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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

GIANT WILLOW-HERB OR FIREWEED.

What is the name of the enclosed weed? It has only a small pink and white flower. These are the pods, a little like a milkweed. Н. А. В.

Ans.—The enclosed pods are the fruit capsules of a common fence-corner weed, Giant Willow-herb, or Fireweed (Epilobium angustifolium). This is one of the plants that commonly springs up where forests have been cleared away and the ground burned over. The pods are from one to three inches in length, and contain a large number of downy-tufted seeds. It belongs to the order ona-

CRIBBER — SPRUCE FERTI-LIZER — MUSHROOMS.

1. Could you advise me what to do for a horse that is a cribber? Could his teeth be fixed in any way so as to stop him?

2. What would be the best fertilizer for spruce trees?

3. What is the difference between mushrooms and toadstools? N. P.

Ans.-1. Cribbing is a vice, and not a disease. It is very hard to check, and we know of no treatment of the teeth which will prevent or cure it. In the early stages, it can sometimes be checked by working the horse regularly, and keeping him in a box stall without mangers, racks, etc., which he would be likely to catch with his teeth. The walls or mangers can be daubed with some foultasting material, as an aloes solution. Buckling a strap around the horses throat rather tightly, but not so tight as to interfere with respiration or the ingestion of food, is often practiced. This device is only effectual while on the animal.

2. Coarse, strawy barnyard manure around the base of the trees will act as a mulch and fertilizer. This keeps down grass and weeds and holds the moisture, thus promoting forest conditions.

3. Unfortunately, some of the poisonous species (toadstools), and what are known as mushrooms, are so much alike that no one but an expert can tell them apart. The pink-gilled variety of field mushrooms is the safest to gather, because it is the easiest to identify. There are over 10,000 species of autobasidiomycetes, the series to which the mushroom belongs. Some are edible, but many are poisonous, and we would not undertake to differentiate between them.

HOMEMADE WINDMILL.

"The Farmer's Advocate" has been a welcome arrival at our home longer than the memory of the writer can span, and as this is the first letter of inquiry we have written to its columns, I take the liberty of writing in reference to made windmill, made of wood, with steel bearing and gear.

1. What kind of wood should be used to compose the wheel?

2. Do the fans necessarily have to be concave shape, or would flat boards, turned with the edge to the wind, serve

the purpose as well? 3. What width and length should fans be, and how many should be in the wheel?

4. For a twenty-foot tower, about what size should the base be, and what

size at the top? 5. What sized cog-wheel would be right for the gear of wheel you would

W. J. Y. recommend? Ans.-1. Tower, pine; frame of wheel, white oak, white ash, or rock elm: fans.

pine, cypress, or clear cedar. 2. The fans may be flat, but they are not so efficient as the concave ones.

3. The number of fans varies, generally, from 60-90. For a 12-ft. wheel they should be about 4 feet long, and just wide enough at each end and throughout their length that the wheel, looked at from in front, would appear solid. In other words, they should be just wide enough that they will not overlap to any considerable extent.

4. Base, 6 to 8 feet square; top, 2 to 3 feet square.

5. Windmills for pumping are not usually geared. The wheel carrying the pitman is fastened direct to the shaft of the wheel. WM. H. DAY.

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YOUTHFUL STRATEGY.

Mr. Slimson—"Willie, didn't you go to the trunk-maker's yesterday and tell him to send round the trunk I ordered?" Willie-"Yes, pa."

Mr. Slimson—"Well, here is the trunk, but no strap."

Willie—"Yes, pa; but I told him I thought you hadn't better have any strap."

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