

## The Agricultural Value of Sweet Clover in its Culture

(Continued from page 3.)

the young clover seedlings. "Sweet clover may not do well on soil that has never produced it before, because of the lack of the nodules forming bacteria. In this case it would be advisable to inoculate the seed by means of a culture, or with soil from a place which has been or is producing sweet clover.

### When to Cut.

"Sweet clover must, like alfalfa, be cut at the proper time, or else it becomes too woody and stemmy for first

class hay. The proper stage for cutting seems to be about the time the first blossom is ready to appear. The growth of the first year produces the best hay, as in its first season's growth this plant does not produce bloom and has not the same tendency to become fibrous as it has in the second year but the second year's growth will give good hay if taken in time. Two crops can be secured the second year. However, in taking off the first crop, care must be exercised not to cut too low, but to raise the cutting bar to such a height that some of the lower branches will be left uncut, otherwise the second crop will be

either destroyed or greatly interfered with. If cut for hay the fall of the mown until the crown sprouts begin to appear on top of the roots about an inch below the surface of the soil. Sweet clover is hard to cure on account of the fairly large stems and because of the fact that it has to be cut at a time when there is a considerable amount of moisture present in it. Furthermore, if care be not exercised during the curing process a greater part of the leaves will be lost, and in this way the better part of the hay be wasted. Any severe handling at this time, such as treading and

raking, should be done, therefore, when the hay is still a little tough. However, any one familiar with the process of curing alfalfa will understand this thoroughly for this plant is much like sweet clover in these respects, being hard to cure and difficult to handle without considerable loss of leaves.

### Rules for Pasturing.

"To be used successfully for pasturage sweet clover must be pastured sufficiently heavy and close to keep from getting too far advanced, and to keep abundance of fresh and tender growth coming on at all times. If it gets ahead of the stock it becomes so coarse and fibrous to be relished. Should such happen it is a wise plan to clip it back to a height of six to eight inches. Some men of experience claim that stock should be turned on when the plants have reached a height of about four inches. For permanent pasture some plants must, however, be allowed to go to seed the second year, enough to reseed the field; or seed must be sown in the fall, but not some the plants being biennial, will run out at the end of that time.

"For the production of seed the first crop of the second year can be allowed

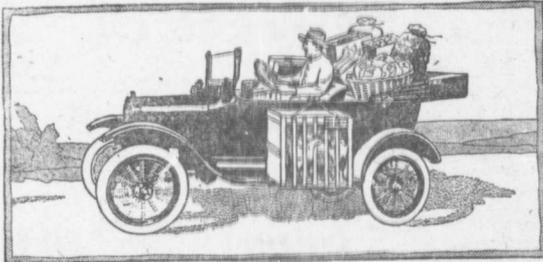
### ENDORSES SWEET CLOVER.

"In Farm and Dairy I noticed a request for experience with sweet clover. I had a lot of it last fall and I think it a twin sister to alfalfa, both for milk and beef production. Some claim that cattle have to cultivate a taste for sweet clover, but I must differ with them as my cattle enjoyed it from the first. In feeding value I consider it equal to alfalfa and much easier grown. A farmer can make no mistake in sowing sweet clover."  
—W. F. Fisher, Algoma Dist., Ont.

ed to go to maturity, although it would perhaps be more economical and practical to take the first cutting off for hay and to allow only the second crop to mature for seed. It should be harvested when three-quarters of the seed pods become dark. Harvesting can be done with a binder and further operations carried on the same as with other grain crops. Handling should be avoided when the straw is very dry, as the seed will shell badly as such a time and much would be lost. Threshing and hulling should be carried on, however, when thoroughly dry. A yield of from two to eight bushels per acre can be obtained.

Mr. Fulmer's closing word is one of caution. He writes: "Although there appears to be no question as to the value of sweet clover, conservatism is to be urged. It is better to take up a new thing in a hurry. Everything has to be learned in regard to this new plant and failure, might be the result of some very simple mistake due to inexperience. If failure results, the best outcome, of course, is condemnation, and condemnation under these conditions is very often undeserved. It is desirable, therefore, that small areas only be seeded to this plant at the beginning until its management and value be determined, and then it can be gone into with greater assurance or discarded altogether, as the farmer concerned may see fit."

A successful treatment of cattle affected with blackleg is not possible, as the disease is so rapidly fatal. Happily, however, the cattle can be protected by vaccination, and the operation may be performed by anyone accustomed to the handling of cattle. The Government prepares blackleg vaccine for distribution, at a small charge, to cattle owners.



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**FEEDERS**  
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Feeding Val

WHAT is the reason of mangels, to use for silage? I have the alkali, but can I afford to use any quantity in my silage? I have the silage for records, write usually sufficient for individual cows as much as the feeding their analysis—C. C.

Recent experience of the Central Experiment shows mangels to be eight per cent better production than turnip. In addition to this, of favoring the milk with turnip feeding, found that one pound as contained in roots approximately one pound that is, 100 pounds have a value equivalent nine to ten to age grain mixture. I found that one pound in roots is worth 10 per cent less than matter in good corn 100 pounds of roots lent to about 41 pounds of corn of equal quality of corn ensilage in Ontario can be cheaply per ton than mangels, hence good silage would be very much roots for the feeding. However, variety is of good selection of rule, a mixture of ensilage will give greatest quantity of roots containing depending largely upon raising. Undoubtedly the best production of milk preferably mangels will play a very large part for the food value due to the fact that the appetite for meals and also keep the digestive in good working condition, the qualities, apart from analysis of roots, which such great value in—E. S. A.

### Pig Feeding

WHAT is best to put to keep them clean and vermin? What best when milk is scarce portions should supplement ground bone and ashes in a box where they get—Mrs. W. A. L. Galt.

In order to keep up from vermin, it is necessary to be kept clean and well fed and allowed exercise. It is usually also they have some tonic scribed below. To rid lice, they might be smothered in a fine grade machine or care should be taken not too heavily, as it will kill. As a rule, it is much easier to use a solution of such as creolin, seneoleum or tar products. In order in the feeding of young separately as a thin mixture with the other successfully used. A composed of corn, four cuts, two parts; short tares, one part may be used in rearing young milk. A very good to young pigs might be