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**THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE**

*"Equal Rights to All and Special Privileges to None"*  
A Weekly Journal for Progressive Farmers

Published under the auspices and employed as the Official Organ of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, and the United Farmers of Alberta.



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**ARE THE HOTBEDS READY?**

The hotbed should be placed, if possible, on the south side of a building, fence or good windbreak, in some part of the grounds that will give all the sunlight possible.

There are two ways of making a hotbed. In one an excavation of two or three feet is made, manure is placed in this, and a frame is put over it. The method usually preferred, however, calls for a frame built up of planks or boards 12 or 14 inches wide. This is filled to a depth of 12 or 18 inches with manure. The manure is then covered with from 4 to 6 inches of soil, and the whole covered with glass. This type of hotbed is better than the pit because, as soon as one is thru with it, it may be entirely removed.

Procure heating horse-manure. Pile this near the spot at which it is to be used. Turn it two or three times to insure even heating. Then spread over the ground to a depth of 12 or 18 inches. Tread it well, and place the frame over it. Now fill the frame with heating manure, and tread so that the whole mass is packed well. The manure should come to within a foot of the top of the frame, and early in the season should be from 18 to 24 inches deep. If the frame is set early the greater should be the amount of manure used. The frame should be banked at least two feet high all around with dry manure or straw. Place a storm window, or better a hotbed sash, over the frame, tipping the frame to give an easy slope to the south. Leave the sash on for a day or two, until you are certain the manure is heating, then place from 4 to 6 inches of soil on top of the manure. Allow it to stand a day or two, rake it, and it will be ready for seed or seedlings. A space of about six inches should be left from the top of the soil to the glass to give the plants plenty of head room.

The soil for the hotbed should be rich garden soil. It is all the better if some thoroughly rotted manure has been added to it. Early in the season two sash instead of one may be put over the bed, or wooden shutters, straw, matting, or any material that will protect the glass may be used for added protection.

Usually the most satisfactory early crops to grow are lettuce, radishes, and possibly a few seed onions, sown for transplanting later. These crops must be ventilated during the warm part of the day. Open the frame a little on the side that is away from the wind. A temperature of from 65 to 75 or 80 in the daytime is usually best maintained. Water should be applied when the crops need it, early in the forenoon, preferably on a bright sunny day, so that the foliage will have a chance to dry off before night. The sash should be shut down early in the afternoon, before the temperature drops very much, as this will save heat for cool nights.

Every man's task is his life-preserver. The conviction that his work is dear to God and cannot be spared, defends him.—Emerson.

Everything in this world is a tangled yarn; we taste nothing in its purity; we do not remain two moments in the same state. Our affections, as well as our bodies, are in a perpetual change.—Rousseau.

**The Guide Saved Him \$12.00**

The following letter from John F. Reid, director of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association, shows how important it is that every farmer should know how to protect himself when shipping his grain:

To the Editor of the Grain Growers' Guide.

Sir:

A few years ago, about the month of September, I shipped a sixty thousand pound car of wheat from Orcadia, Sask., thru one of our old line elevator companies, with instructions to sell the wheat after inspection and before terminal storage began.

Before the returns of my car of wheat reached me, the Grain Growers' Guide gave a facsimile of the returns of a shipment of grain from a grain commission firm to the shipper, showing the name of the commission firm who handled the grain, the party who bought the grain, the date of sale, the dockage weight, grade, price, freight, etc., and that unless the grain actually changed hands (or in other words) the elevator company could not sell the grain to themselves and charge me the one cent a bushel commission.

When the returns of my car of wheat arrived, I found that I was being charged with the one cent a bushel commission and also interest on the freight. As the returns did not show the name of the firm whom the grain was sold to I wrote the elevator company, pointing out to them that according to the information published in the Grain Growers' Guide, they were charging me \$12.00 illegally, and as the return which they sent me of my car of grain was not according to the Act and did not show that they had sold the grain, I requested them to refund to me my \$12.00.

In answer to my letter the elevator company refunded me \$12.00 and blamed a clerk in the office for making the error. Now, Mr. Editor, I believe had you not published that valuable information in the Grain Growers' Guide, and had I not been a subscriber for and a reader of The Guide, I would have lost that \$12.00 on that particular car of grain and probably on several others; further it has made me wise on that part of grain shipping and I am watching for similar errors being made by the supposed defaulting clerks in the old line elevator companies' offices in Winnipeg.

While I have made mention of this at all my Grain Growers' meetings thruout Saskatchewan, in order to warn my fellow farmers of the danger of not being posted on the shipping of their grain, and feeling that I owe a debt of gratitude to the Grain Growers' Guide, I send you the above for publication, hoping that a still greater number of our farmers will be benefited by my experience and become subscribers for and readers of the Grain Growers' Guide.

Faternally yours,

JOHN F. REID.

Orcadia, Sask., April 13, 1915.

The series of articles which The Guide will publish in the next few months on

**"Marketing Your Grain"**

will help thousands of farmers to save money. Be sure that your subscription is paid up so that you will not miss these articles. If you want to do a good deed, get your neighbor to send us \$1.00 and we will send him The Guide for the next nine months.

THE GRAIN GROWERS' GUIDE.



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