

marketable tubers is less from the whole seed. This is the conclusion from many tests upon a variety of soils.

Our illustration on the opposite page represents one of the most prominent young stallions of the Percheron breed on the continent of America—the dapple-gray four-year-old Major, a son of the great sire and prize winner, Louis 6837, that has been for years at the head of the high class stud maintained at Elkhorn, Wis., by Mr. H. A. Briggs. As a three-year-old, Major headed his class at the Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois State Fairs, and last fall he stood well to the front among the aged stallions. He is a well-modeled, smoothly-turned horse of the nicest quality, and a lot of action.

The Farmers' Humble Ally.—It is estimated that a single toad destroys in a year insects which, if they had lived, might have damaged crops to the extent of about \$20. The practice of collecting and colonizing toads in gardens is thought to be commendable.

Getting rid of Wild Oats.—This plant, after it once becomes well established, is somewhat difficult to get rid of. It is, however, an annual, and if prevented from seeding for a few years and measures adopted to induce the germination of seeds that are already in the ground, it will soon disappear. Possibly the best method is of seeding the land to field oats in spring, then, as soon as the crop of grain has been removed, plow to a depth of three or four inches.

Just as soon as the wild oats have well started, go over the ground with some shallow-going instrument, such as a small toothed cultivator. This will kill the plants already growing and bring to the surface seeds that have not already sprouted. These will germinate, and before the plants are old enough to mature seed they will be killed by frost. In autumn seed the land to winter grain, if this can be grown, and after harvest the following season, plow the ground and give the same treatment as recommended for the oat fields. Two years' treatment of this kind, if carefully performed, will kill almost any annual.

General Purpose Cow not Wanted.—A prominent United States Professor of Agriculture recently delivered himself of some observations upon the costliness of the general purpose cow, which are no

less applicable to the farmer on this side of the boundary, which, whatever difference it may be accountable for in the political tastes of man, does not disturb in the slightest degree the physical condition of the beast: "At the agricultural college we have cows that produce butter at a food cost of 6c. per lb., others where the cost is 10c., and even 20c. Upon the cost of producing butter fat hinges the problem of dairying. The general purpose cow has to be fed with more care and discrimination than the specialized dairy cow, as the latter is trained to milk production and the former has inherited tendencies to beef with which we have to contend."

The Report of the Superintendent of the Farmers' Institute of the Province of Ontario for 1896-7, recently to hand, is as voluminous as ever, and is replete with



A NEW BREED. BUFF LACED WYANDOTTES.

interesting information, the mental output of many of the best farmers and other practical students of agriculture in all its phases in the country. It is impossible, in the limited space at our disposal, to even skim all the many good things the report contains, but there is a contribution in the Forestry Department, by Mr. W. T. Macoun, Foreman of Forestry at the Central Experiment Farm, Ottawa, to which we think the attention of every farmer should be drawn. The question of re-tilbering is an all-important one. After briefly sketching the timber devastation of early days, and protesting against the havoc that has been wrought, Mr. Macoun says:

"In order to have a forest which shall year by year yield a regular supply of fuel or timber, the following measures should be adopted:

1st. Keep cattle and other live stock out of the forest. The careless farmer,