

## FARM MANAGEMENT

### Seeding Rye on Sod Land

I would like advice on sowing rye on a field after the hay is taken off in the fall pasture for milk cows. I intend to plow as soon as the hay is off, and I would like to seed it down again in the spring, and my experience is the seed will not catch on fall-plowed sod. I thought by sowing rye I could get pasture enough to pay me for my work, and I would be able to plow it again in the fall. Will the rye favor the milk for sending it to the factory? Is there any kind of grain that would answer the same purpose if sown so late?—G. R. Met. Oxford Co. Ont.

To ensure a fair amount of forage from the field it is desired to plow, and which it is suggested he sown to rye, better results might be anticipated from sowing millet rather than rye. The land should be plowed to a moderate depth, and, if the weather is dry, rolled and disk harrowed within three hours after being plowed.

is too large to be cultivated with a two-horse implement. Should dry weather continue, large corn may be benefited by the use of a one-horse cultivator or a light A harrow, used between the rows. At all events every late cultivation should be a surface cultivation, and not too close to the corn plants. We can afford to disturb or break the roots of the corn plant at a late season of the year, and the entire aim of late cultivation should be to conserve soil-moisture, and check the late weed growth.

Late rains may come, but for the present let us remember that moisture already in the soil is just as good, or even better, than that which may come. And again it may not come, in which case a few extra surface cultivations may mean the making of the corn crop this year.

### Good Time to Kill Weeds

The hot dry killings of the summer are best for killing weeds, especially those which have persistent underground root-stalks and are perennial by nature. As soon as the early crops



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The first prize herd of Holsteins at Calgary Fair this summer, here illustrated, owned by Michener Bros., Red Deer, Alta., were all bred by J. W. Richardson, Caledonia, Ont. In the herd are the champion male and champion female. From left to right they are: Hilda Wayne Johanna Luss, Mercedes of Riverside, Calathia of Riverside and Sir Pieter Wayne of Riverside.

The greatest care is necessary to ensure the thorough working down of the land to prevent evaporation or escape of moisture and to ensure sufficient moisture for the germination of the seeds and the decay of the soil turned under. It will probably be necessary to roll and disk harrow several times before the field is fit as a seed bed for almost any crop. If millet seed cannot be secured, then rye might be expected to give moderate returns in the way of forage. It should be sown as soon after the middle of July as is at all possible if much forage is to be hoped for in the autumn months.

The method of reseeded proposed is not likely to prove very satisfactory. To get good results it is almost absolutely necessary to have a hoed crop come between the old meadow and the seeding down to the new.

The rye might favor the milk slightly if fed in large quantities, that is, if the cattle were put on it when hungry and allowed to eat all they desire. The probabilities are, however, that the quantity of rye forage available in the fall will not affect the quality of the milk unless the cattle are turned into the field and confined there for a day or two.—J. R. Grisdale.

### Late Corn Cultivation

The farmer who has been accustomed to "laying his corn by" on such a date finds himself in a peculiar circumstance this season. From present indications late cultivation must be the keynote of this season's corn crop. The growth of the plants have made, and the moisture condition of the soil will surely necessitate later attention than in previous seasons.

Corn is a cultivated crop, and a profitable crop is not obtained unless the cultivator is used until the corn

of hay, barley and rye are removed, operations should be started which will lead to the eradication of such weeds as wild oats, mustard, quack-grass and thistles. After cutting the grain crops, it is a good plan to disk the land so as to cover the seeds that have shattered out. This is especially useful treatment for land infested with wild oats. The disking is for the purpose of hastening germination. Two or three weeks after disking, the land may be plowed at the ordinary depth and harrowed and disked frequently.

Hay land can be plowed soon after the crop is removed, and if Canada thistles, or quack-grass are present, their growth will be seriously interrupted. Following the plowing of the stubble or hay land, it becomes essential to double disk the land once or twice a week, depending on the growth made by weeds, so as to prevent them from establishing new root systems. The disking should be kept up until about the 1st of September.

It is difficult to give time for such operations during the busy haying and harvesting season, but anyone who has a patch of thistles or quack-grass that more progress during the hot weather of July and August than at any other season of the year. The effort should be made to find time if possible. The frequent disking and cultivation to September 1st will keep the quack-grass or thistles in subjection. By September 10th to 15th the field may be sown to rye. The rye grows quickly and strong, and will take possession of the land, crowding back and choking the weeds during the fall season. The rye starts early in the spring also, before most weeds, and keeps them in check during the early part of the next year.

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