

Agricultural Group Tours Halton To See Weed Control Methods

On Wednesday of last week, we had the privilege of taking in a tour planned and conducted by County Weed Inspector Vernon McArthur. It provided an excellent opportunity for the members of the Agricultural Committee of the Halton County Council to get a picture of some of the problems and accomplishments in Weed Control work.

Frankly, we got a bit of a lift because when one sees here and there, fields of Wild Carrot, with no apparent effort being made to control it, we were beginning to wonder.

Inspection Visit
True, we know of quite a goodly number of farms where it is difficult to find a weed in flower as a matter of fact, we accompanied Judge Norman Bird earlier in the week when he was making his third and final inspection visit to the 21 competitors in the Pasture Program competition sponsored by the Halton Crop Improvement Association and we were on a number of farms where it is difficult to find a weed.

Those who think that weeds can't be controlled and are tempted to say "What's the use?" should visit a farm down near Tansley, on the Dundas Highway.

No Weeds on Farm
On this 100-acre farm, there isn't a weed to be seen. The operator took off 6,000 bales of hay this year. His property including the passageway is filled to capacity, and downstair in one wing of the stable is a box stall which must be at least 10 feet square, filled with more grain to a height of five or six feet and there was ample pasture for the milking herd every time we called there this past summer.

And yet many of us say a 100-acre farm is too small. That 100-acre farm is producing as much as many 200-acre farms. However, to get back to the tour with the Agricultural Committee.

Control on Roads
We saw a good job of weed control being done on the county roads.

Expect Many Entries For Plowing Match
Reports reaching F. A. Lashley, secretary-manager of the Ontario Plowmen's Association, are to the effect that preparations for the forthcoming International Plowing Match, to be held at Crystal, October 7 to 10, are well underway. Advance applications for space indicate that the number of exhibits and demonstrations will be large.

Already the Farmstead Improvement Competition has had considerable effect in the district with farm homes taking on a new look. Winners of the competitions will be announced during the plowing match.

Canadian Contest
More than usual interest is being taken this year in the Canadian Championship Plowing Contest which will be held on October 9th in conjunction with the International.

Winners of this match will represent Canada at the World Plowing Match at Coleraine, Northern Ireland. Rules and program for the "Canadian National" have been prepared and are in the course of being distributed.

Indications are that the number of contestants in both the International and the Canadian Championship will be high this year.

List Plans for Halton County Plowing Match

Halton's so-called "Little International" is scheduled for the Martin Van den Boom farm, on the Given Road, east of Milton on Saturday, October 25. Status president Leonard Laster of the Halton Plowmen's Association.

The wants of the plowboys and spectators at noon will be looked after by the Bethel Church W. A., while the Scotch Block W. I. will cater for the evening banquet in the Agricultural Hall at the Milton Fair Grounds. Here, Rev. G. L. Royal, of Notval, is to be the special speaker.

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roads and yes, most of the township roads were in pretty fair shape too. We saw what Georgetown is doing in attempting to control weeds in their newly annexed areas.

Over near Eden Mills, we met deputy reeve Benjamin of Brampton, who showed and told us what they are doing to eradicate Common Barberry and Buckhorn. The first plants for stem and crown roots of grain.

Down near Bronte, we had a short stop around the Citra Service of refiners and saw and heard of their plans to control weeds and beautify their property.

Visit Works Department
On our first county weed inspector McArthur pointed out areas where the owners had taken care of their weeds by chemicals or cutting. Perhaps the highlight of the tour was a visit to the Trafalgar Works Department, where road

superintendent Jack Orr demonstrated some of his new township equipment.

As he demonstrated the Mott Hammer Knife, vice-president Brock Harris of the Crop Improvement Association stated, "You know that's a machine which two farmers could own and use profitably."

Chow Weeds
This rotary machine appears to chew up weeds and brush with the greatest of ease. It is being utilized by Trafalgar to take care of weed areas in the new subdivisions.

Then we saw their new weed spraying outfit. It does a multiplicity of jobs and appears to do them all equally well.

All of our rural municipalities and also some of the urban ones too are to be commended for the leadership they are giving to weed control.

HALTON COUNTY WEED CONTROL NEWS
by
V. E. McARTHUR, COUNTY WEED INSPECTOR

Can You Recognize Common Barberry?
In July an article entitled "Destroy Common Barberry" appeared in this column. Since then we have learned that very few residents can recognize this harmful shrub. It would appear that the plant is quite scarce in Halton, but since the Department of Agriculture considers it to be a serious hazard to grain production, every precaution should be taken to prevent it from spreading. Therefore it is important that at least all farmers learn to recognize Common Barberry.

The majority of us are quite familiar with the harmless variety commonly used as an ornamental shrub in lawns and hedges. In many respects the two varieties are similar but there are several distinct differences. The harmful species grows higher and resembles

Honeysuckle or Bridal Wreath. Close examination reveals the leaves are larger, lighter green in color, have saw-toothed edges and the underside is almost a greyish green. Short sharp thorns or spines appear on the branches of Common Barberry, usually in groups of three, especially on the new growth.

This is a good time of year to look around your property as it may be spotted by its drooping clusters of bright red along hedges. There is also a purple leaf variety on the noxious list, having the same characteristics. It too plays host to stem rust of grain and leaf rust of oats.

Your assistance in locating and reporting the presence of Common Barberry will be appreciated since we are anxious to eradicate any of these shrubs found in the county.

"I'll never drive again as long as I live!"

That's the vow Fred Smith took when he learned the youngster he had run over had died as a result of the injuries. Fred's conscience was tortured by the feeling that a child had died as a result of his actions. He tore up his driver's license, and has never been behind the wheel of a car since.

There's only one way to avoid Fred Smith's nightmare situation. That's always to watch for children on the road.

Your Ontario Department of Transport urges you to support the current Child Safety campaign.

365 Day Records
When one considers that all records in D.H.I.A. are 365 day records, and that in each herd are a number of two and three year olds, these herd averages are very, very good.

In the same D.H.I.A. report it is interesting to note the results of an analytical study made between cows which are natural service daughters of known sires and heifers and cows which are the result of artificial insemination.

In each class or age group, that is two year olds, three year olds, four year olds and mature, the average production of those born as a result of artificial insemination exceeds that of those born as a result of natural service.

To illustrate, here is average production of the A1 mature group, namely 10,531 pounds milk and 374 pounds butterfat. On the other hand, the average production of the Natural Service mature group is 10,340 pounds milk and 359 pounds butterfat.

12 Halton Herds High Producers

When we wrote the story on Halton herds in Dairy Herd Improvement work about two weeks ago, through some oversight we failed to include in the group of 400 pound herds, those of Daniel Jones and Ralph Ford. This makes 12 Halton herds out of a total of 70, which made the charmed circle.

The Daniel Jones herd of 16 cows on the average produced 11,873 pounds of milk and 425 pounds of butterfat, while the Ralph Ford herd of 23 cows had an average production of 10,624 pounds milk and 411 pounds butterfat.

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Announce Winners in Junior Plow Match

While only seven young people competed in the Halton Junior Plowing Match held on the Spencer Wilson farm near Hornby on September 6, Judge Winfred Timbers of York county complimented the young people on the quality of their workmanship.

Primarily this event is held with a view to the young people securing a training in the art of turning a good ridge. Consequently, in the morning each contestant plowed a ridge in which unlimited coaching was permitted—however, for the afternoon ridges, no coaching was allowed. In short, the plowboys were on their own.

Awards Made
The awards were as follows:
Class 1, contestants under 16 years: John Wilson, Norval; Dwight May, Hornby; Howard Speck, Hornby.

Class 2, tractor mounted plows: Kenneth Howden, Milton; Bill Pyper, Norval.

Class 3, contestants under 21 years: Don Taylor, Burlington; Burt Speck, Hornby.

The Milton Milling trophy for the champion of the day was awarded to Don Taylor, the same contestant and Burt Speck, with John Wilson as alternate were announced as the team to represent Halton in the inter-county class at the International on October 9 and 10.

While a difference in average production of 191 pounds milk and 15 pounds butterfat may not seem large, it would appear to indicate that Artificial Units are in a position to acquire and make available sires with better production backgrounds, than the average day-man is able to purchase.

HOWARD G. VICKERY

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Pinkeye Is Common During Fall Months

Full and early winter are the seasons when pinkeye is the most common in cattle. Even though pinkeye seldom causes death, the Ontario Veterinary College points out that it does cause a considerable amount of loss in body weight and reduced production.

Pinkeye is an infectious disease which is spread by direct contact, dust or insects. Cattle of any age size or sex are subject to the disease. Recovery from an attack does not necessarily prevent further attacks in the animal.

Disease Symptoms
The symptoms include a watery discharge from inflamed eyes and watering because of sensitivity to light. Membranes become very swollen and red. Frequently there is a temporary blindness as a result of the disease.

The Ontario Veterinary College recommends that infected animals be isolated away from sunlight and receive prompt treatment by a veterinarian.

OIL INCREASE
In the 19-year period 1948-1957 production of oil from Alberta actually increased from 106 million barrels to 137 million barrels.

SPECIAL MEETING

OF
ALL HOG PRODUCERS OF HALTON AND PEEL

AT SNELGROVE HALL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th

AT 8:30 P.M.

SPECIAL SPEAKER

Sponsored by Free Enterprise Hog Producers of Ontario

ONTARIO HOSPITAL INSURANCE

SEPTEMBER

30

Closing date for

REGISTRATION

Mail application at once!

Read Details Carefully

Available from your Bank or Hospital

Include one month's Premium with Application



Register NOW! Be PROTECTED next January 1st.

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Telephone: WAtford 4-3301



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