

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

MATERIAL FOR CONCRETE WALL.

1. How much gravel and cement would be required for wall under barn 30x45 ft., 8 ft. high?
2. How much gravel would it take for cement floor 60x36 ft., 4 inches thick?
3. How high should barn be from sill to floor for cattle stable? J. B. Simcoe Co., Ont.

Ans.—1. For wall one foot thick and of dimensions given, not counting in underground foundation, concrete mixed one of cement to eight of gravel, about 10 cords of gravel and 40 barrels of cement would be required.

2. About 6 cords gravel and 30 barrels of cement for the floor mentioned.

3. There should be at least 8 feet clear from floor to sill of basement.

CLOVER FOR GREEN MANURE.

I sometimes sow a bushel of red clover in the spring on a field that I intend to plow again in the fall, in the hope that when the grain crop is removed, there will be a sufficient growth of clover to furnish a fresh pasture for the stock for a short time, as well as an addition of humus to the soil when plowed in. Sometimes I have been repaid for the seed, but some seasons have been so dry after harvest that very little clover appeared. Would the chances be better with Mammoth, or with Crimson clover, than with the common Red clover? D. P.

Ans.—There is probably, under the circumstances, a better chance of success with common Red than with any other variety of clover. Much, of course, will depend on the character of the season after the grain is cut, but it must be remembered that, other things being equal, it is the soil containing an abundance of humus material that will bring its crop through best in seasons of drought. For this reason, if for no other, an application of manure to the soil about to be sown with clover, will prove advantageous. Clover is a moisture-loving plant, and failure to obtain a good catch is more frequently due to lack of moisture than to deficiency in plant food. In districts subject to spells of dry weather, during those weeks when the clover plants are still young and tender, no effort should be spared to increase the absorptive capacity of the soil, by the incorporation of manure, by drainage, and by skillful cultivation of the land.

FRANK T. SHUTT, Chemist. Experimental Farms, Ottawa.

PLANTING AND GRAFTING.

I have had considerable experience in fruit culture, pruning, grafting, etc., in England, but wish to learn the best Canadian methods. There we select grafts in late autumn; here, I am told, spring will do.

1. I have work planting out a few thousand peach trees this spring. Which is the best and quickest way to mark land out to get trees square?
2. I am grafting some apple trees (Spies on Talman) 30 years old. Would you advise heading in all the limbs?
3. Would you cut cions now or later on?
4. Would you crown or cleft graft if diameter was up to five inches? Lincoln Co., Ont. J. H. F.

Ans.—1. Use sighting stakes and put a small stake or peg where every tree is to stand. Before digging hole for tree prepare a planting board. This is made of a light piece of board four or five feet long, with a hole bored through each end and a notch in the center at one edge. Place board so that stake fits into notch, and pass wooden pegs through holes in ends to be left in the ground while hole is being dug. Replace board on pegs and set tree in notch until firmly placed.

2. It is better not to cut off all limbs. Leave at least enough to allow for life and growth. Many good authorities recommend grafting only a portion of tree one season and finishing the next season.

3. The latter half of March is the proper time to cut cions.

4. Crown grafting would be best if limbs of 5 inches had to be used. It is advisable so to cut back head, however, as to allow of much smaller stubs.

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am 24 pounds heavier than before I got your Belt.—H. G. SPARROW, Box 256, Brampton, Ont.

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