

Turnip Growing in Eastern Nova Scotia

By J. A. Macdonald.

Farmers here in Eastern Nova Scotia have adopted a different and improved method of growing turnips compared with the methods they had when I knew them some years ago.

A decade or so ago they used to plow a grain stubble in the fall for the coming root crop. Now they shallow plow the sod, a clover sod if possible, early in the fall, harrow and roll to rot the sod and also cultivate once or twice. Late in the fall, before freezing weather, the land is again plowed, deeper than before, and left rough all winter.

In the spring, manure, about 20 tons to the acre, is well worked into the ground and the land kept cultivated from time to time until ready for seeding. It will be recalled that this method is somewhat similar to the one followed at Guelph except that the land is not ribbed, but only roughly plowed in late fall.

When barnyard manure is scarce a light dressing of this and 500 to 1,000 pounds of complete commercial fertilizer is used. Phosphate manure alone is not used as formerly, but a fertilizer containing the three ingredients, potash, nitrogen and phosphate. The phosphate and potash is spread broadcast before drilling, and the nitrate applied above the drills.

The drills are made with an ordinary plow, about 28 inches apart and on these freshly made drills turnip seed is sown with a drill or by hand at the rate of two to three pounds an acre.

THINNING AND AFTER CULTIVATION

When the plants are an inch or two high thinning begins. The drills are first thinned out with a wide-faced garden hoe, and then by hand. When thinned the plants should be about a foot apart. With some experience thinning may be done entirely with the hoe. Cultivation is begun at once in order to keep down weeds and continued once a week, or at least, fortnightly until the leaves close in over the ground.

Yields of 30 tons an acre are not uncommon in Eastern Nova Scotia. The acreage areas are not usually large. Nearly every farmer grows more or less turnips of one-fourth acre and upwards, and probably one acre would be the average area under turnips on one farm.

Not much corn is grown. Given equal chances, the turnip yield will be about double that of corn. Unless the season were favorable a yield of 15 tons of corn could hardly be expected from the ground upon which 30 tons of turnips could be raised.

To Prevent Silage Spoiling

A. G. Frew, Norfolk Co., Ont.

Last fall we erected a lath and plastered silo. Owing to so much wet weather we were not able to finish it as soon as we would like to have done. The corn, therefore, got very ripe and the silo frosted before we were able to get it into the silo.

During the winter, while it was cold, we had splendid ensilage, well filled with good hard kernels of corn. Towards spring when the weather got warmer the ensilage began to heat and bake in large spots all over the surface, thus making it unfit for feed.

We asked several farmers, who had had silos for years, what to do, but they did not know what would remedy it. Some said to water it lightly. That did not seem to be of much use.

Then we wrote the O. A. C., Guelph, about it, and found they had had no experience along that line. Nevertheless we thought we would lose it anyway, and that watering could not make it any worse than it was. We put up a pulley and rope, filled several barrels with water and just poured it all over the top until the water had soaked or wet the ensilage down about a foot or probably more. This lasted a week or more and the ensil-

age began to spoil again, so we wet it well again, and that has stopped it.

Whenever we notice the silage getting a little dry on top we apply a little more water, but not in such large quantities. Now we have fine ensilage and the cows are eating it up clean.

As we get many useful hints from reading Farm and Dairy we thought that our experience might be of use to others.

Distributing Weeds a Crime

"Inspector," Calgary, Alta.

It is now a crime in Alberta for a farmer to allow noxious weeds to grow on his farm and thus seed the farm of one of his neighbors. At Cla-

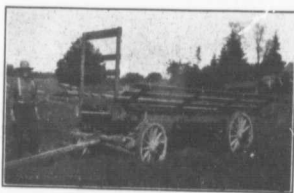


A Combination Rack Adjusted for Stock

holm recently a farmer, Mr. Flitton, brought action against his neighbor, Mr. Strange, for damages because wild mustard had been allowed to grow with no attempt at restraint on the latter's farm. Judge Walsh, before whom the case was tried, allowed Mr. Flitton \$632 damages.

This decision is strictly in accordance with Alberta law; and in my opinion Alberta law should be the law of all the rest of the Dominion. On the old home farm down in Ontario we had a neighbor who grew the finest crop of sow thistles in all the country round. At one season of the year the seeds were carried from his land to ours in such quantities as to almost resemble a snow storm. And we had no redress.

That man caused us losses each year amounting to many dollars. On the whole we must have



The Same Rack Ready for the Hay Field

The combination hay, grain and stock rack seen in these two illustrations was designed and made by W. C. Good, Brant Co., Ont., the Master of the Dominion. Grange. Mr. Good, who may be seen in both illustrations, is a practical and successful farmer, and also finds time to interest himself in the affairs of his country.

—Photos by an editor of Farm and Dairy.

spent many hundreds of dollars trying to keep down the sow thistle the seeds of which were so plentifully supplied us from across the line fence.

At that time there was nothing in Ontario law to prevent that man from growing as many weeds as he liked. I don't believe that there is yet. It is certainly discouraging to try to keep clean fields when you have no check on your neighbors.

The decision of Justice Walsh will do much to frighten untidy farmers in this province into keeping down the weeds. A similar law and a similar decision in Ontario would I know be welcomed by hundreds and thousands of the best farmers in that province. The same applies to the other provinces of Eastern Canada.

Summer Feeding Methods

H. B. Colwell, Hants Co., Ont.

During the hot days of summer, the cows are often better in the barn during the heat of the day than out in the pasture. In the cooler days of early summer the cows do most of their feeding in the day time, but in the hot weather they seek the shade during most of the day and feed at night. If there be no shady nooks in the pasture then the cows are forced to put up a continual fight with myriads of flies with the resultant decreased showing at the pail.

The conditions that I have mentioned were just about what I had to contend with and were responsible for the methods that I adopted when I commenced feeding soiling crops. When the days are cool I put the cows in the stable about four o'clock in the afternoon. They receive a good feed of oats, peas and vetches, which make up my stable soiling crop, and after being milked are turned out to pasture again. If the pastures are doing pretty well, this is the only feed they get. They are brought into the stable again in the morning and turned out immediately after milking.

During the very hot weather I stable the cows at noon or shortly after and give them their green feed then. They remain in the stable until after the evening milking. When the pastures get real short I haul in a larger supply of green feed and give the cattle an extra feed when they are stabled in the morning.

Calves on Pasture

E. F. Eaton, Colchester Co., N. S.

Shall we turn spring calves to pasture? If my answer were to be determined by the general practice as I see it in this part of the country, it would be a decisive, Yes. But I believe I can improve on the general plan.

Did you ever see a bunch of stunted, unhealthy looking calves wandering around a shadeless pasture suffering all kinds of torment under a hot sun and putting up a losing fight against the clouds of flies that torment them. I have, dozens of times. I wonder how the owners of these calves expect them to develop into strong bodied, efficient milk cows. Here is one case where practice is no indication of desirability.

In my own herd the most of the cows freshen in the fall and the calves, growthy and thrifty after several months of good care in the stable, are able to go on to the grass, make the most of it and continue to thrive. The few spring calves that I have, however, spend the spring and summer in the stable. I used to let them run in pasture, but now I know better. In the stable with the windows darkened during the hot part of the day the calves are cool, free from flies and have what I consider ideal conditions for growth. I have noticed time and again that late spring calves under my management will go ahead and in the fall when I do turn them on grass for a month or so, be larger than the early spring calves of many of my neighbors.

Even in the case of the fall calves I do not depend altogether on grass. Through June and the early part of July the calves generally get enough grass to keep them growing nicely, but from then on they are fed green feed as are the milk cows. Likewise they are fed grain, ground oats with a little oil cake being a favorite mixture.

I do not believe in raising calves according to nature. I believe in developing them according to the best plans of man.

My idea is to treat the corn right and then it will treat me right.

The care of the

CARE, perfect insurance, time. Being on time. I had one part cardiac "Vel" at the last and within one half the part well saturated. This was repeated hours, after which evil. This dries up on it an impervious plated as far as it is. That is the form that appeals to me.

THE MAR

A writer recently of the beneficiaries of the licking by the mare must have been given with cows and calves never seen a mare lick over; in fact, no than just to show her. The mare should lie long as she will, and gets up will be very a drink of warmed water. The foal is better also, and it is curious will do if it is curious down. A foal is kept like that for the of an hour, after which strong it can without dashing itself much. When strong it may be taught to

TEACHING

This is generally actually do it until I could not find the nip keep wheeling round under her nose, one after should push the must be a sharp push pushes steadily the foal is kept near to the side of its way there it is.

It is not easy for a twist its head to one teaches it to find the tion is one I have n No one need be anxio the test for some ho better if they are not. If the foal had tried, given up trying to suc in this way.

COAX, I

A basin of hot water emptied, leaving it ho be milked into it, the would suck the finger or so. Then it should towards the mare. T round the mare's thigh and beyond the udder he will follow to the u to transfer its sucking

test.

The assistant should