

News And Views Of And For The Farmers

The Potato Crop

The potato crop is a farm crop grown for its tubers, which are used largely for human food, for stock food, and for the manufacture of starch and alcohol. It is perennial by means of its tubers, and with suitable cultivation provided, it may be successfully grown on a wider range of soils and under a wider range of climatic conditions and temperature than, perhaps, any other crop.

The resulting earth much conserves the moisures during the dry period, when the young tubers are forming.

After Cultivation. It has often been observed that the more frequent the cultivation of the soil, the larger has been the total yield. Unless attention is paid to the cultivation and clearing of the land a good yield cannot be expected.

Insects And Fungus Diseases. Like all other crops, there are certain drawbacks to the crop, but if taken in time can be overcome.

only a few swallows if he is going to stand still. If he fails to water him at night after he has eaten his hay.

Producing Alfalfa

"People shouldn't talk alfalfa so much. It can't be grown in Ontario," said one man. Another, having a hundred acres north and several hundred miles east, is feeding alfalfa to his horses every day and has had great success with it, cutting two crops each year.

The proper time to cut alfalfa hay is a problem upon which years of study may be profitably spent. It is not a mere matter of routine, but of experienced judgment. Curing alfalfa hay early in June is an entirely different problem from curing it in July or August. When the first crop is cut in June the ground is moist, the air is moist, and the yield is heavy. It is then necessary to let the crop get dryer before raking it.

Growing In Ontario. There are probably more people in Ontario growing potatoes than any other single crop. This is owing to the fact that potatoes may be grown extensively on the large farms for commercial purposes or they may be grown on farms and gardens of all sizes for home use.

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Investigations have shown that there are altogether too many varieties grown in Ontario. If only three or four of the most important varieties for general crops were used, larger yields of better potatoes for home use and also for the market, would be obtained.

By tests conducted throughout the province from Guelph it was shown that Empire State, Rural New Yorker No. 2 and Davis Warrior gave excellent results for general use.

The time of planting for early potatoes varies in different parts of the province, depending on the conditions of the soil and the amount of danger from spring frosts.

As the extra early potato demand a high price, some risks may be taken in very early planting.

The relative distance apart of the rows in the row, as well as the distance between the rows, are factors in determining the yield. That it is important to know what distances will give the most profitable returns.

Soil And Climate. The potato will grow on a large variety of soils with probably the best success, yet the ideal potato soil is deep, warm, sandy loam, containing sufficient humus to insure retention of the necessary supply of moisture.

1st. It helps to destroy and check the weeds. 2nd. It makes it soil warmer and dryer, thus inducing earlier fruiting. 3rd. It prevents the young potatoes from becoming green by exposure to the sun.

Wheat and clover sod are both suitable for runners of the potato crop. After wheat, the land may, as a rule, be more easily got into a fine state of tith than after clover sod, but as a successor of the latter

Preparation For Planting. There are several methods of planting, each possessing its own advantages. Under such circumstances as render it preferable where the soil contains a fair supply of humus, enabling to retain a sufficiency of moisture, and, where drought is not likely to seriously menace the crop, probably no better method than that of ridding with a double mould board plough can be adopted.

The method of tending the furrows with an ordinary plough, the sets being planted in every third row, is a very useful one in many districts and has often proved successful when the riding system fails.

In preparing the land for the potato crop a most favorable opportunity offers itself for getting rid of the weeds; not only the potato but the succeeding crop will benefit by the treatment.

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When growth is far enough advanced that the rows may be distinguished, the cultivator should be employed to loosen the earth as near the sets as it is able to go without disturbing them. Subsequently should be shallow to prevent loss of moisture and injury to the young tubers and roots.

Harvesting And Storing. The potato may be dug as soon as the tops have withered and fallen and the operation ought to be carried on during dry weather, since potatoes taken up and housed under these conditions will keep much better.

The use of the potato digging machine very much helps in this work, those who have large areas to dig. The next best instrument, if such a machine cannot be secured is just an ordinary plow with 5 or 6 prongs attached after the board has been removed.

As a usual thing, the potatoes are stored in the cellar, it offering the best protection from frost. The best temperature is about 35 degrees F. and the cooler they are kept without danger of frost or freezing the better. It is wise also to provide for

A full circulation of air all around the pile in the cellar. If the potatoes are piled right up against the wall, they are apt to rot much quicker.

The scab is a very injurious disease. A good preventative for this is to place all the seeds before they are cut in a mixture of one-half pint of formalin to fifteen gallons of water for about two hours.

The blight is another fungus disease. A good preventative towards this is to spray with Bordeaux mixture about the middle of July and every two weeks following seems to be a good practice to destroy all diseased parts of stems, leaves, etc., by burning and also to sow the ground, disease resisting varieties, on clean well cultivated land.

The former description is my idea of growing a crop of potatoes.

The Care Of Horses. Owners Should Protect Animals From Oppressive Mid-summer Heat. The Work Horse Relief Association, of Boston, Mass., has just published and distributed the following hot weather rules for the comfort of horses which the local Humane Society is anxious should be observed:

"Stop in the shade if possible. Water your horses as often as possible. So long as a horse is working, water in small quantities will not hurt him. But let him drink

"If the horse is overcome by heat, get him into the shade, remove harness and bridle, wash out his mouth, sponge him all over, shower his legs, and give him two ounces of aromatic spirits of ammonia, or two ounces of sweet spirits of nitre, in a pint of water, or give him a pint of coffee warm. Cool his head at once, using cold water, or, if necessary, chopped ice, wrapped in a cloth.

"If the horse is off his feed, try him with two quarts of oats mixed with bran and a little water; and add a little salt or sugar. Or give him oatmeal gruel or barley water to drink.

"Watch your horse. If he stops sweating suddenly, or if he breathes short and quick, or if his ears droop, or if he stands with his legs braced sideways, he is in danger of a heat or sun stroke and need attention at once.

"If he is so hot that the horse sweats in the stable at night, tie him outside with bedding under him. Unless he cools off during the night, he can not well stand the next day's heat."

The Prices Paid For Produce On Kingston Market

Table listing market prices for various commodities including Poultry, Dairy Products, Fruit, Vegetables, and Grain.

Hair Grower and Beautifier Recommended by Leading Druggists Throughout Canada

Your money will be refunded without any haggling or red tape if you are not satisfied with the results of using Parisian Sage. It is the best all round tonic and hair dressing you ever used.



Advertisement for Clark's Baked Pork & Beans, featuring a can of the product and the text 'MADE IN CANADA FROM CANADIAN PRODUCTS' and 'Wholesome Nutritious ALWAYS WELCOME'.

Stubbytoes as Mediator

There was a coldness between Martha and Mary Fanning which increased with every passing day. Perhaps it could have been explained, but neither would take the trouble.

Martha looked grimly up from her crocheted work.

"Why, he wanted to follow you, and I opened the door and let him out. I guess he hasn't got back." Mary turned pale.

More Muscle for Less Money

Good muscle and good brain are a combination that will beat the world. There is more digestible, brain-making, muscle-building material in SHREDDED WHEAT than in beef-steak or eggs.

Advertisement for Shredded Wheat, featuring the text 'More Muscle for Less Money' and 'SHREDDED WHEAT' along with an illustration of a bowl of the product.