

In judging the results, which can only be done after the crop is dried and prepared (fermented, etc.) for sale, the Judges are specially to consider the quality of the tobacco, provided the yield be reasonably large.

4th COMPETITION.—*Maize*.—The experiment-field is to be an arpent of land pretty rich in humus and nitrogen, or which has been manured the previous fall with farmyard dung. The arpent is to be divided into 4 plots of equal superficies, a quarter of an arpent each, No. 4, the comparison-plot, receiving no chemical manure of any sort.

1	2
4	3

In early spring, the plots 1 and 2 are to get 300 lbs. of wood-ashes between them, to be worked into the land with the grubber. It would be better had the ashes been spread in the previous fall.

A fortnight before sowing, the plots 2 and 3 are to receive between them a heavy dressing of 250 lbs. of plain superphosphate, mixed with two or three times its bulk of sand or dry mould, and to be harrowed in. The maize is then to be sown as usual.

The plot No. 1 will, at harvest, show the effect of ashes alone on maize; plot 2, the combined effect of ashes and superphosphate, and plot No. 3, the effect of superphosphate alone.

The differences observed in the 4 plots, at the braiding, the growth, during the formation and ripening of the ears, and at harvest, must be carefully noted; and the judges of the competition will report accordingly.

#### *Important remarks.*

1. In these competitions of experiment-fields, plain (i. e., mineral) superphosphate may be replaced by a quantity at least equal (but going as high as double) of Thomas' basic slag, that can now be had at Montreal; but to produce its best effect, the basic slag ought to be applied a long time before seedtime, preferably in the fall. This phosphate is slower in acting than ordinary superphosphate, but its effects are more lasting, being

sometimes prolonged for 3 or 4 years after its application. It is especially suited to soils poor in lime, and to those rich in humus, with more or less of acidity, to meadows, etc.

2. Nitrate of soda, too, may be replaced by sulphate of ammonia, but the latter's action is not so immediate, and depends upon the season being rainy enough to ensure its dissolution in the soil.

3. In the absence of wood-ashes, muriate of potash may be used at the rate of 100 lbs. in place of 600 lbs. of hard-wood-ashes. For tobacco, however, sulphate of potash must be used instead of the muriate; but the wood-ashes are much more beneficial to the crop.

By order,

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*Journal d'Agriculture et d'Horticulture.*

(*Trans. from the French by the Editor of the J. of A.*)

## The Garden and Orchard. <sup>(1)</sup>

(1) Unfortunately, two of the following articles, that should have appeared in our last number, were mislaid in the office.—Ed.

(CONDUCTED BY MR. GEO. MOORE.)

### COTTAGE GARDENING.

A small piece of ground in places near the city where it is possible to secure it affords a man useful employment during leisure hours, enables him to add greatly to his domestic resources, and comforts, and indirectly, but powerfully, improves his moral character. But all this depends upon whether it is wisely managed and skilfully cultivated. If it is kept in a condition which indicates barbarous indifference, to all taste and beauty, or carelessness as to the true principles of cultivation on keeping it tidy and in order, the owner would be better without it, because, so far from benefiting him, it will injure himself and his neighbours by encouraging him in his miserable habits of neglect and inattention, incite him in a disregard for neatness, and exert an evil influence on the surrounding community.

Ill kept and badly cared for gardens sustain the same relation to the principles and arts of cultivation which filthy irregular and ill managed houses do to the principles of domestic economy. Every