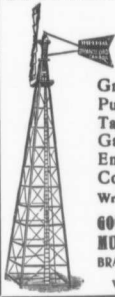


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## FARM MANAGEMENT

### A Crop from Low Land

I have some old pasture, that is the grass is run to wild grass, so that it does not yield much return. It is on low land, or land on which lies much about two feet deep.

How can I best kill the wild grass and get some return this year? I have not done well with me on a muck sod. One man recommends flax. He says it will grow it out, but I am doubtful about it. Can you suggest some course for me to act on that will kill the grass out and give me some return this year? J. T. Simcoe Co., Ont.

Re the low land, I would suggest that you plow at once, work well every second day or so until about the 20th June, then sow to buckwheat. Or, if the land is quite dry and warm, lay that time, you might sow to millet at the rate of about 40 pounds an acre. If you sow to buckwheat, then sow about one bushel an acre. Flax might be expected to do fairly well on this land, provided it is dry by the time you are ready to sow, which should not be later, for flax, than about the middle of June. A good use to make of the flax would be to cut just about the time it finishes blossoming, then the whole plant might be fed to cattle without threshing and preserve very satisfactory for dairy cattle, or any other class of live stock. Sow flax at the rate of about 40 lbs. an acre.

If the land is low and badly in need of drainage, however, about the only thing you could sow this year would be buckwheat.

The best treatment of all for this muck field would be to plow in August with a shallow furrow, roll and disk harrow alternately until the sod is well broken down and cultivate at intervals until October, rib up or plow, apply manure and sow to mangel next spring. The next season seed down with barley at the rate of about one and a half bushels an acre. Red Top seed about 10 lbs., Timothy about 5 lbs., alsike about 5 lbs., and Red Clover about 5 lbs. an acre. This may seem a very heavy seeding but will certainly prove very profitable in the long run.—J. H. Grisdale.

### Crop from Wild Grass Land

In addition to the piece of land mentioned elsewhere on this page, I have another piece. It is on high land, or what I call good land, but it is run to wild grass also, and the hay from it is not of the best. I wish to plow it up. I would sow to peas and oats, but it is too late for that. Could buckwheat be sown thick to smother it out and get grain return? From these facts can you advise anything to help me. Time and life is too short for me to experiment just to see how it will do. I wish to get some fall feed for cattle to eat on the land.—J. T. Simcoe Co., Ont.

On the high land, or good land field, as you call it, I would suggest one of the following:

In any case plow at once with a very shallow furrow, say 3 inches deep, if you can plow so shallow, roll and harrow with a common harrow two or three times. Repeat the rolling and harrowing every three or four days until about the middle of June, being careful to roll first and harrow after, that is, always leave the surface rough. Then, about the middle of June or a little later, plow again with a slightly deeper furrow, say four inches, disk harrow thoroughly and if you have any manure, apply thereon, then sow to corn or turnips. If you sow to corn use a small variety such as Longfield, Compton's Early or Quebec Yellow. If you sow to turnips you might sow to Swedes at this date. If you think the land is still in bad shape you might keep on working it every few days until about the 10th of July, then sow to white turnips which would have plenty of time after that date to grow into a good crop of feed for use in the

fall and early winter, more particularly in the fall. Needless to say any application of manure would be highly profitable on any of these crops.

If, however, you think a hoed crop would be too much work, then, I would suggest that you follow the method outlined, that is, plow shallow, roll, harrow and plow again, but postpone the second plowing until about the last week in June, when you might sow, (on some favorable day), buckwheat at one rate of about one bushel an acre, or millet at the rate of about fifty lbs. an acre. Be sure to have the land thoroughly cultivated and no grass growing when you sow, but be sure to pick a day when the land is in good condition that is fairly damp, but not too wet.

Do not put the buckwheat or millet in the ground when the land is so dry as to mean possibly a good length of time before it germinates. The thing is to get the buckwheat or millet well aging before the grass gets a start. Either one of these plans is likely to enable you to clear your field of weeds or bad grass, and give you good returns in the way of crops for winter use.—J. H. Grisdale.

## Early Treatment of the Corn Crop

J. H. Grisdale, Agricultural, C. E. F.

A few days after seeding, say the third or fourth day after sowing, or the fourth or fifth day in cool weather, it is well to run over the field with a slant tooth harrow or, lacking this, with a light smoothing harrow. This will break the crust, destroy any weeds and help warm the soil, thus encouraging growth of the corn. A few days after the corn is up, and when it can be seen distinctly in rows, it is often advisable to run the light smoothing harrow over it again. This time it had better be run across the rows. Subsequent cultivation will need to be done with special cultivators.

### LATER CULTIVATION.

For working the land until the corn stands about three feet high in the rows or less, the two-horse walking cultivator will give the best results. This implement straddles a row and gives the soil on either side thereof thoroughly good cultivation being in this respect much superior to the one-horse walking cultivator. The latter implement will, however, be found valuable and necessary after it is no longer possible to work the two-horse cultivator.

The cultivator should be run through the crop, shortly after any considerable rain fall or about once a week in dry weather. As the season advances, a lighter and lighter cultivation should be given. Work may be stopped usually when the corn is so high as to hide the horse and driver from view, but sometimes, however, later cultivation is desirable. This will be the case when a superabundance of weeds shows up, as may occur in a very wet season, or when the corn suffers from drought in a very dry season.

Very seldom, if ever, will it be found advisable to rib up the corn. Such treatment might occasionally be advisable in a wet season on very low-

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