

Farm

Tribune

Shade Trees Damaged By Worst Ice Storm

By JOHN BRADSHAW, Garden Editor

The devastating Ontario ice storm of ten days ago was one of the worst on record, particularly in the damage it did to our shade trees. When an ice storm of this magnitude strikes the garden it separates the men from the boys as far as trees are concerned. The ice causes extra heavy damage to fast growing trees such as weeping willows, poplars, soft maples and the like, whose branches start to snap just as soon as the ice adds to the load they're already carrying.

Numerous trees will have to be replaced this spring just as soon as the soil becomes workable. The next few weeks is an excellent time to search through nursery catalogs and read some of the gardening books on trees, and decide which trees you'll be planting. I'd strongly urge that you get your orders in as soon as possible. Trees are in short supply already because of the housing boom of the past few years, and the Dutch Elm disease. The demand, as a result of the ice storm, will further aggravate that situation.

You won't go wrong if you decide to plant a Linden tree (Tilia cordata). People of European origin may know it as a Lime tree. It's native to many parts of Europe and has been grown in gardens for centuries. Both the Greeks and the Romans planted the Linden trees along their streets, not only for their majestic shape, but for shade as well. Nearly every village in Europe has had a planting of Lindens at one time or another.

In the southern part of Ontario the Linden is unbeatable as a shade tree for the home garden. I don't know of a better tree for street and city garden planting because of its remarkable resistance to fumes, smoke and dust. The Lindens are very long lived, have an attractive pyramidal shape and handsome heart-shaped foliage. The spicy fragrance of the flowers is an added asset.

One of the least grown trees in southern Ontario gardens is the Pyramidal English Oak. This striking, vertical growing tree is not listed by every nursery, but any trouble you may have in finding it will be quickly forgotten when you see it growing in your garden. Its shape is exactly the same as the Lombardy Poplar, but with none of its faults.

The Lombardy Poplar tends to grow very fast until it reaches maturity around 20 years of age, and then gradually dies over a period of time. On the other hand, the Pyramidal Oak grows more slowly, is more compact and lives for a great many years. I've never seen ice, snow or high winds damage this hardwood tree.

Once the leaves turn brown in the fall they continue to cling to the branches until the next spring, giving the trees a most attractive appearance throughout the winter months. During the summer the fine green is a joy to behold.

Most oak trees and other hardwood trees are quite slow growers, but the stately Pin Oak is the exception to the rule. During the summer the foliage is rich green, deeply cut and becomes a glossy copper color in the late fall. Everyone seems to like its symmetrical, pyramidal form and general freedom from insects and diseases. Height at maturity is anywhere from 30 to 40 feet. The Pin Oak is one of the few trees that will grow well in heavy clay soils where the drainage is not the best.

One of the most popular shade trees over the past few years has been the Norway Maple. Here we have a stately round-headed tree capable of withstanding smoke, soot and other adverse growing conditions. The leaves are dark green and densely cover the whole tree. In the fall they're most impressive as they turn a rich yellow and orange.

The Norway Maple is very hard wooded and seldom, if ever, breaks down in wind and ice storms.

News from the Canadian Dairy Commission are of a more drastic nature. First, very small producers of cream or industrial milk (less than 12,000 lbs.) will not be given quotas in 1968.

Producers who ship between 12,000 and 50,000 lbs. per year will have to re-apply for a quota. Whether they get one or not depends on the commission. Generally, quotas will only be given to full-time farmers and those who depend on milk or cream for a significant part of their income.

So, the milk picture is shaky for those with beef herds who ship cream, and for those with small dairy herds who sell milk only in the summer months.

Tractor Accidents Fatal To 13 Farmers

UXBRIDGE — During the first six months of 1967, a total of 591 farm accidents were recorded in Ontario. Thirty of these mishaps proved fatal including thirteen involving tractors.

The grim statistics were outlined by Mr. Oscar Snyder of Elmira, Farm Safety Co-ordinator, Ontario Department of Agriculture at a meeting Jan. 9 of the Ontario County Farm Safety Council.

The executive for 1968

includes: Chairman, Armour McMillan, Greenbank; Vice-Chairman, Keith Rynard, Sunderland; Secretary, Lynn Fair, Uxbridge; Treasurer, Gordon Ewen, Uxbridge.

The Safety Council carried out several projects during 1967 that will be repeated this year. There were 358 entries in the student poster competition and prize money of \$219 was paid out. Other programs included 4-H Club safety meetings; a farm safety exhibit at Beaver-

ton Fair; the sale of Slow Moving Vehicle signs to interested farmers and the

distribution of safety calendars and serviettes throughout the county.



Spring Lambs In Mid-Winter

Although spring is still officially two months away, a sure sign of better days ahead, arrived recently on the property of Lorne Almack, Claremont. A pair of twin lambs are held here by daughter Clare, 13. —Staff Photo

Controlled Milk Production

May Hurt Some Farmers

A. A. WALL, Agricultural Rep. for York County Milk marketings was in the news again last week. The move in the dairy industry to controlled production has to be spread over a fair amount of time. It's a painful process to some producers, and certainly forces changes

in some farm operations. Last week's changes for fluid producers were just modifications of plans already made. Pooling will be delayed until the first of March, and the new quotas will not be in effect until that date.

Quota transfers however, are governed by the new quota policy as of February 1. The penalty for producers not producing 90% of their quota will not take effect until the first of

June. This change will be welcomed by dairymen here in York, having trouble keeping milk production up, with very low quality hay.

Another bit of good news was that quotas that change ownership along with a farm sale or lease, are not subject to the 25% transfer assessment.

And it's good to know from Gordon Taylor, that all but one of our nearly 400 fluid milk farms in York County got an A rating in the latest classification.

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