

Saskatchewan Farmer Wins



This is the grade of wheat that captured a \$1,000 prize against world competition three years ago and recently won first prize and sweepstakes at the Wichita, Kansas, International Soil Products Exposition.

ONCE MORE the wheat raised by Seager Wheeler has brought distinction and fame to the little town of Roathern, Saskatchewan, on the Canadian Northern railway, between Saskatoon and Prince Albert. For the third time in three years has Western Canada wheat swept aside all competition and captured the first prize. At the recent International Soil Products Exhibition held in connection with the International Dry Farming Congress at Wichita, Kansas, Seager Wheeler, of Roathern, Sask., was awarded the first prize and sweepstakes for the best bushel of wheat. He also took first for flax. Seager Wheeler is the same man who three years ago captured the Sir Thomas Shaughnessy \$1000 purse for the best wheat ex-

hibited at New York against competition from all parts of the world.

Seager Wheeler says he "breeds" wheat. He takes any new variety of grain or the best that he has grown himself in the past season and sets it out in trial plots. With the best grain so produced he sets out his fields, continuing his breeding until he is satisfied he has prize wheat. "Constant care and experimentation" is what Wheeler urges on those who want to raise good grain. His farm near Roathern is only a short distance from the Canadian Northern station and well worth a visit. A number of well known agriculturists from the United States have visited Wheeler's farm and proclaimed the land to be equal to the highest priced lands in any part of the United States.

Bettering Farm Horse Breeds

A GREAT DEAL is written and preached about improving the breed of dairy cows, but it is as important to improve the breed of farm horses and much less is said about the matter. It is surprising to learn that in Wisconsin, known as a dairy state, the horses of the state are worth much more than the dairy cows. Efforts have been made in that state to improve the breed of horses used, and a long campaign has brought the horses to a high value and efficiency.

The first thing to do is to discourage the use of scrubs as breeding stock. This is difficult to do, for the owners of scrubs are too often eager to employ every argument in their power to persuade the farmer to allow service from the mongrel. The chief argument is the low cost of service.

When the farmer realizes the increased value of his stock when descended from pure bred stallions, the service cost is the least of his troubles. With the use of pure bred animals for sires in New Jersey, the difference in selling value is aptly illustrated by the statement of a farmer there. He said:

"After using a pure-bred sire, I find I can get 40 per cent more for my colts."

Stick to One Breed.

There are some things which the farmer should remember before he sets out to improve his horse stock. He should select the particular breed which he admires most, or which for some other reason he decides to use, and stick to that breed.

Out crosses destroy half the value of the work he does. If he starts with a Percheron sire, let him stick to Percherons. If he begins with a Clydesdale stallion, he should never change to anything else.

For most farmers, the practical way is to grade up by using the mares on his place for brood mares, and get pure bred sires. Regarding the choice of mares:

Do not breed any mare that is deformed, sick, diseased, vicious, unsound, a poor milker or a cross mother. Select the brood mares carefully, taking sound mares which have proved serviceable on the farm and which have the best material points.

Do not breed to any sire which is not purebred. But this is not the only qualification; the stallion should be sound, muscular and prepotent. Do not make the mistake of picking out the fattest stallion. Bulk is good, but it should not be fat. The stallion in show condition is not in the best breeding condition. The breeding stallion should be in good work condition; in fair but not full flesh; active, with a good appetite; and never permit the use of a stallion which is unsound, unsuitable for your purposes on the farm or partially impotent. Never out-cross to another breed.

Shelter Mare.

After breeding, see that the mare has proper shelter and feed. This may save scrubs. The mare with foal should have some work, but not too violent. She should be favored but not spoiled.

Do not retain for breeding purposes any colt which is not purebred and eligible to register. Care for the foal or filly so that perfect development is assured. This will mean money in your pocket.

If you are fortunate enough to own a purebred stallion with good sire qualities, give him enough work to do to keep him healthy, muscular and prepotent. Good, plain feed and plenty of work give potency and health, prolong the life and increase the usefulness of the sire, whether he be stallion, bull, ram, buck or rooster.

WHICH METHOD IS YOURS?

ONE dairyman produced \$2,000 worth of milk from 20 cows, or \$100 per cow; a neighbor bestowed twice as much labor on 40 cows and sold only \$1,800 worth of milk, or \$45 per cow, barely paying expenses, while the first man made a profit of over \$1,000.

Yet the second man said he had no time to spend a few minutes each day weighing and testing the milk from each cow.

Instead, he spent four long, weary years in raising and harvesting crops on a 160-acre farm and feeding and milking 40 cows to make as much profit as his neighbor did in one year with half the cows, half the lands and half the labor.

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