

SILOS AND SILAGE.

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THE popularity of the silo in British Columbia is the foundation of a successful live-stock industry. With the introduction of the silo, we will be able to feed our animals better and with greater economy. The digestive organs of animals that chew the cud are so formed as to require comparatively juicy and bulky food. The cow cannot thrive on exclusively dry feed so well as the horse. The nearest ideal food for the dairy cow is good pasture. This is only available during the summer months. The best substitute during the period when pasture is not available is corn silage.

CORN FOR SILAGE.

Of all the crops suitable for putting into silos, corn is undoubtedly the best. Clover, alfalfa, vetch, peas, fall rye, fall wheat, and most of the spring-sown grains have been successfully made into silage both singly and in combinations. Under certain conditions it is profitable to use these crops, but corn will be the staple silo crop under most conditions.



Fig. 2. Corn grown for silage purposes at Penticton, B.C.

REASONS WHY CORN SHOULD BE USED AS SILAGE-CROP.

- (1.) The plant is capable of yielding a large amount of valuable forage under a great variety of soil and climatic conditions.
- (2.) Corn silage is excellent material to render other food more palatable. The succulent and appetizing nature of corn silage enables the animals to make better use of other roughage and the concentrates fed.
- (3.) Corn silage properly made is superior to roots in feeding value and can be more cheaply produced.