

## GARDEN SLUGS ARE OUT IN FORCE NOW

Garden slugs remained active later last fall and are doing more damage at this time than in other recent years. They are best controlled in Oregon by the combination of a repellent and poison bait, reports Don C. Mote, entomologist of the Oregon Agricultural college. Bordeaux mixture 4-4-50 sprayed on the plants and a poison consisting of 1 part calcium arsenate to 16 parts chopped lettuce scattered over infested area has proved effective in plant protection and slug control. Dry, hot weather drives them into temporary seclusion and checks their depredations.

The gray garden slug, the greenhouse slug and the reticulated slug are the three important economic species in Oregon. The gray garden slug is usually a deep mottled gray, greenish gray or pale ochreous flecked with brown or dark brown. The greenhouse slug is solid slaty gray with a whitish sole. The reticulated slug is variable, but is in general a deep bluish black above, shading to a lighter color, and often tinted with green toward the sole.

These pests are nocturnal in habit but they are often active in the daytime during cloudy, wet weather. During the day they normally conceal themselves under waste materials and in vegetation or burrow in the ground.

Lime, salt, soot or any cheap powder placed around the edges of the greenhouse beds, garden crops, etc., is a temporary means of keeping them out under dry conditions this is not practicable under moist conditions. When the slug touches this substance it will wiggle into the material. This causes it to secrete slime abundantly and it soon exhausts itself and dies.

## A DISABLED WAR VETERAN FARMER

He Was Discharged for Disabilities, But Makes His Homestead Pay

LA JARA, Colo., Mar. 17.—(AP)—James C. Pierson, a disabled war veteran six years ago, is now the owner of a farm which he earns approximately \$5,000 a year.

Pierson was gassed while serving overseas and was discharged from the army in 1921 because of disabilities. He took up a homestead in the San Luis valley, but his health grew poorer and he appealed to the veterans bureau for aid. The bureau advanced him funds and sent him to Colorado Agricultural college, where he studied poultry raising and bee culture.

When he returned to his farm he bought a few chickens and several stands of bees.

Although he had only seven acres he could cultivate, Pierson planted a large part of it to vegetables. Today Pierson is rated by the veterans bureau as a "success."

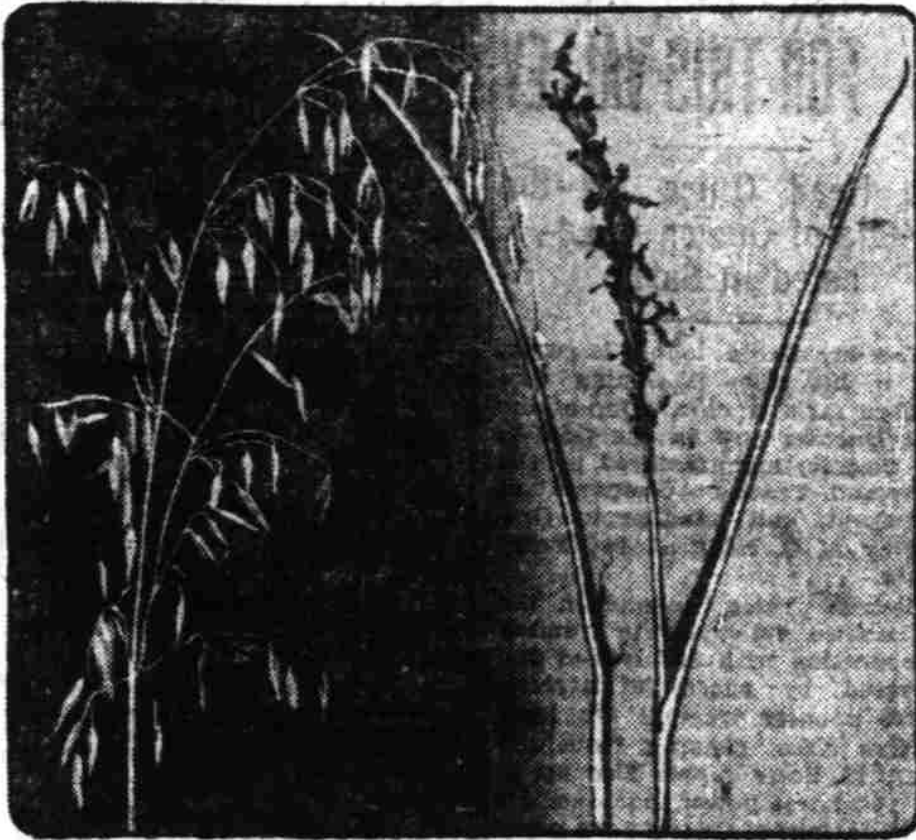
The best results are obtained from the use of land plaster when it is applied early in the spring. The recommended rate of application is 50 to 100 pounds on legume crops. The application may be doubled where the legume, especially alfalfa in irrigated sections, is known to respond to sulfur fertilizer.

Discing before early spring plowing has little advantage unless there is a heavy weed growth on the ground. Such a practice may

## HOPED HYBRID OATS MAY DEFEAT THE SMUT AND SAVE FARMERS VAST SUMS

NEW YORK March 17 (AP)—Investigations at the Brooklyn Botanical Garden indicate that the future oats crop of this country,

powder about the time of harvest. Dr. Reed says the annual toll of this disease amount to more than five per cent of the nation's entire



may be a hybrid, a cross between the present best producing strains and the most successful smut-resisting types.

Dr. George M. Reed, plant pathologist of the institution, has developed a few varieties which appear to be highly resistant, but their yield usually is unsatisfactory. By crossing them with strains that are good yielders, although susceptible, he obtained both resistance and production.

Last year Dr. Reed grew more than 100,000 individual oat plants in connection with his study of smut resistance. His paper on smut diseases recently was awarded the A. Cressy Morrison prize of the New York Academy of Sciences. One of Dr. Reed's most significant discoveries is the fact of the occurrences of specialized races of oats smuts, "families" of the disease which vary in their preference for different strains of oats and in their behavior under specific circumstances.

Smut is known to almost every grain grower as a disease which converts the valuable heads of the heads into a useless

make the surface so sticky that it will interfere with plowing between showers. Discing is advisable before late spring plowing to incorporate rubbish, save moisture and get rid of weeds that take up moisture and plant food nutrients.

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## TOP DRESSING THE LAWN: SUGGESTIONS

Top dressing in early spring is one of the most efficient methods of caring for a lawn. It is an essential if bent grass is used for garden paths. Rich loam is the basis with one-third of well-rotted stable manure or compost. An ordinary wheelbarrow load to a square yard is sufficient if the lawn is in good condition. If it is badly worn or thin two barrow loads will be better. This should be rolled smooth after it is carefully and evenly spread. It is rather a burdensome job but it gives results that repay the labor.

A very profitable move at this time is the application of a dressing of bone meal to the lawn. A pound to a square rod of lawn is the proportion. This gives a rather thin dressing but bone meal is the most lasting of fertilizers and its effect will still be in operation the following fall. Bone meal works for six months and for this reason is one of the most valuable garden fertilizers.

An excellent stimulant to growth of the lawn in early spring is a thorough raking with a garden rake, dragging out the dead grass and stirring the soil. This

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raking should precede the application of fertilizer.

Do not be in a hurry to make the first cutting of the lawn. Let the grass get a healthy start before the mower is run over it.

A supply of high-grade grass seed should always be on hand to be applied at any time a thin spot in the lawn becomes apparent. It is often necessary to dig out weeds such as dandelions and plantains. The place should be seeded after the weeds are removed. The best grade seed obtainable should be bought from seedhouses of recognized standing. It is poor economy to buy cheap seed. The conditions of sun and shade as well as the character of the soil should be sent to the seedhouse with the order as grass seed mixtures are put up to suit existing conditions.

Do not be afraid of putting too much grass seed. Better too much than too little.

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