

✻ Question Drawer. ✻

Fertilizers for Celery.

1047. SIR, — What kind of fertilizers should be used in connection with stable manure for celery, and in what quantities?

Reply by Prof. Shutt, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

If it is intended to use a commercial brand of fertilizer, the writer would advise from 700 to 1000 per lbs. acre of one containing—

Nitrogen.....	5 per cent.
Available phosph. acid	6 "
Potash	8 "

(NOTE. — When purchasing a commercial fertilizer, the buyer has a right to demand a certificate of analysis.)

The farmer and market gardener will in many cases find it more economical to obtain the ingredients or constituents that are used in compounding artificial fertilizers, rather than the manufactured product. For those who desire to adopt this plan, we recommend the following:—

	Per acre.
Superphosphate (plain)...	300 lbs.
Muriate of potash.....	125 "
Nitrate of soda	200 "

If the soil is rich in well decomposed vegetable matter (*humus*), the amount of nitrate may be decreased to 100 lbs. per acre. The superphosphate and muriate should be thoroughly worked into the soil before setting out the celery plants; the nitrate should be given in two applications to the growing plants (some three weeks apart) as a top dressing.

It is not a good plan to apply heavy dressings of fresh manure directly to the plants, but the land should be previously well prepared by deep culture and digging under thoroughly rotted

manure. Further, it should be remembered that the best returns cannot be made unless the plants have a good supply of water, even though the soil is rich in plant food.

Wood Ashes for Onions and Potatoes.

1048. SIR, — What quantity of wood ashes should be put on an acre of onions, and also one of potatoes?

Reply by Prof. F. T. Shutt.

To be able to answer these questions, save in a more or less indefinite way, one should know something of the condition of the soil, and its history as regards previous cropping and manuring. On soil in a fair state of fertility, we should advise from 1500 to 2500 lbs. of wood ashes per acre for onions, and from 1200 to 2000 lbs. for potatoes.

(NOTE.—It is generally held that for both of the above crops it is better to apply the stable manure the year previous)

FRANK T. SHUTT,
Chemist, Dom. Exp'l Farms.

The following questions were put to one of our lecturers at Horticultural Societies, and at his request we are having them answered in this Journal by various authorities, as follows:—

*Questions 1049 to 1055 are answered by
W. W. Gammage, London.*

1049. SIR, — What is the cause of the leaves falling off the carnation plants? What is a cure?

Without seeing your plants, I would say it is caused by the hot dry atmosphere of your rooms; while the same would follow from over-watering, or