

## SELECT CLEAN SEED

### Most Important Precaution in Control of Potato Scab.

**Disinfection Treatment is an Added Foresight—Neither Will Be Effective if Soil is Already Full of Disease.**

(From the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The treatment of seed potatoes with formaldehyde or with corrosive sublimate has been recommended for many years as a preventive of scab and other diseases carried on the tubers.

Such treatment is, on the whole, profitable, but has several limitations which should be clearly recognized to prevent disappointment, according to the specialists of the department. The object of disinfecting seed potatoes is to destroy the germs of scab and other surface parasites which might otherwise be planted with the seed and infect the new crop. Only surface infections are reached by this method. It is only partially effective



Potato Affected With Russet Scab, Showing Russeting and Cracking Associated With Rhizoctonia of Western Potato.

against deep pits of common scab. Formaldehyde is less effective than corrosive sublimate against the black sclerotia or resting bodies of rhizoctonia, or russet scab, and against powdery scab. Neither chemical, as ordinarily used, will destroy silver scurf. Either one will kill surface infections of blackleg, but neither fusarium wilt nor late blight infection in potato tubers can be reached by any seed treatment, nor can any of the nonparasitic diseases of potatoes, such as mosaic leaf roll, and curly dwarf, be prevented. See Farmers' Bulletin 544 for description of these troubles.

Clearly, therefore, the most important precaution against these diseases is to select clean, disease-free seed potatoes from healthy, vigorous plants, as determined by field inspection during the growing season and at harvest. Seed treatment should then be applied as an additional precaution.

#### Soil Conditions and Potato Diseases.

Soil conditions have an important relation to potato tuber diseases, and many of these are widely spread throughout the country, perhaps native to some soils. Common scab is favored by a neutral or slightly alkaline soil, and seldom gives trouble in acid soils. It is therefore increased by liming and by fresh stable manure, wood ashes, and alkaline fertilizers, such as nitrate of soda and ground bone, while acid phosphate and sulphate of ammonia tend to diminish scab.

Rhizoctonia occurs to some extent in nearly all soils, but appears to attack potatoes most when the conditions are unfavorable to the best development of the potato plant. Bring the land to an ideal state of tilth to minimize loss from rhizoctonia.

Powdery scab is worst on cold, wet, or poorly drained soils. Blackleg,



Potato Affected With Common Scab.

on the other hand, is carried by infected seed. No potatoes showing a deep brown discoloration at the stem end should be planted.

Sulphur tends to prevent common scab. It is not a substitute for corrosive sublimate or formaldehyde, but is a good drier for cut seed. Applied to scab-infected soils at the rate of 500 pounds per acre it reduces the scab, but such heavy applications cannot be generally recommended as profitable. Preliminary experimental trials are advised.

**How to Disinfect Seed.**  
The formaldehyde treatment consists of soaking the potatoes, before cutting, for two hours in a solution made by adding one pint of formal-

dehyde to 20 gallons of water. The solution can be used repeatedly. The gas treatment is no longer recommended.

Corrosive sublimate is used at the rate of 1-1,000 for one and one-half to two hours. Dissolve two ounces of the salt in hot water and dilute to 15 gallons. This is a deadly poison. Use with great care. It must also be kept in wood, porcelain, or glass vessels, as it attacks metal. It is more effective than formaldehyde, particularly against rhizoctonia and powdery scab. Do not use the same solution more than three times, as the strength diminishes with each lot of potatoes soaked.

To treat large quantities, set several barrels on a slightly elevated platform. Fit a plug in a hole in the bottom of each barrel, fill with potatoes, cover with solution, let stand two hours, draw off solution, and pour into another barrel. Increase the number of barrels in proportion to the quantity to be treated. Another method is to use a large wooden vat or trough, into which the potatoes in sacks are lowered by a rope and pulley and later hauled out, drained, and dried on slatted racks.

Seed potatoes may be treated several weeks before planting, provided they are not reinfected by storing in old containers or storage bins.

Sprouted potatoes are injured by treatment, but will throw out new sprouts. In general, however, potatoes will not be injured by following the above directions. Many growers believe germination is improved by treatment.

### TREATING SCOURS IN HORSES

**Give Mixture of Whole Oats and One-Ninth Part Wheat Bran—Have Teeth Attended To.**

For scours in horses, feed a mixture of whole oats and one-ninth part of wheat bran by weight, allowing one and a fifth pounds of this for each hundred pounds of body weight as a day's ration. In the same way feed one pound of hay per hundred pounds of body weight. Increase hay and decrease the grain mixture when the horse is idle. Let him run out in the yard daily, when not at work and when the weather is fine. Muzzle him between meals if he eats his bedding. Allow free access to rock salt. Give the drinking water before meals unless he has access to pure water at all times. Have his teeth attended to by a veterinarian, and if he bolts his feed mix some hard peas with it or put it in a very large box, or have some cobblestones in the feed box.

### DOES IT PAY?

To buy cheap seeds because good seeds are scarce and high in price?

Of course it does not. Records which have been kept of the time and labor expended and the yield secured tell the story.

It's the same all along the line. Cheap seeds never paid and never will.

### MAINTAIN HEALTH OF COLTS

**Easy to Prevent Navel Disease by Providing Clean and Sanitary Stalls for Animals.**

Navel disease which infects colts soon after foaling can easily be prevented by providing clean and sanitary stalls for the mares and colts and keeping the stable well disinfected, according to J. S. Coffey of the animal husbandry department, Ohio state university.

The disease is easily transmitted from old bedding, sawdust or barnyard scrapings. Only clean and new straw should be put in the stall and a strong solution of iodine kept handy for bathing the navel cord of the colt.

The first milk of the mare contains colostrum, a natural laxative, and is essential in keeping the young colt in good condition; therefore, mares should not be milked before or soon after foaling. In a few days both mare and colt can exercise in the pasture lot.

### PLAN FOR CUTTING SPINACH

**Convenient Way is to Use Sharp Hoe to Slice Off Large Plants of Edible Size.**

As convenient a way as any for cutting spinach is to use a sharp hoe to slice off the large plants as soon as they reach the edible size, thus leaving the smaller ones for a week or two to grow larger. By so doing the season can be somewhat extended without risk of having the plants develop seed stalks, which they will start to do at the first hint of warm weather.

### MINERAL FEEDS NO BENEFIT

**Negative Results Obtained in Tests Conducted at the Iowa Experiment Station.**

Pigs fed at the Iowa station were given free-will choice of 14 different minerals while being fed on corn and its products, but results were negative, as the minerals did not apparently help the stock in any way. Among minerals available were rock salt, charcoal, limestone, bone ash, cinders, slack coal, wood ashes, glauber's salts, epsom salts, calcium citrate and baking soda.

## Bathing Frocks and Swimming Suits



Bathing suits of this year's design include many new departures from accepted styles of other years. They are ampler in length and width of skirt; many of them have sleeves that partially cover the upper arm, and considerable needlework is involved in their making. There are princess models that look like riding coats, and there are full skirts with pantalets that reach some inches below the knees. Most novel of all is a model made of silk with a very full skirt sewed together across the bottom, with two openings to thrust the feet through. This serves the purpose of bloomers and skirt.

One of the best of the new designs is shown in the illustration. It is of black taffeta trimmed with narrow white braid. The skirt is cut in four gores, narrow at the top and pointed at the bottom. The waist, cut with kimono sleeves, opens over a white silk vest. Revers reach to the waist line, and there is a small faring collar at the back. These and the sleeves, which are slit up the top of the arm, are outlined with two rows of the narrow white braid. Black and white silk in wide stripes make the close-fitting cap with wings of plain black, and black and white are combined in the stockings and slippers. Altogether this is a model that is attractive and practical. Short knickerbockers are worn under the skirt.

Broad stripes in many color combinations serve the designer of smart

bathing suits to the best purpose. Wide skirts are cut with stripes running diagonally about the figure, and the waists with perpendicular stripes. Usually a fitted girdle of silk, in a plain color, is shaped into a pointed belt that joins waist and skirt, and a little vest of the plain silk is introduced at the front. Bloomers and stockings match the vest and girdle in color, and it is the custom to make the hat or cap of the same plain material.

There is a distinction between a regular swimming suit and the bathing frock. Swimming suits are closer fitting and are made of wool jersey or fiber silk, for the girl who takes her swimming seriously. No frivolities of decoration add even a little extra weight to it and it is not expected that the wearer will promenade about the beach in it.

The princess bathing suits are very trim and shapely. Plain materials, with collar, pockets and borders in striped or plaid or checked fabrics, make them very slightly affairs. The bloomers reach below the knees, and the skirts are almost as long. Silk poplin and taffeta head the list of silks, but there are several other fabrics in silk or wool that have helped to make this season's offerings in bathing suits the best within the memory of the fashion writer.

*Julia S. Thornley*

## Last Word in Summer Blouses



An elegant blouse of linen, hand embroidered, and an equally smart but less costly model in voile, are among the latest offerings in summer styles. Each of them presents at least one new feature worth consideration, and either of them may be easily made at home.

Handkerchief linen in the natural linen color was used for the blouse at the left of the picture, with a heavier linen in a medium shade of blue, and embroidery in white, black and blue floss appearing in the decoration. This blouse has an open throat and a wide sailor collar with rounded corners, piped with blue. Down each side of the front are simulated buttonholes made of the blue linen, and the embroidery design, in the fashionable mode of long stitches, is worked about these buttonholes. Oblong buttons are covered at the top with the natural linen, and the remainder with the blue. The same model is shown in salmon color and retails for something over ten dollars.

It is style and hand embroidery which enables this linen blouse to sell for a price four times that of the dainty blouse of voile shown with it. The voile blouse is in the fashionable chaireuse color, and this peculiar green looks unusually well with white linen in a binding on all the frills. In this blouse all the seams are hemstitched with thread in the color of the blouse. The back portion extends over the shoulders to form a

short yoke at the front, and the front pieces are filled onto this yoke in a hemstitched seam.

The long sleeves are shaped into cuffs ending in a frill by rows of hemstitching. There is a high crushed collar of the voile edged with a scant frill and fastened across the front with a narrow stock of black satin. There are frills graduated in width at each side of the front. White linen strips are used for bindings. This model is a happy choice for a slender figure and one of a very few that have been designed with a high collar.

*Julia S. Thornley*

### The Common Choice.

A costume house the other day advertised a hat it had on exhibition seventy-five styles of blue suits. Nearly every well-dressed woman starts out in the spring to choose a modish color for her stand-by suit, and nine out of every ten women end by buying some shade of blue.

### Rare Color.

Rose, coral and many other kindred shades are so soft and becoming that they are worthily popular this spring. The woman who has never tried them should buy a crepe blouse or frock if she would see just how attractive she is capable of looking.

## ALL SOUGHT POWER ON SEA

**Ancient Nations Recognized What It Meant to Be Supreme on the Ocean.**

The Phoenicians were the first to make long voyages and the first to arm their vessels for war. They readily availed themselves of the advantages of a marine and thereby soon secured an extensive commerce. In time they assumed the empire of the sea, a sovereignty they long continued to enjoy, during which time they became tyrants of the sea and exercised piracy. They were the first sea pirates known to history.

After the Phoenicians, the Aeginetans and then the Cretans assumed dominion of the sea during various epochs, but it remained for the inhabitants of the island of Rhodes to create, digest and promulgate the first system of maritime laws of which we have any authentic knowledge. So great was the success they attained, their code has always been referred to as the "cradle of maritime law." Nevertheless, as far back as the reign of King Hammurabi, who was a contemporary of Abraham, 2,250 years before Christ, we find in the code of Hammurabi numerous sections which fix the obligations arising under contracts for boat building, hire or charter of vessels, transportation of goods for hire, collisions, etc., and the principles there laid down are, in many instances, recognized at the present time as the rule of decision.

The Persians, and then the Greeks in turn, succeeded the Rhodians as masters of the sea. These two countries maintained large fleets of war vessels, called by the ancients, as a class, "vessels of force," as distinguished from their merchantmen or "ships of burthen." The great naval battle of Salamis, fought by these countries, in which it is said over five hundred vessels took part, followed by that of Plataea and Mycale, demonstrated to the Greeks, with the success of their arms, the immeasurable value of sea power. They lost no time, and spared no efforts in the creation of a still greater navy, and adopted measures they deemed judicious in furthering the interests of their merchant marine. Among other things they established a special jurisdiction at Athens to pass upon maritime transactions.

## CARLYLE PRIZED FIRST LOVE

**Margaret Gordon Was the Original of Blumine in "Sartor Resartus," Says the Critic.**

During the year 1818 Thomas Carlyle, the Scotch philosopher, was living at Kirkcaldy, and he seems then for the first time to have fallen in love. The lady appears not to have returned the attachment, although she with great insight at the age of twenty-two perceived the genius of her suitor of twenty-five.

In the letter in which she took leave of her admirer she used these significant expressions: "Cultivate the milder dispositions of your heart, subdue the more extravagant visions of the brain. . . . Genius will render you great. May virtue render you beloved! Let your light shine before men and think them not unworthy this trouble."

Many years after, when Carlyle wrote his reminiscences, he described the episode. He says that Margaret Gordon "continued for perhaps some three years a figure hanging more or less in my fancy, on the usual romantic and latterly quite elegiac and silent terms."

"The real interest of the story is this, Was Margaret Gordon the sole original of the Blumine or 'Sartor Resartus'?" One critic would have us answer that although Jane Welsh might have inspired some of the details, it was Margaret Gordon who was the true original.

### When Scot Meets Scot.

A Scottish farmer was one day selling some wool to a carrier, and after weighing it in the yard he went into the house to make out an invoice. Coming back he missed a cheese which had been standing on a shelf behind the outer door and glancing at the bag of wool he observed that it had suddenly increased in size. "Man," he said to the carrier, "I have clean forgotten the weight o' that bag. Let's pit it on the scales again." The carrier could not refuse. Being duly weighed, the bag was found to be heavier by the weight of the cheese inside. A new invoice was made out, and the crestfallen carrier went away. The farmer's wife at once missed the cheese, and, rushing to the yard, told her husband that some thief had stolen the cheese. "Na, na, Meg," replied the farmer quickly; "I hae just seit the cheese for twa shillins the pund."

—St. John (N. B.) Telegraph.

### Was It a Dark Horse?

An ex-bookmaker tells this one: One day in the palmy days of horse-racing, he was operating a book at one of the western racetracks. There had been considerable betting on the third race of the day, and just before post time an excited rural-looking individual rushed up to the stand with a roll of bills in his hand. The man shouldered several fellows out of line and posted himself in front of the stand, but then seemed to lose himself in his reflections.

"Well, come on," exclaimed the bookmaker. "Don't stand there. Who do you want to bet on?" "Mister," sighed the man, "I can't tell you. It's a secret."—Louisville Times.

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## The War Children of Paris.

How beautiful they are, the war children! How well cared for, how thriving, and how showered with love! Their prolonged stasias in the Bois or in the gardens have freshened the bloom of their cheeks. Their immaculate pink-and-whiteness seems to testify to the girl mother's loving care of the now sovereign baby who for two years has had no rival. The mother's entire time is devoted to His Majesty, the baby, nor is he ever forgotten except occasionally when her thoughts wandering to the absent one, she traces in the baby's dimpled face the sometimes fugitive, sometimes striking resemblance to his soldier-father. Sacred moments these when in the twilight the curly head and downy cheek resolve themselves into the pale or sunburnt features of one somewhere in France.—Cartoons Magazine.

Start the year by getting Hanford's Balsam. You will find frequent use for it. Adv.

## Gypsies Use Automobiles.

"Even gypsies are abandoning horses for motors," says the July Popular Mechanics Magazine. "A band of about 40 of these nomads recently visited Columbus, Ohio, traveling in three covered automobiles which had been purchased a short time before. Each motor was fitted up in true gipsy fashion, and portions of the tops were painted in the bright colors characteristic of the familiar gipsy wagons. In all, three families inhabited the three cars. The sage of the group was a woman 75 years old; the youngest of the children was three months old."

## The Best Liniment.

For falls on icy walks, sprains and bruises, rub on and rub in Hanford's Balsam of Myrrh. Apply this liniment thoroughly and relief should quickly follow. Adv.

## The Usual Way.

Out of a letter that came to us the other day we grab this little bit: You can tell a man your troubles, You can weep and moan and wail, You can tell him you'll go bankrupt, That you'll maybe go to jail, You can tell your inmost secret, You can bare your life's one blot— And he'll say: "I want to help you, But what assets have you got?" —Detroit Free Press.

## Nervy.

"That fellow's got his nerve with him!" "What's the matter now?" "He actually asked me to lend him a couple of gallons of gasoline until next Saturday."—Detroit Free Press.

## The Smile of Serenity.

"That man is surely an optimist." "How do you know?" "He smiles continually." "Maybe he's an optimist and maybe he's a diplomat."—Washington Star.

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