

News And Views Of And For The Farmers

IN BREEDING STOCK

The first object in selecting breeding stock is to select the most vigorous ones. Vitality is the most important factor, as only with good, healthy stock, full of vitality, can one expect to raise young birds that will be able to accomplish what we expect of them.

From this selection of high vitality birds, a breeding pen may be selected for standard requirements. Type is pre-eminently the highest standard attainment and all birds of good type should be retained.

Any radical change in feeding should be done gradually and with care. No well bred farmer ever contents himself with scrub stock or poor crops.

VARIETIES OF CORN TO GROW.

An investigation conducted by the seed branch of the Department of Agriculture shows that about sixty so-called varieties of corn are grown for ensilage in Ontario and Quebec, and many farmers do not know what varieties they are planting.

A Barn—A Silo—A Tornado. Once upon a time there were a barn, a silo and a tornado. The barn was made of the very best wood, the silo was made of the best reinforced concrete, and the tornado was made of the very worst twister type of wind.

One day the tornado decided to pay the barn and silo a visit. When that visit was over the barn was reduced to kindling and the silo to jigsaw-puzzle.

Lime Necessary To Some Soils

When a soil is found to be unproductive there are three likely causes for the failure, any one of which is sufficient to prevent profitable cultivation. These three are lack of drainage, lack of lime and lack of humus or decaying vegetable matter.

The necessity for adding lime was not made plain to Canadian farmers until recent years.

Just as acid is formed in the souring of milk or in the fermenting of silage. It is important to have in the soil at all times a material like limestone which will keep these acids neutralized.

One of the processes going on in the soil is the formation of acids from the decaying or organic matter

and before many years partial exhaustion followed. The different forms in which lime may be applied were fully described by Professor R. Harcourt in an article last fall.

Where land has drainage and a fairly good amount of available fertility as evidenced by growing of grass, a failure of red clover leads immediately to a strong suspicion that lime is lacking.

A test that is fairly reliable may be made with litmus paper. A package of blue litmus paper can be bought for a few cents at any drug store.

CORN IMPROVEMENT.

The greater part of the report of the Ontario Corn Growers' Association, now ready for distribution, is taken up with valuable hints on the breeding of seed corn.

The raising of alfalfa as an alternate crop is advocated, and some excellent pointers are given concerning its cultivation.

Examining Horse's Leg. The blacksmith's method of resting one hand on a horse's hip and using the claw of a hammer to pick up the hind foot is not always the best and safest method.

Lead the horse forward until the hind leg to be picked up is well forward of the other one. Next stoop down and pass the hand nearest the horse quickly inside the hind leg—just above the fet-lock—grasping firmly at that point, and pulling the back tendon inward with the fingers.

EGGS FOR HATCHING

"The first consideration in hatching eggs is the selection of the egg itself," says Professor F. S. Jacoby, of the College of Agriculture, Ohio State University. "Not every egg is desired for hatching purposes. If possible, eggs from only the best hens should be used."

Old Silage. We recently read an interesting note about how long silage will keep in a silo. O. W. Righter, an Indiana farmer has reported that he placed well-matured corn in a concrete silo fourteen years ago, and the bottom of this silo was only emptied last July.

KINGSTON MARKET REPORTS

Table listing market prices for various goods in Kingston, April 17. Includes categories like Meats, Fish, Poultry, and various types of meat and fish prices.

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Table listing market prices for various goods in Kingston, April 17. Includes categories like Furs, Hides, and other animal products.

NOTES OF INTEREST

Give the colts the lightest of the seeding work. They are far more able to do harrowing than they are to take their places on the cultivator or disk.

The first day in the fields allow the horses to stand for a few minutes at frequent intervals. Remember they are soft, have done little work through the winter, and there is a danger of overdoing them, especially if the day be hot with little breeze blowing.

Be careful in watering overwarm animals. Some will stand it, but many will not. It is good practice to give them a little water when coming in from work, and allow them more when going out again.

Give the colts that are going to help with the reeding this year for the first time exercise in harness as often as possible. Let them do the light team work around the farm from now until seeding begins.

Raise the collars off the horses' shoulders frequently, and twist the hand rub down the shoulders well. This may be done when allowing the horses to stand for a breath of fresh air.

The amount of silage which may be stored in a silo depends upon the depth, the diameter and the amount of water in the silage.

COWS AND UDDER TROUBLES

One practice that has become so common as to be accepted with unblinking eyes was badly noticeable at the National Dairy show at Chicago.

It must be remembered that a udder is not a mere sack to hold so much milk. The average reservoir in each quarter holds about a cupful, hence the increase in size is due to far more than the accumulated milk.

depth, the diameter and the amount of water in the silage. A silo 36 feet deep will store nearly five times the amount of feed that one twelve feet deep will.

Everybody knows that Irish peasant's alleged name for the pig, "The gentleman that pays the rent."

at the recent shows, cows and half-advanced by the man who follow this practice. At a circuit fair this fall, a cow won her way to the championship largely as a result of the excessive inflammation and distension preceding parturition.

The practice deceives no cattleman it occasionally deceives an inexperienced judge, and it frequently permanently injures valuable animals. It has become a show-ring custom that sometimes transcends humane bounds.

one foot deep weighs 18.7 pounds. In a silo twenty feet deep, a cubic foot of silage, taking an average of the whole depth, will weigh 33.3 pounds.

Testing Soil For Sourness. It is an easy matter to determine whether a soil needs lime. A little blue litmus paper purchased from a druggist will test a large field.

The importation of butter is rapidly increasing. These are serious conditions to be found existing in a country like ours.

These are serious conditions to be found existing in a country like ours. No matter to what part of the world we look, we shall find that, where dairy farming is developed along right lines, general prosperity exists.

The per capita consumption of butter in Canada is increasing. The export of cheese from Canada is decreasing.

COMMENTS BY ZACCHUS. Who Says the German Empire is Rocking To Its Fall. A-A goodly toll of our men taken at the front. B-But martial ardor is only quickened thereby.

School Instruction. The Saskatchewan Government believes that in this purely agricultural province, every possible effort should be made to encourage and develop an interest in farming; from the very outset of the child's school career.

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