

2. Keep in concave, retentive barnyard, in compact mass, with no leaching and with slow fermentation.

3. Apply to the soil as soon as convenient, spread immediately and work in as soon as possible.

### The Conformation of the Horse.

Every horseman has his own ideal of a perfect horse. Tastes differ as much in this respect in other things, yet each variation will be a slight modification of the one model. Proportion and graceful outline are admired by all.

In looking for an animal approaching perfection we expect to find the head not too large in proportion; the forehead broad and flat, for the brain is situated in the cavity beneath, and the size of the brain is closely related to the intelligence of the animal; the space between the eyes broad, as this indicates brain room above. The eye should be prominent and lively, the face straight, the nostrils wide, the lips thin, the ear firm and active, and the muscles on the sides of the cheek well developed, as these are the engines that drive the grinding stones that crush the food.

The neck should be sufficiently long to give graceful carriage to the head, curved above with firm crest, and straight on the line below, widening gradually towards the body and not too full towards the head; muscles on either side well defined.

The shoulder should suit the purpose for which the animal is intended. If for speed, it should be long and oblique, to give increased leverage and range of movements. If for draught, it should be upright to give power in the collar.

The front legs should run in a straight line down from the shoulder, the feet slightly approaching each other when viewed from in front. The front legs are the carrying power of the animal, they are the parts on which the animal's weight mainly rests. The hind legs are the propelling power, and force the animal forward over the ground. Viewed from the side the arm should be muscular, and long in proportion to the parts below the knee, a low down knee is desirable, enabling the animal to make a long stride and move more quickly.

As a rule a rough or clean cut joint is a good joint, viz., one in which the prominences

and depressions are well defined. A smooth joint, where the interstices between the bones are filled with false tissue, constitutes what is known as a "gummy joint" liable to disease. The knee and fetlock should be large, broad in front and distinctly marked with bony prominences. The pastern should stand at an angle of about 45 degrees, and not be too long.

The foot on its ground surface should be round, and in size proportioned to the animal, too large rather than too small. The lines of the front wall should be parallel to the centre of the pastern, forming an angle of 45 degrees with the sole.

In considering the body, see to it there is room enough for lung and digestive apparatus; that the breast is prominent, having depth for light horses and for heavy horses depth and breadth. The ribs should stand out with sufficient curve to afford space enough within. The back should be straight, and not too long, the loins wide and flanks full. A good length of false ribs indicates a good feeder.

The hips and quarters should be well muscled and strong, the stiles project boldly forward and have a perceptible irregularity of surface. The thigh should be broad, muscular and proportionately long; the hock large, broad and clean cut, and when viewed from the side should not have too much curve.

A perfect horse is rarely to be found, and good ones are far too scarce. A good horse is one that has a great many good points, few indifferent ones, and no really bad ones. And it must be remembered that a horse, like a chain, is no stronger than its weakest part.

### Fall Pruning of Grapes.

There is quite a diversity of opinion as to the best time to prune the grape-vine. Some prune in the fall and others any time during the winter or spring, while many think no one particular time better than another.

This, however, is a mistake. To obtain best results the pruning should be done as soon as the leaves have fallen in the autumn, for the reason that the buds will push with more vigor in the spring, hence the fruit will be better and ripen somewhat earlier.

During winter the vine continues to absorb, by its roots, more or less nutriment, which is distributed in the branches and wood. If, therefore, pruning is delayed un-