there will be an increased yield. This I attribute to the extra amount of food available for the crop owing to the death of the mustard. The great difficulty now is the absence of a suitable spraying machine. I am working on one now and expect to have them on the market next spring.

spring. "I pulled some mustard plants on Wednesday last (July 12) which were sprayed on June 24th and they are dead even to the roots."

CORRESPONDENCE

Alfalfa or Lucerne for Pasture

To the Editor of FARMING :

I have found alfalfa or lucerne a profitable crop, but only for pasture. Its greatest benefit as a pasture is that it gives an early bite, and in a dry time when all other grasses are withered it grows right along. I have never rut it as a hay crop. It would have to be cut very early and be well saved to be much good as hay.

The second cutting is considered the best for seed, although either will yield seed. Lucerne and orchard grass make a pasture that will carry a lot of cattle through a dry time when all else fails.

Forest, Ont., July 13th, 1899.

RICHARD STUTT.

NOTE.—This letter is in reply to one we sent Mr. Stutt some time ago regarding the curing of alfalfa or lucerne hay. He has had a wide experience in the growth of this clover for feeding purposes.—EDITOR.

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Destroying Mould on Cheese

Formalin Successfully Used at the Black Creek Cheese Factory

To the Editor of FARMING :

I am pleased to give you my experience in using formalin on cheese to prevent mould. Our curing room is a brick one, and our cheese before we used formalin used to get very bad with mould, to use a common expression they got "as black as your hat" during the months of June, July and August.

Last year we used formalin; at first I used a small atomizer to spray it on the cheese, but found it did very little good. I bought a tin sprayer, which was being sold for spraying potatoes, etc, and commenced using it to spray the formalin on the cheese and found that the greater quantity of formalin I used the less mould there was on the cheese.

This season I commenced using the formalin as soon as we stopped using a fire in the curing-room, spraying all the cheese every morning after the room was closed up for the day. We put on as much as a man can before he has to get out of the room, closing all the doors, and it is so strong in our curing-room every morning for an hour or two that a person cannot stay in the room two minutes. The result of using it in this way is that our cheese are as clean almost as when they came out of the hoops. We used in June half a gallon of formalin, which cost \$2.50. I consider it worth twice that amount to have cheese as clean and the curing-room smelling as nice and sweet as ours does.

A great number of cheesemakers say formalin is no good. It seems to me they have not used enough of it. It will certainly destroy mould, and I am satified that no curingroom could be any worse for moulding cheese than ours was. To have cheese as nice and clean as they are this year makes me think a great deal of formalin, and I would advise any cheesemaker to get a good sprayer, they can be bought at almost every hardware store, tinshop, or dairy supply-house, and go to work and thoroughly saturate his curing room with formalin and then use it every day afterwards. We also use it in our curd-sinks after washing them and find it sweetens them.

Yours truly, GEORGE H. BARR, Cheesemaker.

Black Creek Factory, Sebringville, Ont., July 17, 1899.

The Principles Which Underlie Successful Farming

To the Editor of FARMING :

I have read with interest the editorial and conmunication on "Seed Growth and Selection" and "Basic Principles of Successful Farming," in your issue of the 11th inst. The opinions I have advanced on this subject are, I see, referred to by some as theories. I was not aware that I had indulged in any such speculations. Possibly the brief summary which was given in FARMING, divested of the foundations on which the conclusions were based, may have given a wrong impression.

I have heartily concurred in all that has been said in reference to the importance of selecting the best seed for sowing, and have shown that this has been the teaching and the practice of the Experimental Farms from the outset. I am also of opinion that, as a rule, barnyard manure can be applied with the greatest advantage to a root or hoed crop. At the same time, I have given the results obtained at the Experimental Farm from ten years' experience in the application of manure to grain crops, which shows that manure may be applied directly to cereal crops with benefit.

I have differed in opinion regarding some statements which have been made, and have given the reasons for so doing; and have also said what I believed to be necessary in defence of the work of the Experimental Farms. The opinions I have expressed are based on the practical experience gained in connection with these farms, and are supported by many facts.

I must again disclaim any personal feeling in this matter, and I trust that much good will result from the general attention which has been called to the importance of selecting the best grain for seed, and also to the necessity of taking heed to the other important principles which underlie successful farming in this country, namely, the maintenance of the fertility of the land, the proper preparation of the soil, early seeding, and the selection of those varieties for sowing which have proved most productive, as these have all an important bearing on good crops.

I must forbear expressing any opinion on the proposal made by Mr. MacPherson. I shall, however, always be ready to use my best endeavors to carry out successfully any work which may be assigned me in the interests of agriculture in Canada.

WM. SAUNDERS,

Director Dominion Experimental Farms. Ottawa, July 15th, 1899.

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Lime as a Fertilizer and Promoter of Vegetation

To the Editor of FARMING :

For many years I have taken a deep interest in fertilizers, and from experiments coming directly under my observation 1 am convinced that lime is absolutely necessary, partly because it is taken up by plants and partly because it decomposes all kinds of vegetable matter in the soil and unlocks and renders available the stores of inert food both mineral and organic contained in the soil. It pulverizes clay soils, rendering them easy to cultivate and allowing air and water to penetrate and thus moisten the roots of plants. All crops require a certain quantity of lime in