

BOOK ON DRAINAGE

Is there any book written on the way to underdrain? G. R. M.

Ans.—"Tile Drainage," price \$5c., through this office, is an excellent little handbook, by W. I. Chamberlain. "Irrigation and Drainage," by King, edited by T. H. Bailey, deals partly with underdrainage, price \$1.50; and "Engineering for Land Drainage," \$1.50, is a treatise on drainage engineering, for the use of those charged with the responsibility of making plans for and executing drainage improvements.

STRAWBERRY CULTURE

1. How early in the spring should strawberries be set, and in what order?
2. I have a piece of ground all prepared, well manured and ashed last fall. My land is light loam. What varieties will do the best in that kind of soil?
3. How should they be cared for in order to become prolific and remain so?
Quebec. A SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—1. As early as the ground can be worked, or any time until they blossom.
2. Splendid, Beder Wood or Senator Dunlap would probably succeed in your district. It would, however, be prudent for you to enquire of growers in your vicinity.

3. Set plants in rows three feet apart, and a foot to eighteen inches apart in the row. Cut off blossoms the first year. Cultivate until runners are thrown out freely, then keep clean with hoe, allowing runners to take root and form a matted row. Most growers take but one crop of fruit, and plant afresh on new ground every spring. Occasionally they are allowed to fruit for two seasons.

CRIMSON CLOVER—CEMENT WALK.

1. Would it be wise to sow crimson clover with oats in the spring for plowing down in the fall for manure? How much seed per acre? Is crimson clover an annual?

Every garden should have an extra early and extra late variety to expand the season of fruiting to its full limits. Special offer: 60 early and 60 late plants sent postpaid to any address for \$1. Attractive prices on thousand lots of Beder Wood Haverland, Parker Earle and Williams. Plants ship a great distance in good condition packed in damp moss.

The open door, the outstretched hand
Of welcome to the dear old home-land.
The flowing bowl, the loaf of bread,
The pillow for thy weary head.
The open hearth, where flaming fires
May beckon thee to new desires.
These are the gentle gifts of home
In trust for thee, if thou wilt come.

For Believing Dodd's Kidney Pills Cure all Kidney Ailments.

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Years' Standing and Satisfied Every-
one He Recommended Them to.**

Economy Point, N. S., March 19th.—(Special).—George S. McLaughlin, of this place, gives two splendid reasons for his belief that Dodd's Kidney Pills are the one remedy for Kidney ailments. Here are the two reasons in his own words:

"I was troubled with **Lame Back** for 25 years or more, sometimes so severe that I could not turn myself in bed. One box of **Dodd's Kidney Pills** cured me, and I have had no return of the trouble since."

"I have recommended Dodd's Kidney Pills to a number of persons who had kidney trouble. All who have used them have been benefited greatly."

SEED FOR A GRASS PLOT AND LAWN.

I have a front-yard that is uneven with furrows and ant hills. I plowed it last fall so as to get it levelled down. There are fruit trees through it. It is 136 feet by 50 feet. What would be the best kind of grass or clover seed to seed it with? I have a space in front of the veranda higher than the rest, 35 feet by 25 feet, which I would like to sow with lawn grass, for I can keep that much lawn mown. I got a mixture of lawn-grass seed last spring, and sowed it, but it did not grow.

YOUNG SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—The same kind of seed will do for both of these plots. There is no grass which gives such general satisfaction throughout the Province of Ontario as the Kentucky Blue or June grass (*Poa pratensis*), a native species. It is very hardy, spreads rapidly, and will stand cutting and dry weather well. We should advise buying this pure, and, if possible, obtaining a sample at once to be tested for germination, so that by seeding time you will know whether it is good or not. Some white clover seed may be mixed with the grass seed, as the clover will help to keep down weeds until the grass is well established. For the plot 360 by 25 feet, we should advise sowing about ten or eleven pounds of grass seed and about two pounds of white clover; and for the plot 35 by 25 feet, from one to one and a half pounds of grass seed and two or three ounces of clover seed. There is little danger of too thick seeding, hence we should advise using the larger quantities of grass seed mentioned, or even more, but should not recommend increasing the quantity of clover, as the latter is not really necessary when the soil is perfectly clean and in the best condition.

W. T. MACOUN,
Horticulturist,
and Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

CRIMSON CLOVER—CEMENT WALK.

1. Would it be wise to sow crimson clover with oats in the spring for plowing down in the fall for manure? How much seed per acre? Is crimson clover an annual?

2. I want to make a cement veranda-floor and walk. How deep must it be to be frostproof? In what proportion would you mix the cement and sand? How many square feet would a barrel cover, using stone in the bottom, and using sand to mix with Portland cement for top?

—YOUNG FARMER.

Ans.—1. Crimson clover is an annual, whose natural home is south of this. It succeeds best sown alone in June or July on well-prepared soil. It would be a failure sown in early spring with grain.

2. In making cement walks, the earth is dug out to the depth of about a foot. This space is then filled up about seven or eight inches with gravel; next gravel concrete, mixed one of Portland cement to nine or ten of gravel, four inches. This again faced with fine concrete, mixed in the proportion of one part cement to two or three parts fine sand, to a depth of half or three-fourths of an inch. Facing put on while coarse concrete is still soft. Done in this manner, a barrel of cement is sufficient for 100 to 130 square feet.

HOLDING SOWS FOR RINGING—FILING SAW.

1. Which do you consider the best way to handle or hold large sows for ringing?

2. Which is the best way to file a saw?

E. J.

Ans.—We have heard of pig tongs manufactured for the purpose. A good device we have used ourselves is an iron tool, which may be best described as shaped something like the upper end of a short lung-fork handle. This is slipped over her upper jaw, and when the sow tries to draw back, a downward pressure on the handle gives a powerful and effective leverage on her mouth and nose, usually subduing her completely. We should have added that a small ring at the end of the handle helps the operator to keep his hold, placing the sow in a crate, with a partially-open front, may greatly facilitate handling her. We have also seen this done, put a noose of firm rope over upper jaw and slip up above tusks and tighten. Then pass the rope through a hole in a floor, about five inches square—which seemed to have been made for the purpose, but wasn't—and while one pulled on the rope another shoved up behind, until the sow's nose projected through a few inches and was immovable, and a third inserted the ring.

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