

The Great Outdoors

Where Bread, Meat, Clothing, Health and Vigorous Humanity are Produced

Hints for Linn County Farmers

The stand of clover on O. A. C. fields has been improved 50 per cent by the use of lime on poor land.

In some hay fields good workers are getting \$3 a day and board. The crop is abundant and of fine quality. What will the price be next winter?

For pig feed O. A. C. estimates whole corn, ground wheat and ground barley as having about the same value. They should be supplemented with protein feeds, such as skim milk, tankage or fish meal.

Enough cows have been pledged to assure a cheese factory at Tangent. Mrs. Peter Slate offers to donate a quarter of a town block for its site. Here will be a chance for the Holsteins to make their best impression.

The six cows that led all others in the four small cow testing units in Lincoln county last year averaged 339 pounds of butterfat and returned \$102.25 profit each over food cost, while the least profitable herd, with 18 cows, averaged 195 pounds fat that sold for \$52.29 more than cost of feed.

Although Oregon has 100,000 colonies of bees, 10,000 beekeepers and \$1,000,000 invested in bees and beekeeping equipment, many carloads of honey are imported into the state annually. The state is capable of supplying enough honey to meet demands and supplant all of the sirup and much of the sugar used.—O. A. C.

Growers, dealers, retailers and consumers now know that there is a potato grading law with teeth in it. There is a heavy penalty for misbranding stock or failing to have the grower's name and address on the sack. The consumer wants a guarantee these days, and he will buy only of those who grade their stock and give him a choice.—Market Agent Spence.

Districts where drain tile have been used extensively show a marked improvement in prosperity. Drain tile not only carries off the excess water when it should be removed from the land, but prevents souring and furnishes air to the ground when it is most needed. Instances are known where the increased production by the use of drain tile has paid the cost of the installation the first year.—H. R. Kreitzer in Oregon Business.

Jardine Advises Farm Co-operation

Portland, Or.—Co-operative marketing and a strict businesslike administration of agricultural affairs, said William M. Jardine, secretary of agriculture, in an address at the Portland Chamber of Commerce, will prove the salvation of the American farmer.

"I am a firm believer in co-operative marketing," said Mr. Jardine. "I am against price-fixing by the government. Export corporation legislation such as has been recently proposed would not, in my opinion, help move the surplus of production that has been the bane of the farmer everywhere ever since the war.

"The farmer must learn to sell his products; to merchandise the stock of the soil as the merchant merchandises his stock of manufactured goods and as Gary markets his steel."

Big hay crops will be the rule in Lincoln county this year.

Unusually good crops of grain are reported by Silverton farmers this season.

Haying began at Sweet Home last week. This year's yield is one of the heaviest for several years. Much of the crop is being put up with balers.

Harvesting of grain is under way in some parts of Umatilla county, according to reports received at Pendleton. Favorable growing conditions during the spring and the hot wave have combined to hasten the ripening of grain, and farmers predict an early harvest.

The hen has not yet been invented that can make eggs without shell material to work on. Oyster shell will supply the need.

Sweet clover makes a good hog pasture. It is a hardy, vigorous-growing legume, rich in bone-and muscle-building elements for pigs. One acre will pasture twenty or more spring pigs.

Better Poultry Is Helping All Stock

Progress of "Better Sires—Better Stock" Campaign.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

A total of 1,164,657 fowls—all breeding stock—are listed in a recent report just issued by the United States Department of Agriculture as undergoing improvement by the use of pure-bred male birds. The fowls consist principally of chickens, but include also turkeys, geese, ducks, guinea fowls and pigeons. The report deals with the progress of the "Better Sires—Better Stock" campaign conducted by various states and the department for the improvement of domestic animals.

It is noticeable, however, that fowls outnumber other stock by more than two to one. The number of cattle, horses, asses, swine, sheep and goats totals slightly more than half a million as compared with considerably over a million fowls.

Department live stock specialists point out the educational effect which improved poultry has on the breeding of larger animals and cite examples in which a well-bred poultry flock was the means of causing the betterment of other animals on the same farms. Being prolific, poultry respond very quickly to good breeding practices, including the use of high-quality pure-bred males. The report shows also that the use of pure-bred sires in poultry breeding stock results in the ownership of more than ten times as many pure-bred female birds.

The small investment necessary to establish breeding pens of well-bred fowls makes poultry a popular class of live stock on which to begin a program for improvement.

Setting High Standard for Dairy Production

Requirements for cows to be recorded in the Advanced Registry of the Holstein-Friesian breed are as follows:

For yearly production:

Two years.....218.0 pounds of fat

Three years.....372.0 pounds of fat

Four years.....425.0 pounds of fat

Five years.....480.0 pounds of fat

In the 305-day division they are required to make 80 per cent of the requirements for all-year test, with a culling requirement making it necessary for them to drop a live calf within 14 months after their previous calf was delivered.

Judge your grades as well as your pure breeds by this standard. If they are making these requirements they are the kind that will never make their owner sorry that he is in the dairy business. If they are not, then strive to improve by using good pure-bred sires.

Judicious weeding with constructive breeding helps mightily toward succeeding.—H. R. Lascelles, Fieldman for Colorado State Dairy Commissioner.

Sweet Clover Valuable

Sweet clover, like most of the common legumes, contains a large amount of protein, thus making it a valuable feed for growing stock and milk production. Analyses made at Idaho experiment station indicate that sweet clover is about equal to alfalfa as a feed for live stock. It carries about the same amount of protein, is only slightly lower in carbohydrates, and is very little higher in crude fiber. The biennial yellow sweet clover is higher in crude fiber than the biennial white.

THE MARKETS

Portland
Wheat—Hard white, \$1.60; soft white, \$1.55; northern spring, \$1.58; hard winter, \$1.50; western white, \$1.57; western red, \$1.50.

Hay—Alfalfa, \$19@20 ton; valley timothy, \$20@21; eastern Oregon timothy, \$23@24.

Butterfat—4c delivered Portland.

Eggs—Ranch, 29@33c.

Cheese—Prices f. o. b. Tillamook: Triplets, 27c; loaf, 28c per lb.

Cattle—Steers, medium, \$8.00@9.25.

Hogs—Medium to choice, \$12.50@14.25.

Sheep—Lambs, medium to choice, \$9.50@11.25.

Seattle.

Wheat—Soft white and western white \$1.45; hard winter, \$1.44; western red, \$1.42; northern spring, \$1.44.

Hay—Alfalfa, \$24; D. C., \$28; timothy, \$26; mixed hay, \$24.

Butterfat—43c.

Eggs—Ranch, 32@37c.

Hogs—Prime, \$14.50@14.75.

Cattle—Prime steers, \$8.50@9.

Cheese—Oregon fancy to retailers, 29c per lb.; do standards, 25c; Washington fancy triplets, 25c.

Spokane.

Hogs—Prime, \$13.50@13.60.

Cattle—Prime steers, \$8.00@8.50.

Saving Oat Crop From Rust Enemy

Much Progress Has Been Made in Development of Resistant Varieties.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The fight to save the oat crop from one of its most formidable enemies, black stem rust, is being waged from all possible angles known to science. Not only is the disease being eliminated by the campaign to destroy its alternate host plant, the common barberry, but it is also being rendered less destructive by the "armoring" of the defendants through creating a natural resistance in varieties. The United States Department of Agriculture is allied with the various state experiment stations of the oat-producing areas in an effort to develop varieties of oats that are naturally immune from or highly resistant to the attacks of rust. Two years' efforts to single out varieties that are highly resistant and to breed from them other varieties that will retain this quality along with other desirable characters have shown remarkable progress in the development of resistant varieties.

This spring the United States Department of Agriculture sent to 51 cooperating stations 16 varieties of oats for testing for resistance under local conditions and environment of these stations. Included in these 16 varieties were two selections, Minnesota 986 and 987, developed by the Minnesota Agricultural experiment station from crosses between the White Tartar (White Russian) and a Swedish importation, the Victory, and Minota X White Tartar, respectively, which have shown exceptional promise in their resisting power for the past few years at stations in that state. The Richland (Iowa 105) and the White Tartar (White Russian) varieties which during the tests at 24 stations during 1923 showed only a trace of infection, and less than 1 per cent infection last year, are also included.

A new variety, the Helgira Rustproof, introduced from South Africa a few years ago, showed equally good resistance and will be further tried at these 51 stations this year.

Fortify Against Rust.

The expansion from 24 stations cooperating last year to a total of 51 stations in this country and several in Canada, marks a renewed and determined effort to fortify the oat crop against the losses from black stem rust by the development of resistant varieties. A specialist will visit each station during the growing season to check up on the results of the test. The susceptibility to infection of the different varieties will be measured by comparing them with the infection on control varieties, those which are known to be defenseless against the disease and which will be sown in the testing plots along with the ones on trial.

Rhubarb Very Important as Perennial Vegetable

Rhubarb, or pieplant, is an important perennial vegetable. Like asparagus, it produces a supply early in the spring when fresh vegetables are in great demand. New leaves appear from early spring to midsummer, but the leafstalks produced early in the season are most in demand and the harvest does not usually last more than eight weeks. After pulling has stopped, the leaves are allowed to grow and supply the roots with food material for the next year's crop. Rhubarb roots are hardy and require no winter protection. The plant is capable of surviving both the extreme heat of summer and the cold of winter in the central latitude.

Soy beans should do well on potato land or timothy sod plowed.

Toepecking among baby chicks may result from lack of exercise.

Kill new weeds which appear on the farm before they get a foothold.

Sanitation Needed in Raising Calves

Clean and Scalded Utensils Are Most Important.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

In the raising of calves one of the most important requisites is good sanitation. In discussing this timely matter, veterinary specialists of the bureau of animal industry, United States Department of Agriculture, point out that adult cows may tolerate certain organisms that will cause serious disturbances in the digestive tract of calves. The main constituent of a calf's diet is milk, which also is a favorable medium for the development of bacteria.

When faulty sanitation exists, some of the bacteria that gain access to the milk intended for calf feeding may be of the disease-producing type. For this reason, department specialists say, sanitary measures must apply not only to the quarters where the cows and calves are kept but to the calf-feeding equipment as well. Clean and scalded milk utensils are needed to safeguard the hand-fed calf against possible disease. Ventilation and sunlight also are essential to the well-being of calves and should receive the most careful attention of those engaged in the rearing of calves.

In addition to the daily cleaning of the calf quarters, periodical disinfection is advised. By so doing, infection has very little chance to establish a foothold and many of the more common ailments of calves will be avoided.

Candle All Eggs Before Shipping to Any Market

Egg dealers who are not certain as to the freshness of their eggs should candle them before shipment, says the United States Department of Agriculture, which is planning a close watch over eggs shipped into interstate commerce during the warm spring and summer months. Under the provisions of the federal food and drugs act, eggs with yolks stuck to the shell, moldy eggs, black spots, mixed rots, and black rots, are classified as adulterated.

Investigations have shown that it is commercially practicable by candling to eliminate the eggs liable to be graded as adulterated. The dealer who candles his eggs before shipment runs little risk of violating the law or of having his eggs rejected at destination. A number of states have food-control measures providing for the candling of eggs before sale.

Fighting to Extinguish

Dangerous Corn Borer

The corn borer is getting a great deal of attention from farmers and college experiment men in Ohio and southern Ontario. Every conceivable method is being tried in a desperate attempt to stop to his ravages. A burial experiment was tried out last year at the Ohio Agricultural college in which 1,800 borers were covered in stubble and stalks to a depth of five or six inches by the plow and then the soil received ordinary cultivation. All of the borers perished, not a single moth having been taken from the cages placed on the plowed area. This experiment would indicate that thorough plowing and covering of stubble will be one of the big factors in the fight to extinguish this dangerous pest.

New Ground for Chicks

The most important aid which the poultry keeper has in fighting worms and coccidiosis in their young chicks is the use of new ground for the brood coops. Too many producers keep on using the old runs year after year without change and then blame their inability to raise a large percentage of healthy, thrifty chicks to poor luck. Very often the remedy is simple and in a good many cases the moving of the brooder houses and coops is all that is needed.

"Feed your soil and your soil will feed you," is the slogan of the soil fertility specialists.

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Best Soil for Rhubarb

Rhubarb is not particular as to soil, but it thrives best in soil that is mellow and fertile to a considerable depth. Soils that have a high subsoil or hardpan are to be avoided. As the large leaves and succulent stems require an enormous amount of soil moisture, irrigation is sometimes advisable for this crop. Warm exposures or soils sloping toward the south are desirable when earliness is the chief consideration.

a full, strong, mature growth that the laying ration should be fed, and this should contain corn—plenty of it. The corn will keep her in good flesh while she is laying and it is important that she go to her roost at night with a stuffed crop.

Growing mash and scratch feeds with little corn in them will build up a good frame, and a good range will induce vigor and vitality. Then the egg machine is ready to go into action. No machine of any kind can be efficient unless it is built to withstand a strain. The egg machine is no exception to this rule.

Egg-Laying Is a Severe Strain on Young Pullet

Pullets from the chick stage nearly up to the laying stage should not be fed too much corn. The prime purpose in feeding should be to provide the constituents that build up bone and muscle. The pullet lacking these will not prove a good producer during the winter months, and even though she does begin to lay well she will not be able to keep up the pace because the strain is too great for her undeveloped constitution. Egg-laying is a severe strain on the pullet, and unless a good bodily foundation has been built up and there is vigor and vitality, the fowl will not be able to stand the grind.

It is when the pullet has reached

Sudan Grass Excellent

as Substitute Hay Crop

Sudan grass is a fine stemmed, leafy sorghum suitable as a substitute hay crop. Recent trials by several agricultural stations demonstrate that it is also suited to pasture purposes to be alternated with the regular rotation pastures. The crop recovers rapidly when eaten off and roots sufficiently well so that the plants are not pulled up when pastured. Cattle relish it as a green feed and seem to maintain their milk flow as well upon it as they do when pasturing the regular pastures.



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