

Questions and Answers. Miscellaneous.

Potatoes for Seed.

Does the early frost which cuts down potato vines before they are ripe, thus stopping their growth, make the potatoes themselves inferior for next year's seed?

R. F.

Ans.—Not necessarily so; in fact, some claim that the immature potato is superior to the mature tuber for seed purposes, provided it is properly stored.

Sore Feet and Swollen Legs.

I have a mare which has been on a cement pavement for years. She seems a little sore on her feet and legs. Her legs swell up at night. Could you give me a blister for her hoofs, also a liniment to rub on her legs?

E. F.

Ans.—It is not uncommon for a horse that has been kept on a pavement to become tender in the feet and legs. Rest or light work on the land usually relieves the soreness. Very little can be done to relieve the trouble by applying anything to the hoofs. A pad may be used on the shoe, or bar shoes put on, if the soreness happens to be in the bottom of the feet. A blister which may be applied to the hoof head consists of 2 drams each of biniodide of mercury and cantharides, mixed with 2 ounces of vaseline. Regular exercise, careful feeding and hand rubbing will help to keep the legs from swelling. A liniment made of 4 drams each of iodine and iodide of potassium and 4 ounces each of alcohol and glycerine may be applied to the legs.

Milk for Fowl.

Is sweet, separated milk good feed for hens? What kind of grain is it advisable to feed with it so as to start them laying soon?

K. S.

Ans.—Separated milk is an excellent drink and also a food for poultry. It may be fed sweet or sour; some prefer it sour as they claim it has a corrective effect on the digestive organs of the birds. If soured and allowed to thicken into a curd it is much relished by the birds. However, the sweet skim-milk makes an excellent drink and can also be used for mixing the mash. Various kinds of grain may be fed. Wheat is one of the best grains but this year substitutes must largely be used. Corn, buckwheat, barley and oats, along with a little wheat, would make a very good ration to be fed in the litter night and morning. Rolled oats or a mixture of rolled oats, bran, shorts, gluten feed, low-grade flour might be kept before the birds at all times. A mash made by mixing bran and shorts in skim-milk might be fed to good advantage. Potato peelings and scraps from the table might be boiled and mixed in the mash. Green feed must also be supplied if eggs are to be gathered. Skim-milk takes the place of meat food.

School Laws.

1. In regard to conscription, will the post office send word to each man who is included in the draft, or how do the men know when they are required? What is a proclamation?

2. Does our Food Controller receive a salary? If so, what is it?

3. Why cannot whole-wheat flour be sent to soldiers as well as the white?

4. Where should I apply to get the School Laws?

I. T.

Ans.—1. We understand that exemption blanks may be secured from the post office, but we are not aware that the post offices send a notice to each individual who would come under the conscription law. For some time mention of conscription has been made and details explained in the daily papers. According to the dictionary a proclamation is an announcement made in a public manner by an authority. After the proclamation is issued there will be considerable time for those who will form the first draft to be examined, or to apply for exemption.

2. We understand not.

3. We understand that the idea of using whole-wheat flour is to make what wheat we have go further. The white flour is most desirable, at least we have become accustomed to it, and undoubtedly it is preferred to the whole-wheat flour by the soldiers. As far as shipping goes, one could be shipped as easily as the other.

4. Write the Minister of Education, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.



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