

FORAGE CROPS VALUABLE IN ONTARIO.

G. W. P., Peterboro Co., Ont.: "I would like to ask you how many of the forage plants in the various seed lists are of practical use in Ontario? They give glowing accounts in the catalogues of 'Bromus inermis,' teosinte, Kafir corn, Japanese millet, Jerusalem corn, amber sugar cane. If you can answer this in your paper, I shall be glad, and also tell where I can get a report of the doings of the Dominion Experimental Farms."

[Bromus inermis is a particularly favorable grass for Manitoba and other north-western countries where a hardy grass is needed, and where timothy, blue grass and clovers are unsatisfactory. In Ontario, however, these latter varieties are more productive and suitable in various ways. Teosinte resembles Indian corn, and grows to a height of 8 or 10 feet in the Southern States. It has been grown at the Guelph Experimental Farm for three years, producing a slow growth, reaching a height of about three feet. From knowledge gained from these tests, it is believed to be entirely unsuited to Ontario conditions. Kafir corn is also a southern plant, and suitable only for hot climates, and therefore of no particular value in Ontario. Of the various millets tested at the Guelph Experimental Farm, Japanese has given the largest yield of fodder per acre, and that of a valuable sort for green fodder or for hay. It is well suited to Ontario conditions, and answers a good purpose as a catch crop or as a substitute for hay when the latter is a failure. We have no information at hand as to the characteristics of Jerusalem corn. Amber sugar cane has had several trials at Guelph, and proves to possess no qualifications to warrant its use in the place of Indian corn. Being a southern plant, it germinates poorly and makes slow growth, except in continuous warm weather. The twenty-fifth annual report of the Agricultural College and Experimental Farm, being for 1899, gives the results of experiments, with a long list of such crops as those we have referred to. The report can be secured from the Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto. The Ottawa reports are procurable from the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa, Ont.]

FORMULA FOR WHITEWASH—TRANSPLANTING TREES—COOKED WHEY FOR HOGS.

W. F. B., King's Co., P. E. I.: "Please give me the best recipe for putting on whitewash, that it may stay on well and retain a good appearance."

"2. If maple or poplar trees be transplanted in June or July, are they liable to grow?"

"3. Is whey from factory better food for hogs if boiled than if fed in its raw state?"

[1. A formula for whitewashing that is recommended by the Spramotor Co., of London, Ontario, and which we believe is satisfactory, is as follows: Take 40 pounds of lime, slack it by pouring boiling water over it and in sufficient quantity to cover it five inches deep in a barrel. Stir it briskly until thoroughly slacked. When the lime has been slacked dissolve it in water and add 2½ pounds of sulphate of zinc and 5 pounds of common salt. A beautiful cream color may be given to the work by adding 3 pounds of yellow ochre, or a good pearl or lead color by adding lamp or iron black. For fawn color add 4 pounds of umber, 1 pound of Indian red and 1 pound of common black. For stone color add 4 pounds of raw umber and 2 pounds of lamp black. When applied to outside of houses or to fences, it is rendered more durable by adding about a pint of sweet milk to a gallon of wash.

2. In our experience maples may be planted as late as the first week in June with fair chances of living, provided it is carefully done and the ground is kept moist by rain, watering, mulching or cultivation until the trees have become well established. We would not recommend transplanting at a later date. Poplars are, as a rule, more tenacious of life than many other trees, and if transplanted into moist soil at almost any season their chances of living are good.

3. There is no advantage gained in boiling whey for hogs, but it is well to have it heated up to 100 or 170 degrees while sweet in order to maintain it in that condition. Considerable of the feeding value of whey is due to the milk sugar contained in it. The process of souring or fermentation changes the sugar into alcohol, rendering it useless as food. It therefore follows that if whey cannot be fed raw in a sweet condition it should be heated to the temperature we have mentioned before it leaves the factory in order to give best results in feeding.]

MARKETS.

FARM GOSSIP.

South Perth.

June, the month of growth, is with us again in all its glory. The sun is shining, and the favorable weather of the last few weeks has certainly made the face of the earth to blossom like the rose. All vegetation in this section is booming by leaps and bounds, though the drought in May was too much for the hay crop, yet alfalfa and white clover is all that could be desired. Rye and some other spring crops poorly put in, or on very high, loose soil, has suffered severely. Roots are doing well. Apples likely to be abundant, with cherries fair, and plums a fair crop, probably due to cool weather during blossoming of the latter, which prevented bees from fertilizing the blossoms. Small fruits are giving good promise, and vegetables making rapid growth. The work of "spoiling the roads" is especially in the hands of the farmers, where the system of "stature labor" still exists. The "burned" plan has been abandoned, which abolished the "burned" plan. This year, has been using the grader on some roads and in some places, with gravel. Where properly done, the former

method has left a good road, but the latter, being left to irreparable method or incompetent contractors, is worse than the statute system. The Council, to save the expense of a competent road commissioner, resolved themselves into a general managing committee, but apparently what is everybody's business is nobody's, and the contractors are allowed to do the work as they like, the greatest faults being a poor quality of material and a slipshod method of applying it.

Hogs have taken another slight drop, and the general market rules as follows: Wheat, 65c.; hay, \$7; butter, 12c.; eggs, 10c.; live hogs, \$6.25; bran, \$16. J. H. BURNS, June 23rd.

Prince Edward Island.

Crop all in and growing well. Hay will not be a full crop if we do not have more rain soon. Pastures also want rain, as they are somewhat short yet. Early turnips have come up finely, but late planted want more moisture to start them right.

The bloom has just gone off apples, and everybody is spraying for codling moth. There is a fine appearance of fruit, especially apples.

The P. E. Island Exhibition will be open to the Maritime Provinces this year. The date fixed for it is from September 24th to 28th. The Provincial Government has voted \$6,000 to it, and the City of Charlottetown \$1,000. New buildings are being put up by the Association to accommodate a greatly increased exhibit.

The dairy output is large for June, and prices are good. June cheese are mostly sold for 9c. to 10c. Oats and potatoes are very low, the former selling for 28c., and the latter for 12c. Potatoes are so cheap and plenty that some of the starch factories have started up to manufacture them.

Beef sells for five cents live weight for the best, and from that down so 4 cents for poorer quality. Hay, pressed, sells from \$7 to \$8, and is abundant.

Horse-raising is booming more than formerly. A great many mares are being bred this spring. Good work horses and drivers are 25% higher in price than last year. W. S. June 23rd.

Oxford Co., Ont.

I do not remember seeing the spring grain look so well, especially the oats, which are generally of a rich dark green and very even, and if we get such showers as we have had, I think the prospects for a good crop of oats are good. Our own oats are really splendid. Barley and peas are not quite so good. Our fall wheat is about as nice and equal a crop as possibly could stand up, and on the best of it there are both straw and length of heads to carry 40 bushels to the acre, if we get suitable weather for filling. But the wheat crop is very variable, and in our County there is a large acreage of wheat of a very indifferent crop. The rains we have had are keeping the pastures nice and green, and the cows are milking fairly well. The meadows for cutting are filling up nicely, but very few farmers have any of last year's seeding down, which was generally a failure. I have not seen any meadow that will yield more than two tons to the acre. Our hood crops are doing well. The mangels and carrots that were sown on ground twice cultivated this spring without plowing are doing well; the best we ever had at this season. Corn is doing well, and has been cultivated three times already and won't require much hoeing. The turnips are just coming up; we don't care to sow very early. Potatoes are doing well, but the bugs are still in evidence, although not so plentiful as in former years. Sheep are doing well. Wool is selling here at 16 cents. Live hogs have fluctuated a little in price lately, and were as high as \$6.50, but are now about \$6.25, and threatening to come down. Cheese has also been uncertain in price; our last shipment went off at 10¢, but we have sold some lots as low as 9¢. Wheat has taken an upward tendency, and our miller is now paying 75¢, and his stock of flour, which was very heavy, is now nearly cleaned out. Hired help is very scarce and difficult to procure at any price, and those farmers are well off who have help enough in their own families. The bees are apparently very busy, and if the nights would keep warm, so that the industrious little people could carry on their work, there would be a good crop of honey. The bees don't require any electric light, but a certain amount of heat is a necessity with them. Altogether, the prospects for the farmer have seldom been much better than at present, and he ought to praise God and be thankful. D. L.

Horses for South Africa.

The first shipment of 713 Canadian horses for South Africa left Montreal a short time ago on the British steamer Lugano, and were pronounced a fine, rugged lot of animals. The Devono followed with about 875 head, the latter having 40 stockmen in attendance.

Chatty Stock Letter from Chicago.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Following table shows current and comparative live stock prices:

	Extreme prices now.	Two weeks ago.	1899	1898
Beef cattle.				
1500 lbs. up.	\$5.25 to 5.75	\$5.50	\$5.50	\$5.15
1300 to 1500 lbs.	5.00 to 5.85	5.85	5.55	5.25
1000 to 1300 lbs.	4.80 to 5.75	5.80	5.50	5.15
1000 to 1200 lbs.	6.50 to 5.60	5.60	5.40	4.10
900 to 1050 lbs.	4.50 to 5.30	5.50	5.25	4.90
Fed Westerns.	4.90 to 5.70	5.80	5.50	4.90
Stallions.	5.00 to 5.40	5.40	5.15	4.75
Hogs.				
Mixed.	4.90 to 5.30	5.25	3.92	4.12
Heavy.	4.85 to 5.30	5.25	3.92	4.15
Light.	4.90 to 5.30	5.25	3.95	4.05
Pigs.	4.00 to 5.10	5.10	3.85	3.90
Sheep.				
Natives.	3.25 to 5.40	5.35	5.40	5.25
Western.	4.50 to 5.15	5.20	5.15	5.25
Yearlings.	6.00 to 6.75	6.00	6.40	6.75
Lambs.	6.75 to 7.00	6.80	7.00	6.85
Colorado lambs.	4.50 to 7.50	6.80	7.65	6.85

More cheerful reports come from the ranges of South Dakota and Montana. Rain has fallen in that section in volume of 2½ to 4 inches. Rivers are reported banks full and water holes on the open ranges well filled. A letter from Glen Ullin, North Dakota, says: "Grass has dried up on the ranges already, and cattle will be shipped from that region much earlier than usual, showing fair beef condition already."

M. R. Murphy, head hog-buyer for the Cudahy Packing Co. at Omaha, says hogs coming to that market are of very good quality, weighing 15 lbs. less than a year ago. They are mostly young hogs, showing that farmers are marketing them pretty close. He is of the opinion that July, August and September receipts will be decidedly lighter than a year ago, and that prices at Missouri River points will reach \$6 before September 1.

Although 6,840 cattle were shipped for export this week, lower markets abroad caused a marked dullness in this branch of the trade, and at the close of this week, such cattle showed a decline of 10c. to 20c. from prevailing prices a week ago.

Stock cattle, grass-fed and of light weight, have been exceedingly hard to sell all this week at a reduction of 25c. Grass-fed stock is coming more freely, and is being discriminated against in every department.

Combined receipts of hogs at eleven markets this week were 47,000, or 67,000 less than the previous week, and 121,000 less than the corresponding week last year. Since January 1, 1900, the eleven markets received 11,354,000, or 16,000 less than 1900, the eleven markets more than two years ago. Thus far this year ago, and 38,990 more than 1900, or over a third of the combined receipts at eleven markets. Since January 1, 1900, Kansas City received 1,600,000, Omaha 1,089,000, and St. Louis 950,000, making a total of 7,927,000 at the four leading western markets.

The sheep trade has lately been badly demoralized through

liberal receipts of grassy stock and a bad outlet for dressed mutton. Sheep have declined during the past week 25c. to 40c., while spring lambs show a reduction of 30c. to 75c.

Some of the boats used in the South African transport service are now back in the regular trade, and exporters from now on will not be so cramped.

The flight of the wheat market has put farmers in good humor, especially those in the middle west who are blessed with good crops.

The hog situation has kept the trade guessing for some time, but most dealers feel that values are bound to go higher.

Toronto Markets.

The quality of fat cattle was good, and a large number of choice exporters were on sale, but the stall-fed cattle are about cleared up. The market was very firm, with a rise of from 10c. to 15c. per cwt. on all choice animals. This was supposed to be due to the rise in cheese, but what that had to do with the rise in export cattle is not quite clear. Hogs fell 50c. per cwt. on heavy supplies. Milk cows and calves lower.

Export Cattle.—Choice export cattle weighing 1,300 pounds sold at \$5.25 per cwt.; very choice animals fetched \$5.35 per cwt. Light export sold at \$4.75 to \$4.90 per cwt. Export and butchers' cattle mixed sold at \$4.40 to \$4.60. Mr. W. H. Dean bought three carloads of exporters at from \$5 to \$5.25 per cwt., average 1,300 lbs. each. Dunn Bros. received five carloads of fat export cattle from Wellington Co. Mr. Wm. McLelland bought one load of export cattle at \$4.80 per cwt., average 1,300 pounds.

Butchers' Cattle. Butchers' cattle advanced; loads of good butchers' cattle sold at \$4.40 to \$4.55 per cwt. Several loads were on offer; amongst them were some Shorthorns and Herefords, thoroughbred, but they were not ripe—that is, smooth and level. Common butchers' cattle sold at \$3.75 to \$3.90 per cwt. Mr. John Scott sold 63 butchers' cattle, 1,100 lbs. average, at \$3. These were brought here as shippers, but were light. The freight, 65 shillings per head, kills this class of trade.

Bulls.—Heavy export bulls in good demand, and sold at \$4.40 to \$4.65 per cwt. Light export sold at from \$3.75 to \$4, not many on offer.

Feeders.—Mr. J. Sheridan has purchased in the immediate district of Toronto over 300 head of choice exporters for delivery in July. From the districts of Woodstock and St. Thomas he has also secured some fine export cattle. A few steers, weighing 1,100 lbs. to 1,300 lbs., were bought up by farmers at \$4.60 to \$4.75 per cwt. Those weighing 1,300 lbs. are worth \$4.80 per cwt. Light steers weighing from 800 to 1,000 lbs. sold at \$4 to \$4.25 per cwt.

Stockers.—Yearling steers, 500 lbs. to 600 lbs., were sold at \$3.50 to \$3.75 per cwt. Heifers, black and white steers of the same weight, were sold at \$2.75 to \$3.25 per cwt. Mr. H. P. Kennedy, of Buffalo, purchased two carloads at the above prices, and was prepared to take more, but none offered. Mr. Chas. Zeigman bought 30 stockers at \$3.60 to \$3.80 per cwt.

Sheep.—Deliveries fair, prices about firm, at \$3.75 to \$4.25 for ewes, and at \$3.25 to \$3.50 for bucks. Not a wether sheep on the market out of 350 offered. Mr. John Featherstone sold 52 sheep at \$4.25 per cwt. for ewes.

Lambs.—Spring lambs sold at from \$2.50 to \$4.25 per head. Mr. W. B. Levack bought 200 sheep at \$3.75 to \$4.12 per cwt.; 75 lambs at \$4 per head.

Culvers.—About 60 on offer, not sufficient for the Buffalo trade, sold at from \$2 to \$8 per head, the bulk going at from \$6 to \$8 per head.

Milk Cows.—About 30 cows on offer, and only medium quality, but prices ruled high, from \$35 to \$48 per head. Mr. James Armstrong bought seven cows at an average of \$40 per head.

Hogs.—The top price, \$7 per hundred, did not last very long, only one week, and then very few were able to take advantage. London, Ingersoll and Harrison closed down, and determined to wait until they fell to a more reasonable price; they went off 25c. last week, with the promise of a further decline of 12c. next week. Deliveries very high, about enough to swamp this market, with all the other packing houses closed. The price for best select bacon hogs, 160 lbs. to 200 lbs., not more or less, unfed or watered off cars, are quoted to-day at \$6.50 per cwt. Thick fat and light are \$5.75 for next week, sows \$5, and stags \$2. Our opinion is that they are still too high to remain in their present position more than two weeks. Following table shows current and comparative prices:

	Extreme to-day.	Two weeks ago.
Export cattle.	\$5.30	\$5.12
Butchers'.	4.65	4.50
Bulls.	4.65	4.30
Feeders.	4.80	4.50
Stockers.	4.25	3.75
Sheep.	4.25	4.25
Lambs.	5.25	5.25
Hogs.	6.50	7.00
	Per head.	Per head.
Milk cows.	48.00	54.00
Calves.	8.00	10.00

Grain Market.—Receipts of farm produce were 650 bushels of grain. One load of white wheat sold at 70c. per bushel.

Goose Wheat.—There is a strong demand for goose wheat by exporters. Two hundred bushels sold at 65c. to 72c.

Oats.—Finner, at 32c. to 33c. per bushel; about 100 bushels on offer.

Hay. Twenty loads sold at from \$10 to \$12 per ton.

Straw. Four loads sold at from \$8 to \$9 per ton.

Dressed Hogs. About 100 hogs received, at prices ranging from \$7.50 to \$8 per cwt.

Fruit Market.—Receipts of fruit were the largest for this season. Trade brisk at the following prices: Strawberries, 5c. to 8c. per basket for choice Canadian; cherries at from \$1 to \$1.25 per 12-quart basket; green peas at from 25c. to 30c. per basket.

Bran.—City mills quote bran at \$14.50 per ton, shorts at \$15.50 in car lots, f. o. b. Toronto.

Hides and Wool.—We have with great regret to record the death of ex-Alderman John Hallam, the well-known and respected hide and wool dealer, of Front street, Toronto. Hides, No. 1, green, per lb., 8c.; hides, No. 1, steers, per lb., 8c.; hides, cured, per lb., 8c.; calfskins, 9c.; sheepskins, each, \$1.20; lambskins, each, 30c.

Butter.—In good demand. Choice dairy rolls at from 15c. to 19c. per lb.

Eggs.—New laid at from 12c. to 16c. per dozen.

Poultry. In good demand. Chickens, per pair, 60c. to \$1. Turkeys, per lb., 10c. to 12c.; ducks, per pair, \$1 to \$1.25.

Wheat Crop Prospects and Prices.

At the present writing, advices from the leading wheat-growing States, as well as the condition of the crops in Manitoba and the Northwest, are decidedly unfavorable, and for some time past there has been a steady advance in prices. Wheat holds a decidedly strong position, with a favorable outlook for high prices, though official reports do not yet support the idea of holding on to present stock in the hope of extravagant gains.

Price of Fat Sheep in England.

In the prices of fat sheep in London (Eng.) the record of the year and several recent years was broken on a recent Monday, when wethers sold up to 9½d. per lb., carcass weight, sinking the offer. But for some weeks the top price has been higher at Liverpool than in London, 10½d. per lb. having been the top price all through May in the latter market.

Dr. William Saunders, on behalf of the staff of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, presented Mr. J. H. Grisdale, the Agriculturist, with a cabinet of silverware on the occasion of his recent marriage to Miss Vipond, of Hudson.