



Farmers are Wanted to Have All Grain Intended for Seed Tested for Germination

(Bulletin of Seed Branch, Regina)

1. Early frosts occurred this year on August 9th and 12th over large areas in Western Canada, damaging to a great extent the germinating powers of grain, more particularly oats. It is therefore advised that all grain intended for seed next Spring be tested for germination.

2. To have seeds tested send a sample to the Ottawa or Calgary seed laboratory.

3. About a handful (300 grains) enclosed in a small cotton bag is sufficient to send as one sample for germination.

4. Address samples to the Department of Agriculture, Seed Branch, Ottawa, or to the Dominion Seed Laboratory, Calgary, Alberta. Samples sent to Ottawa will be carried free in the mails if marked O.H.M.S. On samples sent to Calgary postage must be prepaid.

5. Tests on all samples are made absolutely free up to 25 in number. It is not necessary to enclose postage to have reports on tests returned, but it is absolutely necessary to have name and address of sender plainly marked on tag enclosed in the bag, also state on tag enclosed that germination test is wanted.

6. Samples should be taken so far as possible from lots re-cleaned for sowing.

7. It is essential that seed sent these laboratories for test be sent early.

8. Farmers may test their own seed satisfactorily by a soil test conducted in their own homes, as follows:

9. Put in a supply of dirt this fall, fill some shallow boxes, count out 100 seeds from lots to be tested, sow, and place boxes in the windows of the kitchen where the temperature is warm.

10. When seeds have sprouted, count the sprouts and then determine the percentage germination. For example, a box contains 100 seeds, and 62 sprouts are counted in two weeks after sowing. This means that the seeds in this test germinated 62 per cent, which is too low germination for seeding. Note also the appearance of young seedlings, if strong and vigorous, or weak and spindling. Seeds producing weak seedlings

will not produce strong plants when sown in the field.

Note—Frost damages vitality of grain by drying up water contents of cells. Well ripened grain containing little water will not suffer so much from the effects of frost as does immature grain. When a plant is subjected to a few degrees of frost water oozes out from the cells into the intercellular spaces and forms crystals of ice. If the thawing out of the grain after slight frosts is gradual very little damage to the grain occurs, owing to the cells reabsorbing their moisture. If, however, the thawing occurs rapidly, the cells do not reabsorb the moisture, causing evaporation and drying up, and death of the germ cells.

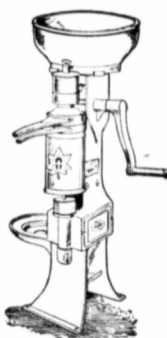
The sale of seeds in Canada is regulated by the Dominion Seed Control Act. This Act provides a standard for purity and vitality of all kinds of seeds and it is illegal to offer for sale seed which is below this standard. Persons wishing to secure copies of this Act should apply to the Dominion Seed Branch at Ottawa, Calgary or Regina.

A Fine Market for Your Dressed Poultry

The third annual show of the Brandon Dressed Poultry Association is announced to be held in Brandon City on December 9th and 10th. This is an association of well-known Manitobans who take more than an ordinary interest in the raising and marketing of poultry. Hon. G. R. Coldwell, is hon. president; president, A. R. McDiarmid; vice-presidents, James Kircaldy and D. W. Beaubier; secy-treasurer, W. I. Smale. The directorate consists of S. A. Cox, V.S., Sheriff Henderson, J. H. McGregor, John W. Knowlton, Thos. Chambers and W. I. Smale, all of Brandon; W. R. Bowman, Forrest, and A. W. Cooper, Treesbank.

The association was organized for the purpose of establishing and conducting an annual Dressed Poultry Show in Brandon, along the lines adopted by the Guelph Winter Fair. The great success of the two shows held in December, 1912 and 1913, which assembled the greatest exhibits of the highest standard of dressed poultry ever seen in Canada has

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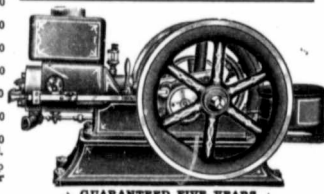
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