

Sweet Clover as Silage

Looks Like Molasses and Tastes Good

J. H. PURVIS, Ontario Co. Ont.

THE first week in June, 1916, we cut six acres of sweet clover. This was a good crop, fully three feet high and was as thick as it would stand. Weather conditions were unfavorable for curing hay, and we put four acres in the silo, making a bulk of 12 feet in a 12 foot silo. The clover became too dry before we finished filling the silo, and we were afraid it would fire again. We found, however, that where the air was kept away from it, it kept as perfectly as corn silage. We expect to put seven acres in this year, but will aim to have it placed in silo the same day as it is cut in the field.

When the silage is taken out it looks like molasses meal, and has a sweet odor and is dark brown in color. The stock eat it readily. The best results were obtained by mixing corn silage and sweet clover silage together at the rate of 40 lbs. of corn to 30 lbs. of clover. A number of farmers are sowing sweet clover this spring with the object in view of mixing it with corn when the silo is being filled. We believe this to be an excellent idea, as the carbohydrates in the corn would insure the keeping of the clover and would be practical for the man with one silo. It would also help for the following reasons: (1) The cutting down of the corn acreage would save labor; (2) the clover being rich in protein makes it a very economical feed; (3) the roots make an excellent fertilizer, and as they decay are easy even in dry weather; (4) we figure that 30 lbs. of sweet clover silage equals 12 lbs. oat chop. If eight tons of green weight can be produced on an acre, an idea can be gained as to its feeding value.

Believes in Sweet Clover

But Advocates Sowing It Alone

"SWEET clover is coming into its own as a roughage on the farm," said Mr. W. C. Hogg, Ontario Co., Ont., as we chatted over the feed situation in Uxbridge recently. "But it must be sown alone." "I started sowing it two years ago, using a mixture of two pounds each of red clover, timothy, alsike and sweet clover. I have found out, however, that it is a mistake to mix it with these other hay crops. Not that it would yield well when sown with them. Last year we got 36 tons of this mixture from 10 acres at one cutting. The animals eat it all right, the horses in particular seeming to relish even the large woody stalks. I believe, however, that it would be better fed if sown alone, so that it would be out earlier in the season than when it is sown in mixture, where the cutting is deferred until the usual time for mowing the other crops."

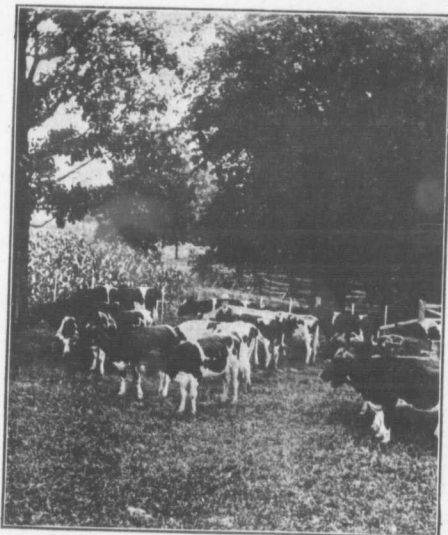
"Last year we sowed 16 acres of sweet clover, using 18 lbs. of seed per acre. It came on fast and by harvest time had made such a strong growth that there was about one foot of it in the butts of the oat sheaves. For this reason the oat straw from the field in which it was sown is making better feed for our stock this winter. We are looking for great things from sweet clover. We expect to get two crops from it, the first one cut about the middle of June before the stalks get large and woody, and the other about silo filling time. It is our intention to try mixing it with the silage next season."

Mr. Hogg prefers sweet clover to alfalfa because the seed is comparatively easy to obtain. Obtaining good seed is almost an impossibility with alfalfa this year. He also claims that it is easier to get a stand with sweet clover in his district. Last year the fields seeded were so badly waterlogged that the oats killed out, but the sweet clover came along as well as could be expected even in the most favorable of years.—R. D. C.

Intensive Farming at Ottawa

More Than a Cow to the Acre

WHEN we speak of intensive farming, we usually think of the thorough working of a small area. A large farm, however, may be as intensely worked as a small one. The Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa is an example.



Ideal! A Good Herd, a Pasture with Shady Corners, Corn for the Silo in Background. Alfalfa is also grown on a Large Acreage.
—On farm of J. W. Richardson, Haldimand Co. Ont.

On this farm of 190 acres are maintained 180 head of cattle, 84 sheep, 175 hogs and 30 horses. The greater part of the feed for this stock was produced on the farm. "How do you do it," an editor of Farm and Dairy recently asked Mr. Grey, the farm foreman.

"We depend on pastures practically not at all," said Mr. Grey. "We have lots of silo capacity, grow lots of corn and feed ensilage twice a day practically the year round. Occasionally we feed green peas and oats as a change, and occasionally green alfalfa. We have a piece of alfalfa near the barn. We cut some of it four times last year. I wish we had kept track of the yields on that small acre; it was enormous. All of this feeding, of course, is done in the stable, and along with the succulent feed we give a little grain through the whole summer season."

Mr. Grey informed us further that they will have 150 tons of hay left over this year, but that they bought some timothy hay for the horses. At the time of our conversation, early in March, they were just starting at Ottawa to use the 1916 crop of ensilage. This is intensive farming as they do it in older lands.

Why Not a Grade Bull?

There Is Always the Danger of Reversion

By "HERDSMAN."

"WHY not use a grade bull?" I have often been asked this question, and frequently the views of the questioner were backed up by some pretty substantial figures. For instance, at the National Dairy Show at Chicago a few years ago I saw exhibited the grade Guernsey cow "Jerry," bred in Wisconsin. Her record was 15,744 lbs. of milk and 729.53 lbs. of butter fat; over 900 lbs. of butter as our Holstein friends figure it. Thousands of pure-bred cows with pedigrees as long as a city sidewalk have no such records as this to their credit. In fact, there are few pure-bred cows of the Guernsey breed

that have done better. As an individual, too, "Jerry" was a wonderful cow—dairy temperament, wonderful capacity and beautiful to look at. And many who looked at her would have jumped at the chance to have gotten one of her bull calves had they then been in the land of the living.

"Jerry" inherited her wonderful performing powers from her ancestors. Her blood was from two sources; one fountain was a long line of pure-bred sires of the richest breeding; the other source was a common scrub or native cow back in the early days of Wisconsin breeding, and back of that scrub was a long line of scrubs; just as long a line of scrubs as there were aristocrats in the family of "Jerry's" sire. In "Jerry's" veins flowed these two lines of breeding. In her progeny either line might come to the front. Here would be the danger of using a grade bull even from so good a cow as "Jerry." In a good strain of pure-bred cattle there is no scrub blood to assert itself. Hence the greater propensity of the pure-bred sire. And viewing the question in the larger light, I never saw a good herd of grade dairy cows that had been developed by the use of grade bulls. Did you?

Our Experience With Grimm

It is Ideal for Our Climate

W. O. MORSE, Halton Co., Ont.

WE have been growing alfalfa on a small scale for many years, and almost with unvarying success. In dry seasons our crop may be shorter than in seasons when conditions are more favorable, but always there is a good paying crop of hay to be harvested. Our oldest stand at present was seeded eight or nine years ago on a steep gravel bank that did not seem to offer a hospitable seed bed for any crop. Last season the first cutting of alfalfa must have yielded almost four tons to the acre. The variety, I believe, is Ontario variegated, a good variety, but now we believe we have found a better one.

Three years ago we purchased our first seed of Grimm alfalfa, just a couple of pounds, and seeded it in drills 32 inches apart. The first season we cultivated and weeded just as we would a hoe crop. The latter operation was reduced to a minimum by thorough summer fallowing up to July. When the seed was sown. It made a good growth and came through the winter in perfect condition as it has come through every winter since. This is the greatest merit that we see in Grimm

(Concluded on page 8.)

W
and m
years
Ours w
We deci
much exp
tem in r
unprofita
procured
adopted
make a p

showing

1916.
Aug. 6
Sept. 3
Oct. 31
Nov. 30
Dec. 31
1917.
Jan. 31
Feb. 28
Pasture
10 to
1 ton h
2 1/2 tons
1,000 h

feed for that
very much
of 28; and
best grade
Our meth
ledger, each
with what
she consum
on a sheet
divided into
milking. I
pound of m
from four m
and the an
credited each
own butter,
and churn
traced or a
whole there
an 18 per ce

