

FARM MANAGEMENT

Quack Grass in New Ground

I have a patch of quack grass about a quarter acre in extent. Piece of ground is new. Just out cow first and so I'd down with timothy. It has now been a year. Please advise me of the best method of getting completely rid of this quack grass. Your reply will be greatly appreciated as some of my neighbors are also afflicted with the weed and am anxious to get rid of it.—Alex. T. S. Hilliard, Ont.

Quack grass, couch grass (*Agropyron repens* L.) is one of the most difficult weeds to eradicate. If it is desired to get rid of the weed this year probably the best plan would be to plow at once with either a very shallow furrow (absolutely not over four inches) or with deep furrow, eight inches or more. The style of plowing to adopt should depend upon the soil. If a good strong, soil then plow deep, if a light soil use a shallow furrow.

If a shallow furrow is turned it should be laid as flat as possible and then rolled with a heavy roller and harrowed at frequent intervals with a common harrow. After the surface is fairly well worked up a spring tooth or stiff toothed cultivator should be used. If the weather is dry the roots should be left upon the surface. If there is sufficient rain fall to cause the roots to start up growth quickly, it would be better to gather together and remove them. If the weather should be warm and moist it is often a good plan to sow rape broadcast at the rate of about eight lbs. an acre. Do not sow till land has been plowed for a couple of weeks and it should have been well worked during that time.

If deep plowing is practised then a harrow should be used and it should be set to cut as deep as it will do good work. The land should be rolled as soon as plowed. Roll each half day's plowing as it is done. Harrow with disc harrow at frequent intervals. If through working with harrow give a thorough working with a broad toothed cultivator. Do not use spring toothed cultivator.

When taken in June a good plan is to plow and work for a couple of weeks and sow about two bushels buckwheat an acre. Be sure to postpone seeding till a good growing time so that grain gets a good start.—J. H. Grisdale.

Grass for Low Land

Could you advise me what kind of grass would be the best to sow on a field of low ground? The soil is principally macs with a heavy clay bottom. The field is flooded in the spring for a week or two. I have raised heavy crops of hay on it, but it does not last long until it goes to red top, and poor at that. I cannot get grain sowed on it until late in the spring and the grass does not catch, and then the plants I do not care to sow barley. I am sowing it now, intending to sow timothy grass on it about August 15th, so if there is anything better, would be glad to know. Some of my neighbors advise sowing alfalfa, some say red top and so on.—A. H. Glen View, Ont.

The chances are very strong against getting a good catch of timothy by sowing at this time of year, although if from now on the weather should prove favorable there might be a satisfactory catch. Your letter indicates the kind of grass not suitable for the field in question. Red top is the only grass that will stand being under water for any length of time. I would suggest your sowing a mixture of five and three pounds alsike clover an acre. Cultivate land thoroughly, get a good seed bed, then divide the seed into two equal parts, sow one half walking lengthwise of the field and the other half sowing crosswise to en-

sure even seeding. Give stroke of the common harrow after seeding, then roll.—J. H. Grisdale.

Quick Methods of Curing Hay

Ed. Farm and Dairy.—The article I contributed and which appeared in Farm and Dairy July list, on "Curing Hay by Modern Methods," was again verified this present season. If you could examine my present crop, if the hay from 30 acres of which is already stored, you would find that none of it is discolored by wet weather. Our hay for the past three years, has been cured by the use of the Dain Side Delivery Rake and Loader. We did no coiling whatever,



Raking a Field of Timothy, the Last of the Hay Crop

Much timothy is allowed to stand too long thereby becoming mature, and of inferior feeding quality. Harvesting is much simplified when the hay is ripe as it side-delivery rake, and loader—there is little justification for allowing hay to cure on the stem.

this year. We find it a waste of labor and entirely useless.

Hundreds of tons of hay that were out in coils in our recent downpour of rain will largely result in more up-to-date methods being used in future and a more general use of improved haying machinery such as side delivery rakes and loaders.—F. C. Caldwell, Carleton Co., Ont.

The Angoumois Grain Moth

Throughout the southern part of Pennsylvania there has for some years been a small destruction of hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of wheat in this bin by a little pest very commonly called the White Weevil or Moth weevil. As a matter of fact it is not a weevil but a moth, the larva of which lives within the grain of wheat and hollows it out to such an extent that it becomes a mere hull of bran. It is ruined for milling purposes, and, of course, badly injured for domestic use.

The Angoumois Grain Moth is so named from the province of France where its ravages were first most noted. The mature moth lays its eggs on the grains of wheat while in the head or straw and as it feeds voraciously and but a short time, it multiplies rapidly, giving several successive broods. Where the wheat is left in the straw, when the stack or mow it has been found to be more infested than when the grain is put in a bin. Several farmers have acted upon his recommendation of threshing the grain soon after harvest, and have found the results quite satisfactory. One farmer reports that half of his crop, which was threshed

shortly after harvest, was entirely uninjured by this pest; while the other half, that was not threshed until the latter part of fall, was nearly all destroyed.

The remedy therefore, is one of the simplest, and at the same time one of the most effective, that could be applied, and consists in merely threshing the grain as early as is possible and storing it in the bin, rather than keeping it in the straw unthreshed. In the grain bin the moth weevil will work only in the top layer of grain if at all; and, if it should be found there, as would be indicated by the heating of the grain, it can easily be killed by pouring carbon bisulphide into shallow dishes, and

placing them on the grain under cover of wet blankets.

Farm and Dairy is to the farmer what a trade paper is to the merchant. No up-to-date farmer can afford to do without his trade paper.—H. J. Carter, Prince Edward Co., Ont.

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