be assisted by coating the injured are with warm grafting wax or asphaltum paint, these protect the wound and encourage the regeneration of bark.

Bridge Grafting.

Where the injury completely encircles the trunk the problem is to re-establish the bark connection by bridge grafting. This can be accomplished successfully providing that the bark both above and below the injury is sound. Shoots or scions ¼ to ⅜-inch in diameter should be selected and cut slightly longer than the distance to bridge. These shoots or scions should be bevelled at each end with both bevelled surfaces on the same side. The bevelling should be long to give a wedge-shaped end that is thin enough to insert easily. The scion is set by making an inverted T-shaped cut above the injury at the point where it is desired to insert, and a similar T-shaped cut is made below. The ends of the scion are slipped into the incisions and it forms a slight arch. It is held in place with a small brad driven through and into the wood of the tree. If the wood of the scion is brittle drill a small hole in each end of the scion to avoid splitting. The scions are set 1½ to 3 inches apart, according to size of tree. After insertion, all surfaces of attachment and the body of the scions should be coated with warm grafting wax to prevent drying. Further protection against extremes of temperature can be provided by mounding up soil around the tree to cover the bridged area, until union takes place. Remove this soil covering in six weeks. Burlap, or old sacking can be wrapped loosely over the bridging for the same protective service.

Shoot Bridging.

Should strong shoots of suitable size exist, attached below the injured area, such may be shortened and the free end inserted above the injury.

The subject of grafting is fully treated in the bulletin on Orchard Grafting published by the Ontario Department of Agriculture. If interested a postcard will bring it to you. Try and save all injured trees—there is a way to do it. Don't let the field mouse beat you out. Repair your injured trees by the practice of tree surgery this time, but next time provide protectors. The mouse can not eat wire netting.—L. Stevenson, Dept. of Extension, O. A. College.

Mustard is a Rubber Bold.

Iron sulphate or copperas can be successfully used to destroy mustard in standing grain without injury to the crop, so says Prof. J. E. Howitt of the O. A. College.

Preparation of Solution.

A 20 per cent. solution should be applied. This can be prepared by dissolving 80 pounds of iron sulphate in 40 gallons of water, or 10 pounds of copper sulphate to 40 gallons of water.

The solution should be strained through a cheesecloth as it is put into the spray pump tank. This will remove the dirt and small particles that are apt to clog the nozzles.

Time to Apply.

Apply on a calm day just as soon as the first few plants in the fields show flowers. It is very important to spray early. If the plants are left too long the treatment is not nearly so effective. If a heavy rain comes within 24 hours after the solution is applied it will be necessary to spray again.

How to Apply the Solution.

An ordinary hand pump barrel sprayer, such as is employed to spray fruit trees, may be used, or a potato sprayer can be used to do the work. Care must be taken to see that each mustard plant is covered with the solution in the form of a fine spray. The work must be thoroughly done and at the right time.

Chickweed.

Chickweed is a very troublesome weed in moist or sandy places. Some seasons it is much worse than others as climatic conditions favor its growth or otherwise. Constant hoeing will keep it in check, and hand weeding is also often necessary.

Sweet Peas and Pansies.

If well-rotted manure is thoroughly mixed with the soil, sweet peas and pansies may be planted in same place each year.

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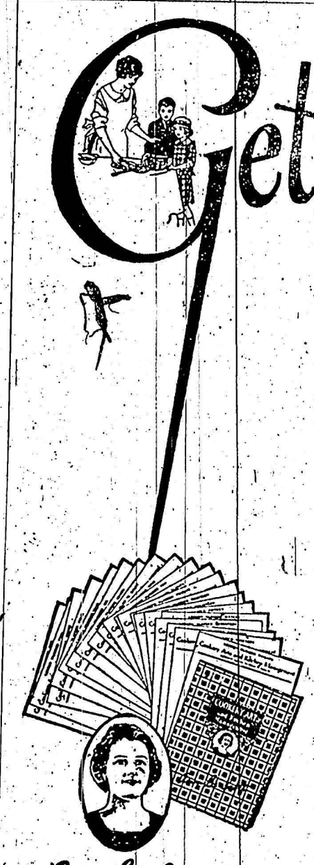

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