

## FARM MANAGEMENT

### Grass Seeding on Rough Land

I have a good many acres of rough pasture land burned over during the past season. It is hardly worth much expense in lawning, and have thought to make a mixture of alsike, white clover, red top, and orchard grass, and sow it this fall, when the snow is two or three inches deep. Do you think it will succeed in this way in this cold climate? The object in sowing it in March being the patchy condition of the land because of the fire not making a clean sweep. I have been frequently told that clover sown in March makes satisfactory work, but would be fearful of the light seeds perhaps blowing or being washed away, besides only a portion of the burned section has made a clean sweep, hence the sower would not be able to discern with deep snow where the burned portion is. Some of this land is too stony to even think of running a harrow over it—C. H. F. Herbrooke, Que.

So many adverse conditions or uncertain influences are likely to affect the result of such seeding, that it would be very unsafe to predict either success or failure. I am of the opinion, however, that considerable good would be done by sowing on the first snow as you propose. The chief danger would be the carrying off of part of the seed at least, or the washing of it together into the bottoms of low spots by the melting snows in the winter or spring thaws.

As an alternative thing to give better results, I would suggest sowing the seed any time now before the snow comes, or any time during the winter when the ground happens to be bare.

Probably the best treatment of all would be to sow the mixture of seeds just as the snow was leaving in March or April. Not before it had gone just as it disappears while heavy night frosts are still common. The wet ground is usually very rough at that time, and sowing the seed some early bright morning after a fairly heavy frost is likely to ensure practically all the seed being at least partly covered and so having a chance to grow as favorable temperatures arrive.

As the mixture likely to prove most satisfactory I would suggest as a seeding per acre, Alsike 3 lbs., Blue grass 5 lbs., Timothy 4 lbs., White Dutch clover 1 lb., red clover 2 lbs., alfalfa 2 lbs. This mixture, of course, should be sown with discretion. The sowing of it at the rate recommended on very rough parts or on soil would be unwise. Further, wherever possible, on the area not burned over, the seed should be harrowed two or three times—J. H. Grisdale, Agriculturist, C. E. F. Ottawa.

### Canadian Crop Estimates

The following statement, issued by the government census and statistics office presents final estimates of the yield, during the past season in the Dominion of root crops, clover, alfalfa, fodder, corn and hay, with market prices:

Potatoes, on 569,666 acres, yield on average of 142 bushels an acre, being a total of 71,511,000 bushels. The average market price is reported at 50 cents a bushel, and the total value of the crop may therefore be put at \$35,755,500.

Turnips and other field roots, on 271,443 acres, an average yield of 371 bushels an acre, show a total production of 100,705,353 bushels, which is considerably in excess of the preliminary estimate of a month ago. The market price averages 10 cents a bush, which indicates a total value for these crops of \$10,154,000.

The area in hay and clover is 8,211,000 acres which, at an average yield of 1.28 tons, indicates a proportion of about 12,481,000 tons. At an average price of \$10.15, the value of the crop may be put at \$126,629,150.

Fodder corn, occupying an area of 250,770 acres, yielded an average of 11.08 tons an acre, and a total pro-

duction of about 287,000 tons. The average market price is \$4.00 a ton, and the total value represents therefore \$1,151,600.00.

The yield per acre of clover seed is estimated at 2.38 bushels in 1908, as compared with 2.02 bushels in 1907, and of alsike clover seed at 2.92 bushels in 1908, as compared with 3.21 bushels in 1907.

The market price of red clover seed this year averaged \$7.50 a bush, as compared with \$9.77 in 1907, and alsike clover seed this year averaged \$9.57, as compared with \$9.06 in 1907. It is estimated that the acreage devoted to clover seed this year exceeds that of 1907 by 29 per cent, in the case of red clover, and 8 per cent, in the case of alsike.

### Canadian Stock for the International

The International Stock Show at Chicago promises to be as interesting as ever to Canadians this year. The entries in cattle and sheep by Canadian breeders are numerous. Some horses will also be exhibited.

The total entries in Short-horns number 257. Geo. Amos & Son, of Moffat, are the only Canadian exhibitors. Herefords have 214 entries, and J. A. Govenlock, of Forest, Ont., exhibits five. There are 105 entries, grades and crosses, in the fat steer section, in which Jas. Leask, of Greenbank, who had the champion last year, has three, and Jas. Stonehouse, of Saintfield, three.

In the breeding classes of the sheep section, one-third of the Shropshire entries are from Canadian herds, such as Spanner & Hodgson of Brantford, Lloyd Jones Bros, of Brantford, Ont., and the Oak Park Stock Co., Brantford. In Hampshire, C. F. Maw, of Omagh, supplies an eighth of the class. In Cotswolds, Rawlings and J. C. Ross supply half. In Dorsets, R. H. Harding and Roberts & Sons, entered nearly half. In Suffolks, practically all the exhibit comes from Ontario, Jas. Bowman, of Guelph, showing eight.

A great show of horses is promised. Graham Bros., of Claremont, Ont., have entered 15. Having purchased Sir Marcus, they stand a good chance of winning the premier honors again. In Hackneys, Graham Bros. are showing two, they are the only Canadian exhibitors.

### The Live Hog-End of It

A prominent and successful farmer in Ontario county, one who is a graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College, finishes a double-deck carload of bacon hogs each fall for the Toronto market. He has been doing this for a number of years, and has not yet lost any of the confidence which so many are ready to have lost in the bacon hog industry. He keeps about thirty to thirty-five head of pure-bred Yorkshire sows, and a first-class herd header. His sows are bred only once each year, and the pigs are dropped in late April or early May. This allows the young pigs, as well as the suckling pigs, to get as much advantage of a field of alfalfa for pasturage as it is possible to give them. A ration of skim milk with some meal brings them along well, until the pasturage is no longer available in the fall, when they are taken into the pens, and pushed to a finish as rapidly as possible.

He is not yet convinced that the business is unprofitable, but is on the other hand thoroughly convinced that it is very profitable.

Hog raising is, or should be, an important department, not necessarily a large one, on every Ontario farm. While it has proved a very poor business to speculate in, speculation is not a commendable adjunct to farming.—Weekly Sun.

The greatest improvement in cattle in any community has only been ac-

cured by the use of pure bred beef bulls. A sire should get 30 calves a year for at least five years. If the value of his calves is increased \$1 a head this would amount to \$150 during his period of usefulness. It is apparent that such an increase is easily possible as it would only amount to an increase of 10 cents a cow, on a 1000 lb. feeder.



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