

# FARM TOPICS

## WATER COOLER BEST FOR MILK

### Hot Weather Necessitates Effective System.

By H. R. SEARLES

(Extension Dairyman at University Farm, St. Paul.)

Whether milk and cream are used on the farm or sold to the creamery, cooling becomes the problem of the hour on the dairy farm during the summer. A good cooling system is a necessity if the dairyman is to prosper.

Air is not a good cooling agent, even in the coldest winter. Experiments have shown that milk cools many times faster immersed in water than standing in air. Cooling large quantities of milk may call for ice or artificial refrigeration, but the dairyman who sells cream can usually do a good job with a cooling tank and well water. Using the water that goes to the main stock tank first for cooling is entirely satisfactory if proper equipment is provided.

The water may be pumped through a two-barrel tank, with most of the pumping carried out at the same time the warm cream is put in. The tank will be a better cooler if it is sheltered from the sun and wind and if it has a tight cover to hold out warm air and dust. If the tank is of metal, some insulation on the outside will also help hold out heat.

The milk and cream supply for the family will also be more desirable if care is taken in keeping the product cool. Putting the home milk in two-quart glass jars and sinking these in the cooling tank is satisfactory. Even if there is refrigeration on the farm, it is a good idea to cool the milk first in water and not put the burden on the refrigerator.

## AGRICULTURE IN INDUSTRY

By Florence C. Weed

(This is one of a series of articles showing how farm products are finding an important market in industry.)

### Irish Potatoes

The lowly "spud" takes many forms besides being mashed, boiled and fried. In Maine alone, an average of 3,000,000 bushels go into starch. Most of this is used for sizing the fine count warp threads in the cotton textile industry. In 1934, a peak of 5,319,000 bushels were used for starch.

Much of the high grade edible starch was imported before the recent war and new factories are being built in this country to improve the quality of the American product. There is no doubt but that the present chaotic conditions of the world have helped the United States to become more self-sufficient. In the calico printing industry, our domestic starch is now being used in place of a foreign import. One plant in the United States is making nitro-starch, an explosive which is made extensively in Europe.

In Maine, experiments are under way to use the potato in making plastic compounds. So far the idea is still in the laboratory stage but chemists believe that the potato may have a future in this field. Such an outlet would use profitably the culls and second grade potatoes which are usually wasted.

Another use of the potato, so far not tried here, is the making of fuel alcohol as a substitute for gasoline and kerosene. It was developed first in Germany.

No crop produces as much food per acre as the prolific potato plant where yields of 200 to 300 bushels are common. The leading potato growing sections are Aroostock county, Maine; Long Island, New York; the Eastern Shore of Virginia, Red River Valley of Minnesota and southern Idaho. Maine produces about one-seventh of the 45,000,000 bushel crop annually.

### Poultry Ration

Any of the common grains may be used with good results in the poultry ration so long as the mixture contains at least three different grains. This makes it possible to substitute cheaper grains when some of them are too high in price. The thing to remember is that oats are an important part of the ration for chickens of all ages, and that where yellow corn is not used, it is necessary to supply additional vitamin A in alfalfa or cod liver oil.

### Rural Briefs

Lime, phosphate, and proper grazing are the first rules of pasture management.

It is estimated that an acre of soil on typical farm land contains 1½ tons of weed seeds.

Records at various packing markets show that cull dairy cows are sold throughout the year.

# Fun for the Whole Family

## BIG TOP

By ED WHEELAN



## LALA PALOOZA The Last Roundup

By RUBE GOLDBERG



## S'MATTER POP—Hey, Soldier! That's Playground Business!

By C. M. PAYNE



## MESCAL IKE By S. L. HUNTLEY

Signs of Spring



## POP—Talk About That Well-Known Professor!

By J. MILLAR WATT



## THE SPORTING THING

By LANG ARMSTRONG



"Let's wait for a wave, George, I've always wanted to see how I'd look on a bucking brone."

## BATTING EYE

By GLUYAS WILLIAMS

