

Questions and Answers. Miscellaneous.

A Roadway.

1. There is a road runs across a man's place. It is a rock-lot with only a little pasture on it, and it has been travelled for over thirty years. Can he fence the road in?

2. If the council wanted to establish a road there, as they could not keep to the surveyed road on account of high rocks, could they follow the old road? Ontario. W. J. G.

Ans.—1. Probably not.

2. They could by taking certain prescribed steps. It is a matter calling for the attention of their solicitor.

Dislocation of Patella.

I have a mare that dislocated her patella a few days ago, and would like you to publish a suitable treatment for her. Her symptoms are: Mare (13 years old) dislocated the cap on her right stifle. I replaced it and blistered it slightly. She stands on the leg most of time, but when she lifts the foot to step, the cap usually slips off again, and the large cord leading down to the hock seems to hang loose, giving the leg above the hock a fallen-in appearance.

1. What is the form of treatment? 2. Would it be wise to apply a strong blister? If so, please state elements composing it. H. E. H. Ans.—1 and 2. This question has been repeatedly answered in these columns. Blister with a blister composed of two drams each of biniodide of mercury and cantharides, mixed with two ounces vaseline. Clip the hair off the parts. Tie so she cannot bite them, and rub well with the blister once daily for two days. On the third day wash off and apply sweet oil. Let loose now in box stall and oil daily until the scale comes off. Repeat if necessary in a month.

Crossing for Dual-Purpose Cows.

I have a herd of heavy-milking, grade Holstein cows, with two or three Holstein top crosses. They are good dams to produce beef cattle when a beef sire is used, excepting some calves come black and white. Do you think it would be wise for me to use a milking-strain Shorthorn sire on these cows, and try to produce both milk and beef, or should I stick to the Holstein sire? Other farmers handling the dual-purpose cow might give me their opinion.

H. R. L. Ans.—Here is a question about which we are all concerned at present. If your cows, as you say, will produce good beef calves when bred to a beef bull, such a system would likely be profitable. If you wish to continue for milk alone, use nothing but Holstein bulls. To keep up the milking propensities of the herd, a few of the heaviest-milking cows might be bred to Holstein bulls to get milking heifers. As a rule, we do not favor crossing, but no doubt a fair class of beef cattle would be produced if an exceptionally prepotent beef sire was used. Here is a matter for discussion.

Cutting Back Spruce.

Have a number of spruce trees planted near house for wind-break that are growing too tall, and are not thick enough in the lower branches. The tops are healthy, but lower branches have a dead appearance.

1. Would cutting a portion of the tops off help to make them thicken out in lower branches? 2. If so, what proportion of tree would it be advisable to cut off? (Trees are from 30 to 40 feet high.) 3. Should cuts be dressed, and with what? 4. What time of year would be most suitable to cut them back? M. R. M.

Ans.—Care must be taken in cutting back spruce trees. It might be better to just clip back a portion of the new growth each year. Spruce naturally "run up." It is altogether likely the cause of the lower branches dying is because they are already too thick. Once these branches have died off, new ones cannot be forced out. The dying must be due to injury done by the spruce-gall louse. Examine the trees next summer to see whether or not they are attacked. Cutting back these trees severely should not be practiced.

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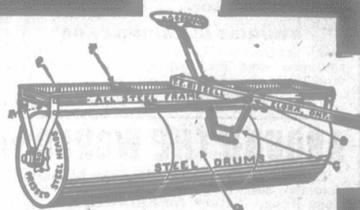
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