

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Miscellaneous.

COW POX.

Cow has cow pox. Teats are very sore.

L. F.

* Ans.—Keep cow separate from others, and allow only one person to milk her. Feed bran mash, and give the following powders for her blood and kidneys: One-quarter pound each of nitrate of potash (saltpetre), sulphur and ground gentian root. Mix thoroughly, and give a teaspoonful night and morning in a mash. Each time before milking, bathe her teats with lukewarm water and soap, milk carefully, and apply following preparation: Sweet oil, 4 ounces; carbolic acid, 10 drops. Mix, and apply to sore parts of teats each time after milking.

CEMENT CONCRETE for WATER TROUGH AND SYRUP ARCH.

1. Would cement concrete be suitable for water trough? In what proportions should it be mixed? How much material would it take for a trough 12 feet long 2 feet wide and 1½ feet deep (inside measurement)? How thick should the sides be, and how much flare should it have?

2. Would cement concrete be suitable for an arch for making syrup, or would it burn away? What proportion should it be mixed?

W. D. I.

Ans.—1. Cement barrels contain about four cubic feet each, and a barrel of Portland cement will make concrete enough for from 25 to 35 cubic feet of wall, whether of barn or trough, depending upon the proportions used, quality of gravel and quantity of stones bedded in. In "The Farmer's Advocate" for July 25th, page 1195, a perfectly satisfactory water tank was described, in which Portland cement and good, clean, sharp gravel were used in the proportions of one to four. You can easily estimate for yourself the quantities required.

2. Cement concrete, brick and limestone have all been used in constructing evaporator arches, but as to how the first-named will stand the fire we have not personal knowledge. Perhaps some reader can give valuable experience on this point. The arches should be built some time before using so as to be hard and dry. Green arches are liable to crack quickly.

A BAND OF GYPSIES.

Our farm is so located that there is just the street between us and the corporation of a town. There is about half a mile of worthless land between the said street and the business part of the town. This street is not travelled very much. The gypsies camp there, off and on, the greater part of the summer. They usually pitch their tents on the township side of the street. At present there are twenty horses, either pasturing on the roadside or tied to the fence. Our buildings are just 40 rods from their tents. They are more or less of a nuisance, either running up for favors and the horses pulling down the fence, which is built of rails.

1. Is there any way of me preventing them from camping there?

2. If so, what steps should I take to do so?

3. Can I prevent them from using our fence for a tie-post or fuel?

4. If they do not comply with any orders that I might give them, what might be the penalty?

5. If I have no authority, who has?

Ontario.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—1, 2 and 5. We think your best plan would be to see the county crown attorney about the matter. He would, probably, either take it up himself or give you proper directions how to proceed personally.

3. Yes.

4. If, after your having warned them against such trespassing, they continue same, you could lay an information, or informations, against them before a justice of the peace, and have them fined such sum, or sums, as he might consider proper.

FALSE FLAX.

I had a lot of this weed in my fall wheat, sample enclosed.

1. Is it wild flax?

2. Will it mature in next year's spring crop, say barley or oats?

3. Being the most of it has shelled out on the field, would it be an advantage for to plow shallow and seed down with spring crop? Will the seed lay in the ground for years and appear again? What method would you take to get rid of it?

FARMER.

Ans.—1. The specimen of seed submitted is commonly, but improperly, called wild flax. The plant belongs to the mustard family, and is described by botanists as false flax, of which there are two troublesome species, the one in question being small-seeded false flax (*Camelina microcarpa*), which is the species most common in the fall-wheat-producing districts of Ontario.

2. It is both annual and winter annual. The plants started from seed in the fall, unless destroyed by spring cultivation, would easily mature seed with barley or oat crops. A small proportion of the plants started from seed after spring seeding will give trouble with barley and oat crops, especially in places where these crops may be killed out.

3. The seeds of false flax, like that of other plants of the mustard family, and, in fact, of most weeds that depend alone on their seeds for reproduction, will retain their vitality in the soil for a number of years, and will germinate and produce plants only when brought by cultivation within one inch from the surface of the soil. It is advisable, therefore, to destroy the vitality of such noxious seeds before they are incorporated with the soil to a depth of more than one inch. In some districts in Western Canada, this is successfully done by burning the stubble, thus killing the seed lying in the surface. The method most commonly adopted is by means of surface cultivation, to stimulate such noxious seeds in stubble lands to germinate, when the young plants may be killed before they may have an opportunity to produce a fresh crop of seed.

It must be remembered, however, that seeds of most noxious weeds, particularly those of the mustard family, germinate very sparingly during the season in which they are matured. Nature seems to provide for the perpetuation of their kind by requiring that they shall have a rest period before germination. From incomplete experiments conducted in the Seed Laboratory, I would say that about one-third of the false-flax seed now lying in fall-wheat stubble land may be induced to germinate this autumn by surface cultivation, such as harrowing, and that if such cultivation be repeated early in the spring, and, at least, three weeks before the land is plowed for spring crop, practically all of the seeds may be germinated and destroyed before the spring crop is sown.

GEO. H. CLARK,
Seed Commissioner.

Veterinary.

DIARRHEA—POLL EVIL.

1. What causes diarrhea in hens?

2. What will cure poll evil so that the parts will be in the same condition as before?

W. J. H.

Ans.—1. Diarrhea in hens is caused by many conditions, as damp, ill-ventilated quarters, food or water of inferior quality, diseased liver, tuberculosis, etc. When caused by either of the latter, nothing can be done, and it is better to destroy them. When caused by the first-named conditions, a change to healthy conditions will check the trouble.

2. In a case of poll evil, where pus has formed, there are usually sinuses or tubes leading to deep-seated, diseased tissue, and an operation is necessary. In all such cases, more or less of a scar remains permanently, and, in many cases, there is more or less of an alteration, as hollows, etc. It is not possible to treat such cases without leaving marks. Where there is simply swelling of the parts, without the formation of pus, bathing with hot water until the inflammation subsides, will reduce the parts to the normal condition; but, when an operation is necessary, marks will remain, more or less marked.

V.



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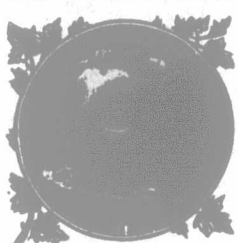
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