

News and Information FOR THE BUSY FARMER

[Furnished by the Ontario Department of Agriculture]

Insect Damage

With a few important exceptions, insects have been somewhat less injurious during August than usual. The codling moth has been the most destructive pest this year so far and increased greatly during August as a result of the continued warm weather which led to a large second brood. The European corn borer survey which is now under way indicates that the borers are going to be more numerous this year than at any time during the last four or five years, the season having been favorable to them in most counties. Cabbage worms have increased greatly in number and where no spraying or dusting has been carried out, they have played havoc with the foliage and heads of cabbage and also cauliflower. Complaints have been received of severe injury in Middlesex to turnip foliage.

Record Tobacco Crop

The tobacco crop in Ontario improved to a very marked degree during the month of August with the result that total production is now estimated at a much higher figure than appeared probable on the first of August. The flue-cured crop will amount to at least 50,000,000 pounds. There has also been improvement in the burley crop which is estimated at slightly more than 7,000,000 pounds. The dark tobacco crop will possible yield a total of 2,500,000 pounds. Total production of tobacco in Ontario this year will therefore reach the record figure of 60,000,000 pounds, as compared with 35,500,000 pounds in 1936 and 48,492,220 pounds in 1935. All crops were harvested at an early date this year. The flue-cured crop has very good color this year and is of particularly good quality. The burley is also of very good quality. There is every likelihood of a heavy demand for Ontario's burley and flue-cured tobacco. The export market is particularly promising.

Current Crop Report

The average yield of spring grains for the Province will be considerably higher than in 1936 when extreme drought conditions reduced the crop but still somewhat below normal. The Counties bordering the St. Lawrence and some districts in Northern Ontario, particularly Algonia and Manitoulin, report yields considerably below average and large supplies will have to be purchased for winter feeding purposes. The quality of spring grain varies greatly. In Central Ontario, and particularly the southern part of South Western Ontario, large quantities of grain were damaged by frequent heavy rains which blackened the grain and straw and caused sprouting. Considerable grain was put into the barns or threshed in a wet condition and much spring grain will be only of feeding quality. The yield per acre of hay and clover this year is estimated above average in Ontario but extremely low in most districts of Northern Ontario.

August was favorable for the development of late potatoes, roots and corn for fodder. Corn for husking however, which is chiefly grown in Essex and Kent Counties, was damaged by excessive rains in mid-summer and the average yield will be for below normal. The yield of dry beans is estimated at 17.0 bus. as compared with 13.2 bus. in 1936, and a long term average of 16.1 bus. Tree fruits now being harvested are of good quality and later varieties are sizing well. Tomato crop prospects were reduced by dry weather at a critical period and production will be considerably below expectations.

U.S. Livestock Market

Live stock market and feed situation conditions in the United States indicate that feeding commercial live stock, unfavorable to producers during the past grain marketing year, is now definitely favorable. Since the harvesting of the 1937 grain crop, feed grain prices have declined and live stock prices have shown vast improvement. Advances in the prices of beef cattle and hogs

during June, July and August have brought the hog-corn and the beef-corn price ratios to a level which is above that for the early part of the year.

Large supplies of feed grain are in prospect and, with prices of live stock and live stock products higher than in some recent years, it is highly probable that feeding ratios will be quite favorable during 1938. This being the case, a material expansion in most lines of live stock production may be anticipated. The outlook for the consumption of all classes of live stock products is quite favorable and a continuation of relatively high prices is to be expected, during the next few months. There may possibly be some consumer reaction to present levels, but live stock numbers are moderate and the impact of consumer reaction will thus be lightened.

Increases in the volume of feed available and a more moderate volume of total live stock holdings indicate that animal units will be fed to heavier weights, particularly in the case of cattle and hogs.

Authorities at Washington indicate that despite some decline in the number of cattle on farms since the beginning of the year the volume placed on feed during the present autumn will probably be much larger than the volume of a year ago. The high price of beef cattle during the summer months has resulted in favorable returns to most of the producers selling at that time, and this has stimulated inquiry.

Toronto Competition

Fred R. Kernaghan, R.R. No. 3, Colborne, won first prize in the Toronto Field Crop Competition sponsored by the Cramah Agricultural Society in co-operation with the Ontario Department of Agriculture, in which 19 growers between Grafton and Brighton competed.

The complete list of prize winners follows:

1. Fred R. Kernaghan, R.R. 3, Colborne.
2. F. L. McDonald, Dundonald.
3. Kenneth Mutton, Dundonald.
4. W. H. Turpin, Grafton.
5. Gordon E. Dunnett, Colborne, R.R. No. 2.
6. Elmo McLaughlin, Colborne.
7. Frank Osborne, Colborne, R.R. No. 3.
8. Wm. Brown, Colborne.

Mr. Kernaghan's tomatoes were of the John Baer variety grown on a clover sod plowed and worked in the fall, manured during the winter, plowed again in the spring and fertilized with 2-16-6 fertilizer at the rate of 500 pounds per acre, part of which was placed under the plants and part applied with a funnel as a top dressing. The soil was a light clay loam.

Mr. McDonald's second prize tomato plot followed peas, fall plowed twice, manured in the spring and fertilized with 2-12-6 at 500 pounds per acre placed on the cross and turned under. The plot consisted of 1-3 Scarlet Dawn and 2-3 John Baer.

Varieties included in the 8 prize winning plots are John Baer, Penn State, Scarlet Dawn, Baltimore and Geneva John Baer, with the John Baer variety predominating.

All plots were visited twice by Earl Mighton, O.A.C., Guelph, who acted as judge.

EAST BERKELEY

Mr. and Mrs. James. Oliver and Mrs. Wm. Findlay of Meaford and Mr. John Findlay of Barrie were recent visitors with Mr. and Mrs. H. Connell.

Threshing is completed having been done by Mr. Geo. Caswell of Berkeley and Mr. Dixon of Walters Falls.

Brad Jamieson was in our vicinity recently.

Mr. Wm. Johnston has been sick and we hope he is soon able to be around again.

Autumn has come. "Blossoms of spring were fair; roses of summer bright, but my wild flowers are radiant with gold."

SHOP IN MARKDALE.

EBENEZER

Mr. and Mrs. Dalgleish of Oshawa; Mrs. Thompson and son Harold of Harkaway were visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Taylor.

Mrs. H. Hutchinson and Franklin spent a day with Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Wright of Barrhead.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Sewell of Vande-leur were visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Freeman.

Recent visitors at the Taylor home were: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Brown of Feversham; Mr. and Mrs. A. Hawken of Flesherton; Mr. and Mrs. K. Almond and Mr. Dinsmore of Clarksburg, and Mrs. Wm. Swanton and Minnie of Cheesewille

TRAVERSTON

Prospects are good for a fine crop of potatoes. Fall wheat is slow in showing up, so far, this season. We saw a humming bird a few days ago, perhaps we'll have some growing weather later on.

Miss Clara Jack of Ayton spent the week-end at the parental home. Mrs. Thos. Timmins is feeling much better the past week.

Gordon Paylor is employed by R. T. Cook at present, while he is assisting Lorne McNally to build a new home for Mr. Gibson of Mulock.

This vicinity is being canvassed this week for fruit, vegetables and clothing to send to the drought area in Saskatchewan.

The Scott and Metcalfe families of town were guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Peart on Sunday.

John Flinn of Toronto, who has spent the summer holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Ritchie, returned to his home and studies on Sunday afternoon. His cousin, Mr. Will Robson, motored up for him. John has been most helpful at social events and in the Y.P.S.

Mr. Alex. Sim of Holstein has travelled this summer from his home village to Cape Breton and back, then with three other companions

motored to Vancouver, coming home through the Northern States. On Sunday evening he gave a most interesting and instructive talk in Zion.

Outsiders say that Zion has the best kept rural cemetery for many miles around. The lawn mower was kept going over it every week in the early part of the season, but of late the wild carrot has sprung up. Hence a bee was held last Wednesday afternoon and some pulled, others mowed, raked and carted away. Now it is a pleasure to look at.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Atkinson and family attended Zion's Rally Day service on Sunday afternoon and

spent the evening at the Edwards homestead.

A very happy event and one of wide interest was the union of Miss Kathleen, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Murphy of the 9th Con., and Mr. James Vasey Jr. of Dornoch, who were wed in St. Joseph's Church, Toronto, Saturday morning, Sept. 18th. Nuptial Mass was celebrated by Father Vincent Morrison, S.J., a former schoolmate and near neighbor. Her sister, Miss Marguerite, accompanied her to the city. We have no particulars, but the whole community unite in wishing this most highly esteemed and talented bride and her husband all the joys and best successes in life.

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