

Farm

Tribune



Douglas Dunkeld, 13 and his prize-winning Holstein calf at Oshawa Fair. —Staff Photo

Wins calf club award

PICKERING TWP. Thirteen year old Douglas Dunkeld, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dunkeld, R.R. 2, Claremont, won 1st out of thirteen entries in the Brougham 4-H Calf Club show at Oshawa Fair. His calf was a Holstein.

red ribbon award were — Peter Hulshof, R.R. 3, Stouffville, second; Larry Barrett, Pickering, third and Allan Harris, R.R. 3, Claremont, fourth.

Claremont, second. The Ontario Co-operative Trophy will be formally presented to Glenn Harris.

In the senior class, Ivan Disney, R.R. 1, Brooklin was first and Glenn Harris, R.R. 3,

The presentation of ribbons to calf club entry winners was made by the newly crowned dairy princess of Ontario County, Pat Hunter of Greenbank.

Flower garden care

BY JOHN BRADSHAW — The rust that appears on the lower leaves of perennial phlox is almost always the result of a phosphorus and potash deficiency. Once it appears it cannot be cured that season. Both of these elements can be added to the soil now in the form of a complete garden fertilizer and will "fix" on the soil particles so that they'll be available on next year's crop.

All flower heads of the phlox should be removed as they fade to prevent the formation of seeds. These not only rob the plants of food and energy, but self-sow themselves in the earth alongside. The resulting new seedlings are very vigorous growers and soon take over from the old plants. Unfortunately, these seedlings do not reproduce the true color of the variety, but come in the original washed out magenta shade of the wild phlox which no one admires. This self seeding of the phlox leads many each year to suppose that their plants have changed color which is an impossibility.

At this time of the year the leaves of phlox plants start to become covered with whitish coating which we call powdery mildew. A weekly dusting or spraying with an all-purpose fungicide will keep this under strict control. Be constantly on the watch if your phlox plants are located near some lilac bushes which always seem to carry some of this widely prevalent disease.

Allow chrysanthemums to grow from now on without further pinching. Tall growing varieties will need staking. Give the plants a good feeding at this time with a complete garden fertilizer. Spray or dust the foliage each week with an all-purpose fungicide to control fungus disease that causes loss of foliage.

Many pansies and violas are getting leggy now. They prefer cool weather which slows up their growth. This is the time of the year to cut them back to two inch stubs to force young shoots for September and October bloom.

containing a fish emulsion. These are a very good substitute for the old time well rotted barnyard manures which pansies and violas liked so much.

Any shrubs with long, drooping branches can be propagated by layering. Indeed, many produce natural layers when the branch tips happen to touch the soil. Many a time a forsythia bush will do this without any help from the home gardener. Any limber branch can be bent over, pinned down with a hairpin made of stiff wire, and will root in a month or two. Be sure and keep the soil moist during this rooting period.

Red spiders multiply in hot weather. Regular syringing of evergreens and other plants with a strong stream of water from the hose usually discourages them. If they do appear apply a good miticide. Yews are often attacked at this time of the year by the black vine weevil. Spray with an insecticide containing diazotol, chlordane or heptachlor.

In many gardens during July, the various kinds of ants start creating their nests, especially in lawns. A five percent chlordane dust will make short work of ants anywhere in the garden. In two or three weeks they may start up their activities again. A further dusting at this time will chase them quickly away.

To germinate lettuce seed in hot weather, mix it with damp sand and store for a week in the refrigerator. At the end of the week the seed coats will show signs of cracking and should be sown immediately.

There's still time to set out plants of late cabbage, broccoli and Brussels sprouts. After planting, give each one a cupful of a starter solution made from any liquid complete plant food. Make a sowing of Wando peas for a fall crop. This variety has a remarkable resistance to summer heat.

Allow plants of ever-bearing strawberries set out this spring to bear fruits from now on.



All rolled up and ready for the barn

Some farmers claim that rolled up hay bales dry more rapidly than the tightly packed rectangular ones. Such a field is shown here on the Greenwood Road near conc. 5, Pickering Township. —Staff Photo

Establish new grading system for hogs

By A. A. Wall, Agricultural Representative, York County

The new grading system for hogs has now been worked out. It won't be used until next year but it is important in any swine breeding program.

The new system in a way is more complex, in that it rates a carcass by an index number, rather than grouping it as an A, B, or C hog.

This index is used to calculate the price paid for the hog.

On the other hand, the system is simpler in that the main measurement for quality is on the percentage of lean meat in the carcass. Things like length and body conformation are not directly rated.

The quality index is arrived at by measuring backfat at the shoulder and

at the loin. These measurements are then used in a formula, which includes the weight of the carcass, to get the index number.

The quoted price will be hogs with an index of 100. Hogs with an index above 100 will bring a price proportionately higher, and these under 100 will be penalized.

The good part of the new system is that the price paid reflects the much more accurately than our present method. The

spread between good and poor carcasses will be much wider. Everyone in the industry has been working for this for a long time.

With the new grades coming in, attention to quality is more important than ever. A hog business next year, turning out a lot of hogs with excess fat, will find it very difficult to stay in the black. Changes in breeding stock, feeding methods or feeds should be worked out now in preparation for the change.

Family Herald ends

Norman Mathieson, publisher of the Family Herald has announced that the 99-year-old weekly magazine, aimed mainly at farmers, will cease publication Sept. 26.

Mr. Mathieson says publication costs have risen steadily while revenue has declined in recent years until "the end was inevitable." The Family Herald is published by the Montreal Star Co. Ltd.

made so that any subscribers whose subscriptions will not have expired by Sept. 26 will receive the Free Press Weekly instead of the Family Herald.

The Free Press Weekly is published in Winnipeg by Free Press Weekly Ltd. and like the Family Herald is designed mainly for farmers.

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East welcomes West

The West comes East. Six 4-H members from Alberta, escorted by four Alberta 4-H Club leaders, travelled by car from Edmonton to Ontario and arrived in Kenora July 29. The group motored to Port Arthur, Sault Ste. Marie, and Sudbury, visiting mining and steel mills, and pulp and paper mills in Ontario's north country. By August 2, the group will be in Southern Ontario, where they will spend three days with host families in the counties of Simcoe, South and Peel. The purpose of the trip is to familiarize the group with the way of life of farm families and 4-H Club members in Ontario and other parts of Canada. The group will return to Alberta via the Northern United States.

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