



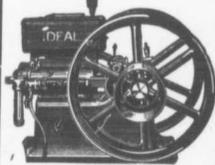
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FARM AND DAIRY, PETERBORO, ONT.

FARM MANAGEMENT

Alfalfa for Ensilage

Will you kindly give me some information on the best way to make ensilage from alfalfa? What do you consider is the value of good alfalfa ensilage as compared with ensilage made from corn. In this neighborhood the weather is some- times certain for curing hay at the end of June, and it would often be an advantage to put part at least of the first cutting of alfalfa in a silo. The second crop of so the silo would again be the best way to save the crop. Would you advise putting the alfalfa through a cutter? Would you cut the alfalfa en masse? If the silo or strip a layer off the whole top of the silo? What grain ration, if any, would you feed to supplement the alfalfa hay or ensilage for milk production?—J. G. H., B. C.

In Henry's Feeds and Feeding, the nutritive value of ensilage from corn and alfalfa is given as follows:

	Dry	Carbo
Matter.	Protein.	Hydrates.
Alfalfa 27.5	3	8.5
Corn.	20.9	.9
		11.3
		.7

Comparing the analysis of these two feeds we find that the alfalfa has a

ensilage contains such a large propor- tion of protein, home-grown clover com- bined with a small proportion of cot- ton seed or oil cake meal would be most satisfactory. Where corn ensi- age is fed, being deficient in protein, more largely of protein rich food, such as bran, oil cake and cotton seed meal.

If the ensilage is to be fed in winter when the process of decay is slow, it would be immaterial whether the ensi- lage were taken from only a part of the surface or from the whole sur- face. In summer when the decay is more rapid, and it is necessary to use several inches of silage a day to pre- vent decay, it might be well to cut down through the silage, using only half of the surface at a time.

Fertilizer for Second Hay Crop

Would it be advisable to cut the second crop of hay from a meadow the first year seeded? If so, would it be wise to apply any fertilizer after the first cutting? What would be the best kind to apply? The hay is mostly clover and has been grown with chips most in this vicinity.—O. N. McP. Que.

I consider that it would be advisable



A Grand Start Towards Building a Great Herd

H. H. Craig, Howick, Que., goes on the principle that the sire is the most im- portant consideration in the establishing of his Holstein herd. Here is his selection: Sir Arnie Beets Sire 2nd, a grandson of King Sire, and bred by Dr. H. Harrow, Vaudreuil, Que. Study his information here. Then note his breeding as given on page 17 this issue.—Photo by an editor of Farm and Dairy.

little more dry matter, more than three times as much digestible pro- tein, almost three times as much di- gestible fat, but that it is deficient in carbo-hydrates. Reducing the fat content to its carbo hydrate equivalent we find that alfalfa has the equivalent of 13.25 per cent of digestible carbo- hydrates and corn 13.05.

Your plan of making the cuttings of alfalfa that are difficult to cure into ensilage, appeals to us as a sensible one. We would suggest that you cut the alfalfa as soon as the second growth appears at the base and run it through a cutting box into the silo. Those who have had experience with alfalfa ensilage tell us that while good ensilage may be made from long alfalfa, that the chances of success are much greater where the alfalfa is first run through the cutting box, in that the cut alfalfa packs more closely into the silo; thus thoroughly excluding the air.

Another plan that has been success- fully tried is to run dry cut straw into the silo along with the alfalfa. When it comes out the straw is then in a most palatable condition for feeding, and the dry straw takes up some of the excess moisture of the alfalfa. In any case the alfalfa should be al- lowed to wilt somewhat before putting into the silo.

Alfalfa hay or alfalfa silage would make almost a balanced ration for the cow giving an ordinary quantity of milk, say 20 to 25 lbs of milk a day. Cows giving a large flow would need to be fed grain as well. As alfalfa

to cut the second crop on the first year meadow. The second crop will be better this year than it will ever be again, and the meadow will not be in- jured thereby. It might be well to give the field a light top-dressing of barnyard manure between cuttings applying it with the manure ap- plier. It will act both as a fertilizer and as a mulch. Should it be desired to apply a concentrate, nitrate of soda, say 100 lbs. per acre, might be used, applying it on a dry day so that the dew will not cause it to singe the young leaves.—Frank T. Shutt, C.E.F., Ottawa.

To Make Hay Caps

I see an article on caps for capping alfalfa hay in Farm and Dairy. Where can I obtain these caps?—R. L. Oxford G. Ont.

Our hay caps are made from 3 gauge galvanized iron. They are made on the same principle as the top of an oil can, by cutting in a se- side to the centre and drawing the edges in and then fastening the overlapping part with four rivets. The cap is then trimmed to make it round. We had our caps made in our own town by a local tinsmith. It cost about 42 cents each, the tinsmith furnishing everything. The width of the iron used is 36 inches. The cap has sufficient slope so that when placed on the floor it is 7 1/2 inches high.—Laidlaw Bros., Aylmer, West, Ont.

In the weed battle no quarter is given; it is a fight to the death.

Are Impr

"The one conclusion of that loss of occasion in the lack of sou the row."—E. H. Board, Esq.—Gen- eral editor. Sum up the resolu- tion, and con- sidering over a 1890 to 1908, and work. It is plain for us as ample op-



This illustration shows the value of the production

the value of up-to-date met- farming. The hundreds of bands of cows, reached and pu- letin from the port of Agricul- tural phases. "Wrong infor- both from the bulletin is base- mairis compiled the reader not- gard to the man- was collected. V that the averag- stabled corner owner an annu- while the averag- in poor stable, a year only 23 cen- of her feed. Ho that the differ- stabling, but are that the cows were, on the wh- and had better what proportion should credit to



Another S

trailing factors was determining." I from the 32d having been fed 6,000 lbs. of 11.80 received the worth \$1.10. The 31.25 of the same ref- silage formed a pig. Comparing herd those not reported larger part of who have silage and who as representing run of dairy herd (States), we find that silage fed is to those not reported