

*Peat Mull for Sanitary Purposes.*—Peat mull is a very efficient deodorizer, and to a certain extent is disinfective. It is therefore to a large extent used for closets, and in a large number of towns in Germany and other European countries, the use of peat mull for this purpose is made compulsory. The resulting "poudrette" has a high value as a fertilizer.

Peat mull for filtering sewage has also been experimented with.

By filtering the effluent water containing saline ammonia and other dissolved salts through peat mull, it is rendered pure and harmless. Sometimes peat coke is used for the same purpose.

*Peat Mull for Packing Purposes.*—For packing fruit and vegetables, peat mull has been found to give excellent results. Packed in boxes with peat mull, fruit keeps its freshness for months without decaying.

It is also advantageously used for packing and preserving meat, fish and eggs.

*Peat Molasses\*.*—Molasses has been used a long time in Germany for fattening cattle, but it has a purging effect, and in order to counteract this, peat mull very finely ground, was mixed with the molasses. The acid contained in the peat, especially the humic acid, neutralized the injurious potassium salts contained in the molasses, and rendered them harmless; the action of the mull counteracts the severe purging caused by the molasses alone.

The advantages claimed for peat-molasses are:—that it is 50% cheaper than the best fat-producing feed, and still equal in nourishment. It tends to keep the animal in health, help the digestion, sharpen the appetite, and is as good as bran. It increases and improves the milk from cows. It acts as a stimulant and increases the stamina of horses, and also prevents colic and other sicknesses.†

The usual manner of manufacturing peat molasses consists in heating it to 190° F. and mixing it with mull, while hot, in the proportion of 20 parts of mull—80 parts of molasses.

*Manufacture of Peat Paper.*—Several processes have been invented for the manufacture of paper from peat (moss peat) or from a mixture of peat and wood pulp, but as far as known, none of these have proved economical. Paper can be made of fairly good quality, but so far, the cost of manufacture is as a rule too high.

The process invented by K. A. Zschörner, of Vienna, which was used at Frauenberg in Stiermark, Austria, is as follows:—

The peat is chemically treated in an apparatus containing five compartments.‡ "In the first the fibres are treated by a solution of alkali, not higher than 2° Beaumé, and gradually decreasing in strength by the addition of cold water. This is performed under a high pressure at a temperature of 4°–25° Cent. The second compartment, containing a solution of calcium or sodium hypo-chloride of a strength not exceeding 2° Beaumé, is employed

\*P. R. Björling & F. P. Gissing. Peat, its use and manufacture.

†A number of authorities disclaim that peat molasses has the properties claimed by the manufacturer of this article.

‡Björling and Gissing.