

should go over four acres, twice to each row, in one day. We cultivate it both ways, then in a week or 10 days, according to the weather, we go over it again in the same manner and we continue to cultivate it every 10 days as long as we can get through it; the more we cultivate it the better the crop. We generally cultivate quite deep, three to four inches, until the corn is a foot high or more. We do not use a hoe very much, but do most of the work with the cultivator, being careful to go close to the hills when the corn and weeds are small. Then after the corn gets up three feet high or more very few weeds will start.

We are always careful to plant only one kind of corn, as corn is a plant that mixes readily. We have planted the same kind of corn for the last 19 years and have only once had less than 100 bushels of ears to the acre; we have had as much as 140 bushels to the acre. The White Flint corn is the kind we have planted each year. We are careful to select for our seed corn only well matured ears that are well filled and thoroughly ripened.

Some Details of Corn Culture

Thos. C. Warwick, Kent Co., Ont.

The first thing essential for a good corn crop is rich, well drained land; then good pure seed. The field I selected last year and on which I grew prize winning seed was a black clay loam thoroughly under drained. It was spring plowed

An Object Lesson From Dairy Records

J. C. Fullick, Oxford Co., Ont.

The only way to tell whether or not a cow is paying is to keep records. Records show what might be done if we would weed out the poorer cows of the herd. There are some poor ones in every herd. I disposed of three last winter.

My herd consists of 14 cows; 11 are over four and three under four years old. They are all fed alike while in the stable, so I cannot tell what they might do individually if they were fed to their full capacity, as some will consume more food than others.

In winter when my cows are not milking, they are fed cut corn and straw mixed with about 25 pounds of roots. When they come in again, hay and meal is given. Through the summer months, in the past I have been depending on pasture, but I find that I must make a change and supply other food of some kind.

A DIFFERENCE OF 3,293 LBS. MILK.

The following are some figures in connection with my herd showing what they did last year:

Average of herd	6,704 lbs. milk
Best cow in herd	8,260 " "
Poorest cow in herd	4,967 " "
Average of butter fat for herd	247 lbs., at 25c.,	\$61.85;
butter fat for best cow of 304 lbs., at 25c.,		\$76.17;
butter fat for poorest cow, 186 lbs., at 25c.,		\$46.72.

One-half of the cows in the herd fell below the average for the whole herd, this lower average

in nature, alfalfa, like thousands of other plants, is aided in its lease on life by the insect world. It is not known just how many insects or birds assist this remarkable plant, but the honey bee is the most conspicuous, the most industrious, the most eager, and certainly the most useful. Careful observations have been made of seed plots grown near colonies of bees, and also of those so far from any bee colonies that it was safely assumed no bees had visited the fields producing the pods. In every case it was found that those from nearby fields had from 50 to 75 per cent. more seeds than the others and that they were larger and more perfectly developed. In Colorado and Western Kansas, where bee culture has been greatly developed in recent years, it is found that the alfalfa seed crop in fields nearest to bee colonies is much heavier and of better quality than that of fields but a few miles away.

At the Kansas experiment station a small plot of vigorous alfalfa was covered just before coming into bloom with mosquito netting supported on sticks. It was therefore known that no bees nor other insects could come into contact with the blossoms. Later a careful examination disclosed that the pods which had formed were entirely without seeds.—From Colburn's "The Book of Alfalfa."

Culture of the Potato Crop*

Wm. Jenkins, Parry Sound Dist., Ont.

As the warm weather approaches in the spring, I am very particular to keep the roothouse, where my potatoes are stored, closed, so as to keep the warm air out. In this way the potatoes are kept from sprouting. About this time of year I select what I want for seed. I select medium-sized, smooth potatoes. About 10 days before I intend to plant I bring them out and spread them on the stable floor. The potatoes will then begin to sprout and be just right for planting.

When cutting seed potatoes I usually cut them in half or make three pieces. They are planted the same day as cut, or not later than the next day. Two pieces are put in a hill. The variety I grow mostly is the American Wonder and Early Rose. I have been growing different kinds of potatoes, but these two, for an all-round crop, generally do the best.

SELECT CLOVER SEED.

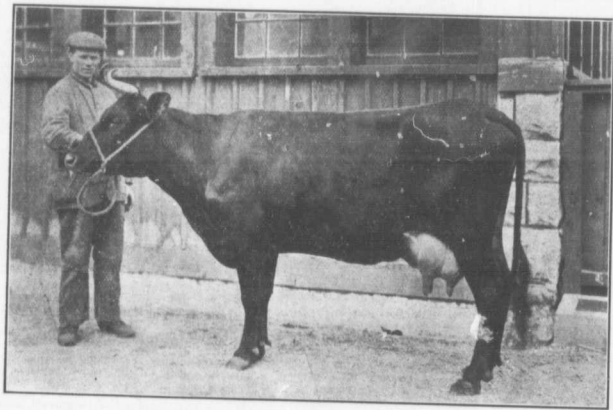
The soil here is a sandy loam. I usually select clover sod for potato ground. It is plowed in the fall and given a coat of barnyard manure in the spring. It is worked with the disc and iron harrows. When I get it in shape to plant, I mark the land with a home-made marker, marking it two ways, the marks being three feet apart each way. Then I commence to plant. With a shovel I remove the soil where the first row of potatoes is to be planted and in doing so for the second row I throw the dirt on the first row, and so on to the end of the patch. By doing so I dig the place for one row and cover the other.

As soon as it is possible to see the rows after the plants begin to come above the ground, I cultivate the patch two ways. In about a week I cultivate it again, using the small marked boards and throwing the soil to right and left. Sometimes I cultivate again before I finally hill the potatoes. This depends somewhat on the weather.

For finishing I use large mould boards on the cultivator. It is a mistake to hill too much. I try to have the soil hollow in the centre of the hill; this will hold the rain so that it may soak into the hill.

For the bugs I use Paris green and water. For several years now potatoes have been the most profitable crop we could grow, that is, when they are properly attended to; some farmers in this district seem to plant potatoes for the lugs. Then at digging time they wonder why the crop is poor

*Mr. Jenkins won a prize in the field crop competition, also, at the last Guelph Winter Fair.



A French Canadian Cow—A Popular Breed in the Province of Quebec

Inoquette—871—a cow in the French Canadian herd at the C. E. F., Ottawa, has a record with her first calf, at 2½ years, of 6,679 lbs. milk, 41 per cent. fat, equivalent to 316.65 lbs. butter. French Canadian cattle are very hardy, and have many excellent qualities. On both sides of the St. Lawrence River, below Quebec City, and in the Lake of St. John District the French Canadian represents for the most part the sole breed kept.

being 216.2 lbs. of fat, at 25c., \$54. Had they been up to average of whole herd, it would have made \$7.85 more each.

Best half of herd made 279 lbs. of fat, equal to \$69.25, a difference of \$8 each more than the average of whole herd. The whole herd made 3,458 lbs. of fat at 25c., \$864.86. Had whole herd made as much as best cow, it would have made 4,265 lbs. fat, equal to \$1,066.45—a difference of \$201.59 on the herd.

Bees Important to Alfalfa

It has been discovered that the honey bee is of even more importance to the alfalfa than the alfalfa is to the bee. The wonderful strength and speed of the bees takes them long distances for their food and they have recourse to a great variety of plants. But the peculiar construction of the alfalfa blossom renders it unable to fertilize itself and its shape makes cross fertilization very difficult. In the marvelous "balance of good"

I try to have as near to four stalks in a hill as possible. When hoeing I cut out all crooked or smutty stalks.

Great care must be taken in the selection of seed, which must be pure from other varieties, well matured and filled right up to the tip. Corn from the tip of an ear should not be planted. I select my seed in the fall during the husking season and hang it up by the husks in some place not too much exposed to the winter.