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Paved Yards Save Feed and Labor

Floor Is Sanitary and Does
 Away With Unsightly Mud
 Holes in Barnyards.

No farm is complete without a con-
 crete feeding floor as part of its equip-
 ment. It is hard to estimate the
 amount of feed that has been lost and
 wasted through being fed in the mud.
 A paved feeding floor is sanitary and
 does away with the unsightly mudholes
 so common to barnyards.

Easy to Build.

Concrete barnyard pavements, as
 shown in the illustration, are easy to
 build, and the man who has never had
 experience with concrete can acquire
 what is necessary in a short time by



Concrete Barnyard Pavement.

carefully following a few instructions.
 Not all of the pavement need be built
 at one time. A strip 20 feet wide is
 enough for a beginning. Additional
 strips can be added as desired.

Plan for Paving.

In paving a feeding yard with con-
 crete, first grade the site so that it is
 practically level. If the drainage is
 not good, drain tile should be laid. A
 sub-base of several inches of gravel or
 cinders is sometimes advantageous.
 The concrete should be mixed in the
 proportion of 1 part of cement, 2
 parts of sand and 3 of pebbles or
 broken stone. A thickness of four
 inches is the allowable minimum and
 five or six inches is safer, especially
 where heavy loads are likely to be put
 on the floor. The surface should be
 made to slope toward one corner, with
 a pitch of not more than one-fourth-
 inch per foot, and it should be finished
 with a wood-float, which leaves a gritty
 surface that can be easily cleaned,
 yet affords a firm footing for the stock.
 After the concrete has been laid it
 should not be used for at least two or
 three weeks.

The following table shows the
 amount of materials required to build
 pavements of various areas, using one-
 and-a-half inch and a thickness of four
 inches:

| Square Ft. Sacks of Cem. Yds. Ck. Yds. of Pav'm't Cement, of Sand, Pebbles | | | |
|--|-----|----|----|
| 300 | 26 | 3 | 3 |
| 600 | 52 | 6 | 6 |
| 900 | 77 | 9 | 9 |
| 1,200 | 103 | 12 | 12 |
| 1,500 | 128 | 15 | 15 |

Sweet Corn Is Superior for Feeding in Summer

In making plans for summer feed-
 ing, the value of sugar corn should not
 be overlooked. In certain dairy sec-
 tions where its worth is recognized, it
 is not unusual to find almost every
 dairyman planting a moderate-sized
 patch with which to meet the mid-
 summer period when pasturage is
 short and green feed at a premium.

In the choice of the variety to plant
 it is well to choose the later maturing
 sorts such as Country Gentleman and
 Evergreen. The earlier varieties will
 mature as a rule before there is real
 need for them in dairy feeding. The
 earlier varieties of sweet corn are
 lacking in stalk and leaf as compared
 with the larger and later sorts.

Fowls in Orchard Kill Many Injurious Insects

Any fruit which grows high enough
 to be out of reach of the hens is
 benefited by their presence. Better
 crops are produced and greater
 growth is in evidence. Some years ago
 Cornell university made a test which
 showed very conclusively that the
 presence of chickens in an orchard did
 more good towards killing injurious in-
 sects than all the liquid sprays that
 could be applied.

Little Improvement in Quality of Seed Helps

It has been estimated that more
 than 14,000,000 pounds of seeds, ex-
 clusive of seed potatoes, seed sugar
 beets, and other vegetable planting
 stocks, are sown or planted annually
 in this country. Even a small im-
 provement in the quality of seed
 planting would result in larger crops
 at little or no additional expense or
 in the same production on a smaller
 acreage.

Consider Farmer First in Establishing Routes

When establishing routes for good
 roads, the interest of the farmers is
 the first thing that should be taken
 into account. As it is over them that
 all that goes to clothe and feed the
 hungry ungrateful world must be
 transported, let the slogan of roads
 be, "Farmers First."

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Cucumber Beetle Will Injure Garden Crops

Pests Make Their Appear-
 ance Suddenly.

(Prepared by the United States Department
 of Agriculture.)

The striped cucumber beetle attacks
 and injures seedling cucumbers, melons
 and related crops, but especially the
 cucumber, as soon as they appear.
 They even burrow down to meet them
 before they come above the ground.
 They devour the tender stems and
 leaves before the plant is fairly
 started, gnaw the older stems and rip-
 e fruits and act as carriers of cucurbit
 diseases. They make their appearance
 suddenly and in great numbers, and as
 they work rapidly an entire crop may
 be destroyed in a few days. The
 slender white wormlike larvae injure
 the plants later in the season by tun-
 neling the roots and underground parts
 of the stems.

The control measures which have
 given the greatest promise of success
 are preventives, repellents, farm prac-
 tice, and the use of insecticides, par-
 ticularly nicotine dust and arsenate of
 lead.

In suggesting control measures, the
 department comments that young and
 choice plants in small gardens be
 protected with tight coverings. If an
 excess of seed is planted, the attack
 will be distributed, and some of the
 plants will escape the beetles. Nicot-
 ine dust should be applied directly, and
 arsenate of lead used as a spray,
 either alone or in combination with
 Bordeaux mixture. Care should be
 taken to cover every portion of in-
 fested plants, both surfaces of leaves,
 vines and stems. Clean culture with
 trap plants is an aid. Active co-opera-
 tion of neighboring growers of cucur-
 bits in these methods is desirable.
 Community effort in observing these
 methods will undoubtedly lessen the
 danger of losses from this pest in the
 course of time.

"Yellowing" Cuts Deeply Into Alfalfa Production

"Yellowing" is one of the most serious
 troubles of the alfalfa grower. In
 the East, says the United States De-
 partment of Agriculture, it is respon-
 sible for a greater reduction in yield
 every year than any of the diseases or
 insects. In the past few years it has
 been observed in the West, but in the
 rest of the country it has been known
 almost as long as the crop has been
 grown on a commercial scale.

Although the cause of "yellowing"
 has never been definitely determined,
 it has been attributed to a number of
 unfavorable conditions. In some cases
 it has been thought that soil conditions
 were responsible, as the same symp-
 toms occur in the absence of sufficient
 time, plant food, or drainage. But it
 also occurs where all these conditions
 are favorable, as is shown by the quick
 recovery of the plants after the old
 growth has been cut. When the cause
 is lack of time, food, or drainage the
 plants die soon after cutting.

The treatment recommended for
 "yellowing" is cutting of the fields re-
 gardless of the stage of development
 of the plants. The new growth gen-
 erally comes along normally

Ear Tag System Is Practical for Flocks

Especially Used for Identi-
 fying Each Individual.

(Prepared by the United States Department
 of Agriculture.)

An ingenious and simple method of
 marking farm breeding animals has
 been used successfully with sheep for
 eight years by Cooper Curdick of the
 United States Department of Agricul-
 ture at the farm of the bureau of animal
 industry near Vienna, Va. The
 system is especially adapted for iden-
 tifying quickly the extent of pure blood
 of individuals in herds and flocks being
 improved with purebred sires. Each
 animal is labeled with an aluminum
 tag bearing a number. Females are
 labeled on the right ear; males on the
 left. The young are given the dam's
 number preceded by 1 (or by 10 if the
 dam's number is a digital number) if
 it is the first young born; preceded by
 2 if the second born, and so on.

This system is quite practical for
 farm flocks of sheep of less than 100
 head, and for cattle. If a purebred
 sire is being used to grade up a herd
 or flock of nondescript females, the
 system affords a very good ever-pres-
 ent record of the grade of animals
 obtained. For example: The first-
 born young of female No. 25 will be
 marked 125. Animal No. 125 is one-
 half grade. The young of 125 will be
 marked 1125, and will be a three-quarters
 grade. No. 1125 will be seven-eighths,
 and No. 11125, fifteen-sixteenths. To
 illustrate further: No. 3125 is the
 third young of the first young of 25
 and a three-quarters grade.

When there is no longer space for
 additional figures on the label, the
 sixth or seventh generation may be
 marked with letters following the num-
 ber of the original dam. Applied to
 female No. 25, the young of the sixth
 generation may be marked 25A; next
 generation, 25B, and so on. If desired,
 the sire number may be placed on the
 reverse side of the label.

This method of identifying animals
 may be used in conjunction with an
 ear-notching system, which further
 identifies them. A good ear-notching
 plan enables the owner to replace,
 with assurance as to correct identity,
 any ear tags that may be lost.

Eradicate Weed Plants by Preventing Growth

There is only one way to eradicate
 noxious perennial plants such as wild
 morning glories or pea vine growths,
 or whatever kind they may be, and
 that is to prevent them from making
 any leaf growth during the last half
 of summer, or after about July 1.
 Whatever method you find most con-
 venient for doing this will be the most
 practical method for you to apply.

Some such plants can be eradicated
 by pasturing the last half of summer;
 other methods are to keep the land
 cultivated the last half of summer, or
 to keep them cut down with a hoe
 when in some cultivated crop, such as
 corn; another method is to smother
 with straw or by growing some rank
 growing crop; another is to keep the
 land mowed close to the ground fre-
 quently.

Certified Seed Increases Yield

Favorable Results Obtained
 by Potato Growers Should
 Encourage General Use.

(Prepared by the United States Department
 of Agriculture.)

While there has been an increasing
 tendency on the part of potato produc-
 ers to use certified seed during the
 last few years, the favorable results
 that have been obtained from the use
 of such seeds should encourage a much
 more general use of certified seed,
 says the United States Department of
 Agriculture. A number of states are
 now producing certified seed and
 have records showing the comparative
 yield from certified fields with the
 average yield of the state. In New
 York state yields for ordinary fields
 averaged 103 bushels an acre, while
 the certified fields yielded 223 bushels
 an acre. In Minnesota the yield in
 favor of the certified seed, over that
 of the ordinary fields, was 60 bushels
 an acre, and in Pennsylvania certified
 fields yielded 366 bushels while the
 ordinary fields produced only 100
 bushels an acre. Reports from other
 states show similar increase in yield
 from the certified fields in comparison
 to the average of the state.

Decided Improvement.

Certified seed sent from Michigan
 to several corn belt states for experi-
 mental and demonstrational tests in
 1921 showed a decided improvement
 in yield over the local seed. In Iowa
 the increase in yield secured from this
 Michigan certified seed was 61.2 bush-
 els, in Indiana 21 fields showed an in-
 crease of 63 bushels, in Illinois 61
 fields yielded 44 bushels increase,
 while in Ohio, where the great part
 of the acreage of the state is planted
 with certified seed, the increase due to
 the Michigan seed was only 2.6 bush-
 els. In two tests conducted in Dela-
 ware the Michigan certified seed aver-
 aged 68½ bushels more an acre than
 home-grown seed.

Good Season for Both.

Last season was a good one for both
 producers and buyers of certified seed.
 The large production of certified seed
 has brought the price so low that al-
 though reports show that a premium
 of 50 to 150 per cent is being paid
 for certified stock the grower is at
 least getting a little profit out of his
 work, while the buyer is able to buy
 this seed at a reasonable cost.

Little to Be Gained by Cultivation of Alfalfa

So long as the stand is satisfactory
 and the plants are making good
 growth there is little to be gained by
 cultivating alfalfa, says the United
 States Department of Agriculture. A
 slight increase in yield is sometimes
 obtained by such treatment, but ex-
 periments have shown that it is not
 ordinarily enough to pay the addition-
 al cost, and the life of the stand is
 prolonged but little, if any.

Under certain conditions, however,
 cultivation of this crop may be worth
 while. Where irrigation waters leave
 a crust of salt on the fields the use
 of the harrow to break it up seems
 advisable. Also where irrigated alf-
 alfa is pastured it is sometimes a
 good practice to use a harrow to
 loosen up the soil, especially if it is
 heavy-textured. When weeds and
 grass threaten to choke out the alf-
 alfa the life of the stand may be
 profitably prolonged for a year or two
 by harrowing.

The best implement for this purpose
 is the alfalfa harrow, which is a mod-
 ification of the spring-tooth harrow.
 The spike-tooth harrow may be used
 on the lighter soils, but is of little use
 on the heavy soils. The disk harrow
 is very liable to prove injurious.

Orchard Intercropping Secondard Proposition

From the year that an orchard is
 first set out, intercropping is a sec-
 ondary proposition and should be
 treated as such—the trees come first.
 It has usually been considered desir-
 able to make use of the land between
 the trees for the first few years from
 the standpoint of increased profit. Fur-
 thermore, a cultivated crop insures
 cultivation of the trees.

Legume Is Satisfactory Crop for Poultry Flock

One of the most satisfactory crops
 to grow on the ground where poultry
 ranges is the legume. Clover or alf-
 alfa are ideal crops for this purpose.
 A half acre of ground seeded to either
 one of these legumes will furnish
 enough green feed for a hundred or
 more chickens.

Deep Corn Cultivation Will Cut Many of Roots

When the stalks of corn are 18
 inches high, the roots have met across
 a three-and-one-half-foot row. Deep
 cultivation at this time will cut many
 of the roots and check the growth of
 the plants. A good rule to follow is
 to cultivate deep early in the season
 and shallow later when the plants are
 larger.

Broadcast Condition of Highways on Saturday

The condition of highways in Massa-
 chusetts and bordering states is be-
 coming better every Saturday evening
 at 6:30 o'clock by the Automobile Le-
 gal association. This service gives
 motorists up-to-the-minute informa-
 tion on the condition of trunk line
 highways.

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M. C. MARSHALL,
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 ner. Patients are privileged to
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 ing 64½ pounds to the bushel is be-
 ing delivered at the Brown & Lowry
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