

tender may cause the breaking off and loss of many leaves.

Continuing his advice on curing alfalfa, Colonel Cockburn says the only path to safety in stacking or storing in shed or mow is baying the hay in proper condition for completing its own curing. The true medium for its curing is air, not sun; the sun has done possibly more than its share already. But good hay is not completely and properly cured in swath, windrow and cock. If cured in the windrow, the exposed parts are liable to be much injured by the sun. Therefore, the principle stands, handle alfalfa green. The barn is the best place for alfalfa if all conditions are right. The bottom of the mow should be elevated at least a foot from the ground, with poles or joists; if joists they should be about two-thirds covered with boards or other material in such a way as to provide numerous openings or air spaces of considerable size. If the mow already has a tight floor, a part of the flooring should be removed before the hay is put in. Then a box or barrel should be placed in the centre of the space and lifted up as the filling proceeds. If the mow is over thirty feet long a second barrel should be used; that is an air shaft should be left in about each fifteen or twenty feet. A layer of dry hay or straw sandwiched in about every four or five feet, as the mow fills, can be used to much advantage. If the mow is large enough in length and width, an excellent, safe plan is to spread the first cutting over the entire bottom, filling up to a height of four or five feet. The second cutting may be placed over this, on top of a layer of straw, and the third cutting over this. There is virtually no danger from spontaneous combustion or from mould if this is done, and the hay will be bright and green and almost as rich in protein in January as when harvested.

Favors the Cement Silo

Ed, The Dairyman and Farming World.—To all who are contemplating building silos, I would strongly advise a cement silo in preference to all other kinds. Mine has been built for eight years and up to the present, there is no sign of any cracks in it, and, from present appearances, it will be as good in 20 years' time as it is to-day. How different it would be with a stave silo, which is apt to blow over or fall to pieces at any time?

It goes without saying that the round silo is the kind to build. I consider the best size is 16 x 35 feet. A silo this size will hold enough for 25 cows. With my silo, I have never had a particle of silage wasted, either by spoiling in the silo

or by the cows refusing to eat it in the manger.

It takes nine or ten acres of good corn to fill a silo such as mine. The work in connection with filling it is nothing compared to the work that would be necessary when the same corn is fed from a stave silo. Besides, there is no waste when fed as silage. Any one who has fed corn from the shock well knows that there is often a large waste from that method of feeding. To construct my silo, it required 35 barrels of cement, 12 cords of sand and 2 cords of cobble



A CEMENT SILO 16 FT. X 35 FT.

This silo, owned by H. H. Moulton, Norfolk County, Ont., was built with Star Portland Cement. Cement silos properly erected are permanent structures and will last a life time.

stones. It took four men seven days to build it.—H. H. Moulton, Norfolk Co., Ont.

Sorghum for Soiling or Fodder

N. C. Campbell, Brant County, Ont.

Up-to-date farmers recognize the value of soiling crops for supplementing the pastures, during the season when pastures are comparatively poor. Farmers who go in for dairying largely, as a rule, make provision for such soiling. However, it frequently happens that owing to the rush of spring work and to the busy season at the time of corn and root planting, the matter of providing for a soiling crop is often overlooked until it is too late to plant such crops with any hopes of their ultimate success.

Any farmers who have been thus caught or who have entirely overlooked the necessity of making such provision for their cattle or those who for some reason or other have not some crop which they can use for soiling, before the ordinary corn is fit to use, have still one last resort in sorghum. The Early Amber Sugar Cane is perhaps the best known variety of sorghum. This variety has been grown to a limited extent in some sections of Ontario for the production of syrup, but more especially has it been grown for a number of farmers to furnish feed for farm stock. It is highly appreciated by individual farmers here and there throughout the province who have given it a trial.

Last season, the writer made use of a plot of ground some two acres in extent, which had previously been an alfalfa patch, for sorghum. It was planted about the 18th of June and then worked to a fine state of till,

and sown with Early Amber Sugar Cane.

The seed was somewhat slow in germinating, but in time the sturdy plants of sorghum showed themselves above ground. Soon after the cultivator was put through between the rows the sorghum having been sown with the grain drill, through the seeder attachment, in rows the same width as corn. Although sown late and being slow to start, the sorghum when once started grew with great rapidity and ere the season was over, it was as high or higher than the corn which

was sown some weeks earlier.

A portion of this sugar cane was cut and thrown over the fence to the cattle as a supplement to their pasture. They appeared to relish it and eagerly ate up all that was offered them. The remainder of the field was cut with the corn binder at the same time as we harvested the corn, and stooked up as if it had been corn. A portion of this in the long state was fed out in the field after the frosts had killed the pastures. When the last of the fall feeding was drawn to the barn and fed to the dairy cattle for noon feed on favorable days throughout the winter. This was our first experience with sorghum and it will not be long before we were favorably impressed with its feeding qualities and the ease with which it could be grown.

We found it necessary in order to get an even germination of the seed to have the seed bed well prepared and worked up as fine as possible. In one corner of the field where the soil worked up somewhat lumpy, the seed failed to germinate and of course that portion of the plot was without a crop. Sorghum, being a Southern plant, must not be sown too early as it requires considerable heat to get it properly started. The great advantage of sorghum is that it can be sown late and it is not so adversely affected as corn by seasons of drought, in fact it seems to make its best growth when the weather is hot and dry and the corn is virtually at a standstill. It does not require much seed to sow an acre, some two or three pounds being quite sufficient when properly sown.

The barn should always possess individual merit, backed up by good breeding.

Barn Roofing

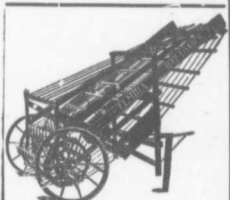
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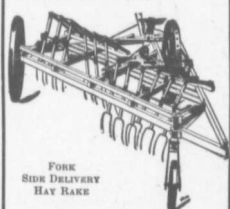
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