

INTERESTING AGRICULTURAL FEATURES FOR OUR COUNTRY READERS

HORTICULTURE THE GLADIOLUS

Second and Concluding Instalment of
of This Topic.

The gladiolus lends itself readily to cross-breeding. This fact makes the growing of chance and hand-pollinated seedlings an alluring line of horticultural work. There is danger, however, of the trade being swamped with new varieties from this source. In the United States there is no authoritative control of the exploiting of new varieties. In the United States there is no authoritative control of the exploiting of new varieties.

What is the ideal gladiolus? Crawford, of Ohio, gives the following as his standard: "The plant should be a strong healthy grower, and if it produces a large number of bulbils so much the better. The spike should be long and straight with many flowers opening at one time. The flowers should be large, beautifully colored, and all facing in one direction. The flower should be large, beautifully colored, and all facing in one direction.

The gladiolus is a member of the Iridaceae family. It is a perennial plant with a bulbous base. The leaves are sword-shaped and grow from the base. The flowers are large and showy, and are borne on a tall, slender stem. The gladiolus is a popular garden plant, and is often used for cutting flowers.

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cleaned off, and then stored in a frost-proof cellar. There are two points in the culture of the gladiolus by amateurs that should be emphasized. First, the season of blooming of the variety and the size and age of the corn. In European catalogues buyers are advised of the season of blooming of each variety offered, while in America little attention is given to this important piece of information. "Surprise" and "1900" are two well known varieties that must be planted early in this district to enable them to bloom before frost in an ordinary season. It will be readily understood that these varieties would be disappointing in the northern portions of Ontario and especially so in the northwest provinces. Amateur buyers generally prefer the largest corns that are available and often these buyers are disappointed at blooming time. It is admitted that definite information on this point is somewhat meagre, but this may be safely advanced, viz., that a corn that is set or conserved on the upper surface and of large circumference is not a desirable one. If the career of such a corn could be traced it would be found that it was planted in a frost-proof cellar.

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the bronchial trouble which exists in poultry is to be found in the inefficient ventilation of roosting places which prevails among the majority of poultry-keepers. The primary cause of bronchitis and all similar ailments is some form of irritation in the bronchial tubes. This is most commonly due to the bird's inhaling impure air, containing carbonic acid and other irritating components, and which, of course, sets up inflammation of the delicate membranes of the air passages at once. Fowls which roost in the open air never suffer from bronchitis, or, indeed, from any form of respiratory trouble. We hear of wild birds being starved or frozen to death in winter time, but we never find a wild bird dying of bronchitis or lung trouble. This is conclusive evidence to prove the rule laid down, that so long as birds are roosted in places which are properly ventilated there need be little or no fear of bronchial trouble. Having stated this fact, and warned the poultryman of the danger of overcrowding his fowls, and housing them in insanitary and ill-ventilated houses, I pass on to explain the principal kinds of bronchial trouble known among poultry.

Bronchitis usually starts with an ordinary cold, and if the fowl's blood is in an unhealthy condition the cold will probably develop into a pneumonia. Without going into details, it may be said that it is a disease of the blood, it may be said that it is a disease of the blood, it may be said that it is a disease of the blood.

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of death among poultry. Ordinary cases of bronchial trouble may quite readily turn into inflammation of the lungs if they are neglected, and that is why the first sign of cold should be taken as a warning to prevent any such development. If a fowl is very thirsty at the time that it has a cold, it will be wise to give it about two drops of sweetened water. The homoeopathic tincture will do very well in a little water every three or four hours; the effect of this is to allay the feverishness present.

Now the poultryman will probably want to know how to distinguish between bronchitis and inflammation of the lungs. Well, to begin with, we had better distinguish bronchitis from roup. This is simple enough, for when a fowl has roup or a roupish cold, there will, of course, be a nasal discharge from the nostrils. This is not present in cases of bronchitis, and the only symptom, therefore, is difficulty of breathing and occasional stretching out of the neck and gasping. If, however, it becomes very thirsty and feverish, is clearly suffering pain, and has very labored breathing, with occasional coughing, it is in a bad way. It is certain that inflammation of the lungs will ensue.

The treatment for inflammation of the lungs is practically the same as that for above the use of bronchitis. The chances of recovery are very slender, particularly if the fowl be one about which there is much doubt. It is a considerable trouble.—W. R. Gilbert.

PLYMOUTH ROCKS
Characteristics of the Various Varieties and How to Breed Them.

The Barred Rock—This is an American breed, its origin dates from 1850; it is like all modern breeds, and is a very good Black Java is one of the breeds that enters largely into its make up. This accounts for the black spots that continually crop up. Black Rocks have been bred simply from the black "sports" from the Barred Rock, as also have the Whites.

The Buff Rock—Undoubtedly bred from the Buff Cockin. This is a breed of American origin but cannot really claim close relationship to the other members of the family. Still, one can never tell. I know for a fact that the Buff Rock is a very good bird, and is a very good bird.

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chasing exhibition stock, to see that they are built to the skin, that the legs are also built.

The White Rock—The popular breed possesses the advantage that you can produce exhibition specimens of both sexes from the one pen. They should be pure white in color, free from any yellowish or creamy feathering. There is no doubt whatever that some breeders have introduced Single Combed White Wyandottes into their strains, but these can be readily detected by an expert. The White Rock should not be so "cobby" as the White Dot; it is a longer bird in every detail, and quite distinct in shape and carriage. The pure snow whiteness of the White Rock must be bred, for you cannot obtain it by putting extra blue in your washing water.

The Black Rock—The difficulty in breeding the Black is to produce a cock with sound black plumage and under-color, and good yellow legs. In order to attain the very best results in all black breeds with yellow legs, you must breed from a cock with a white feather in tail all the way down to the feet. The cock should be bred from a cock with a white feather in tail all the way down to the feet.

For Cockerel Breeding—To produce exhibition cockerels you must get a sound male with good under-color, with as good colored legs as possible. The cock should be mated him to must be black to the skin, even if they have "dusky" legs. This will produce you a fair percentage of yellow-legged, fairly sound cockerels. A sound black cockerel black to the skin, with bright yellow legs and free from white in tail wants some getting.

The Partridge Rock—Should be bred on exactly the same lines as regards mating as the Partridge Wyandotte. For cockerel breeding make a sound-bred cockerel to cockerel-bred hens. For pullet breeding pick out your best pencilled hens and mate to a cockerel bred from an extra well pencilled hen. The general appearance of the Rock family are too well known to require depicting here. They are a large breed. Cocks should weigh from 9 to 12 pounds, and hens from 8 to 10 pounds. They are good layers, laying large sized brown eggs, good table fowl, a sitting breed, and lay in winter when eggs are eggs. There is little difference in any of the varieties, one color being as good as another from a utility point of view.

They have medium sized single combs, and are very suitable for our winters. Canada possesses some of the best Plymouth Rocks in the world, and many Canadian breeders are world famous, winning premier honors all over the world with their stock of Rock bred by them.—Ex.

GREEN FEED FOR HENS
We find that mangels or beets make good green feed for our poultry. The root is hung up at just such a height that the birds have to jump a few inches to get at it.

Alfalfa hay or the sweepings from the barn floor where the clover is thrown down from the mow also make good green feed. We keep this feed in a box nailed to the wall of our poultry house. Wire netting with a two-inch mesh over the top of the box prevents our hens from scratching the feed out or using the boxes for living.

We do not consider either of these feeds, however, as good for the young of the breed of the old one, which was not efficient. Later in the meeting the secretary gave the information that a sum of \$700 had been collected for the hospital account, making the total increase on this item over last year of \$3,500.

The remainder of the estimates were adopted without discussion and in addition a special assessment of \$5,636.14 on Lancaster parish for fire, police, streets and sewerage was ordered.

A petition to set aside the report of the committee, already published, on which the legislation was based.

There was a motion by Mr. Smith to move that the report be laid on the table, and the matter be referred to a committee of three who would have power to act after meeting a committee from the city council was adopted.

A letter from the sheriff complaining of the old court room on Thursday last was referred to the committee on the part of the Wilton Box Co. Ltd., in an application to have the assessment fixed for its Lancaster property at \$10,000 a year. He was informed that his request had been incorporated in a bill.

There was considerable discussion over the bill fixing the assessment of the Wilton Box Co. Ltd., at \$10,000 for fifteen years. Counsellors Potts and Wigmore objected to making any restriction regarding the water rates and with this exception the bill was adopted.

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chickens. Something more tender is needed for them. Sprouted oats with the sprouts one or two inches long make ideal green feed for chickens up to two weeks old. It is too expensive, however, to be fed to them after that age.—J. C. Todd.

STOCK INFLUENZA IN HORSES

How Animals Become Infected; Symptoms and Treatment Prescribed.

Influenza is one of the most highly infectious diseases from which the horse is liable to suffer. It is very seldom a year passes without a more or less virulent outbreak of this disorder. It can be produced only by infection. The disease can—and usually does—spread among a large number of horses in a short time. The contagion, or germ, is very volatile, it floats in the air after being expired by affected and convalescent animals, and when inhaled by healthy animals is almost sure to set up the disease. All horses are very susceptible to the contagion, their individual susceptibility being altogether independent of age, sex, or breed, and to a great extent also independent of stable management, feed or care. While the infection usually takes place from one horse to another, it may be carried by other means, such as human beings, litter, harness or stable utensils. It occasionally happens that a horse after having one attack will not contract the disease again, but such cases are comparatively rare. An epizootic outbreak of the disease sometimes lasts for one to two years.

The disease appeared over the greater part of North America in 1872 and 1873, during which outbreak it received the name of "Pink eye." Symptoms.—The first symptom usually noticed is a partial or complete loss of appetite, followed by depression and languor in movement. Fever is always present, which is manifested by an uneven distribution of the heat of the body, the internal parts often being hot and feverish while the surface and extremities are comparatively cold. In severe cases great nervous depression is always present, the animal holds its head down and appears sleepy and dull, there will be a trembling of the muscles and the hind legs will appear weak when the patient walks. Paralysis of the hind quarters sometimes occurs. A more or less severe affection of the lungs will be much congested, hot, dry, and covered with mucus. There is usually difficulty in swallowing, and the patient frequently coughs, and there will be a tremor in the beginning of the attack, the dung will come away in small, hard balls and covered with a slimy coating of mucus. In severe cases diarrhoea sometimes sets in, when the faces will have an offensive smell. The urine is high colored and often the patient will stink frequently.

A rather common symptom of the disease is a rather constant and very characteristic symptom. There will be a swelling of the eye lids, tears will flow down over the face and the swollen lids will be kept mostly closed, as the light increases the pain. The eyeball is often covered with a bluish-grey film, considerably injected with blood at the edge. During the progress of the disease swellings are likely to appear in the legs, sheath, and lower part of the chest. Those swellings are usually painless, cold to the touch, and of a doughy nature when handled. The swelling of the limbs will cause the gait to be stiff and straddling. There will be a discharge from the nose, a swelling of the glands under the throat, a slight cough, and short, quickened breathing.

Treatment.—Notwithstanding the somewhat alarming symptoms, influenza is generally mild and typical in its course, and except where complications set in, yields readily to treatment. Indeed, in the majority of cases good care is all that is needed, and a cure will result without medicinal treatment.

However, the most careful attention is urgently needed, for there is no disease from which the horse suffers which is so likely to result in serious complications as influenza. The diet should be light, sweetened, and easily digestible, such as grass, when obtainable in winter clover, hay, roots, mashes and such like. It is important to maintain the heat of the body by proper clothing, the patient should be kept warm by clothing and hand rubbing, and the great benefit derived from fresh air will far more than counterbalance the objection of cold quarters. During the summer the sick animal should be kept in the open air. If rain should come an open shed will keep him dry. If those ordinary precautions are neglected, serious complications are very liable to follow, such as inflammation of the lungs, inflammation of the throat, weakness of the heart, grave brain troubles, such as paralysis, and many other serious and often fatal complications.—Dr. H. G. Reed.

CARE OF SWINE
Buildings for Swine was the subject of an excellent lecture given at the Ontario Winter Fair by J. H. Grisdale, director of the Dominion Experimental Station at Ottawa. A pig's requirements in the way of shelter, he said, were peculiar to himself. He could endure low temperature, but no draught. He could stand sudden changes in temperature, but must have plenty of fresh light and fresh air. In summer, he said, the less housing pigs had the better, but a cool, shady spot and a good wallow should be provided. For feeders, as well as for breeders, a good stall was essential, and a good stall was essential, and a good stall was essential.

When the fowls are scratching in litter for grain, doors and windows may be thrown open to admit air and sun.

than that proposed by the committee and should take in the whole province. Coun. J. B. Jones said that another way of relieving the congestion at the mill would be to reduce the fine for drunkenness to \$1 and the jail term proportionately. He had known of persons being sent to jail fifty days for being drunk.

Coun. Potts said it cost the city \$30 to keep the man who could not pay the \$5 fine. He moved in amendment that the committee of four be appointed to meet the provincial government with a view to having prison farms made a provincial policy. Coun. Scully seconded this motion and it carried.

Thursday, Jan. 18.
A rather stormy session of the Municipal Council was held yesterday morning and although there was a session for over three hours the amount of business transacted did not correspond to the length of time consumed in getting it through.

The session was marked by some very lively little bit between members of the council. Scully seconded this motion and it carried.

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to be stiff and straddling. There will be a discharge from the nose, a swelling of the glands under the throat, a slight cough, and short, quickened breathing.

Treatment.—Notwithstanding the somewhat alarming symptoms, influenza is generally mild and typical in its course, and except where complications set in, yields readily to treatment. Indeed, in the majority of cases good care is all that is needed, and a cure will result without medicinal treatment.

However, the most careful attention is urgently needed, for there is no disease from which the horse suffers which is so likely to result in serious complications as influenza. The diet should be light, sweetened, and easily digestible, such as grass, when obtainable in winter clover, hay, roots, mashes and such like. It is important to maintain the heat of the body by proper clothing, the patient should be kept warm by clothing and hand rubbing, and the great benefit derived from fresh air will far more than counterbalance the objection of cold quarters.

During the summer the sick animal should be kept in the open air. If rain should come an open shed will keep him dry. If those ordinary precautions are neglected, serious complications are very liable to follow, such as inflammation of the lungs, inflammation of the throat, weakness of the heart, grave brain troubles, such as paralysis, and many other serious and often fatal complications.—Dr. H. G. Reed.

CARE OF SWINE
Buildings for Swine was the subject of an excellent lecture given at the Ontario Winter Fair by J. H. Grisdale, director of the Dominion Experimental Station at Ottawa. A pig's requirements in the way of shelter, he said, were peculiar to himself. He could endure low temperature, but no draught. He could stand sudden changes in temperature, but must have plenty of fresh light and fresh air. In summer, he said, the less housing pigs had the better, but a cool, shady spot and a good wallow should be provided.

For feeders, as well as for breeders, a good stall was essential, and a good stall was essential, and a good stall was essential.

When the fowls are scratching in litter for grain, doors and windows may be thrown open to admit air and sun.

than that proposed by the committee