

Inquiries and Answers

Readers of the paper are invited to submit questions on any phase of agriculture, and to give their opinions on the matters discussed.

Tender Feet—Impotency

I have a mare that is tender in her feet. Would you advise having her nerved?

I have a mare that will not breed. Could I give her any drug that would cause her to conceive?—R. L. L., York Co.

I would not advise the operation unless she is practically useless. The operation will remove the lameness, but there is great danger of the tendons breaking down at any time after the operation, and rendering her absolutely useless. Repeated blistering around the coronet and shoeing with rubber pads will probably relieve the symptoms. Of course if she is practically useless, the operation would be advisable, as it will render her useful for a greater or lesser period.

Drugs have no action in these cases. It may be the opening into the womb is closed, and so, the groom or a veterinarian, should operate before service. Some grooms can operate.

Will Horses Eat Wild Flax?

I had a field of fall wheat last year that was badly infested with wild flax. There is a good catch of clover on it. I would like to pasture it with horses. Would they keep the wild flax eaten down?—R. L. L., York Co.

Horses will not eat wild flax readily, and it is doubtful if they would eat it at all, unless on the verge of starvation. If you have a first-class catch of clover, it will keep the flax in check. If it does not, you will have to mow it before it has time to seed.

To Start Farming

Ed. The Dairyman and Farming World: Would you give me some information as to how to start farming on a small scale. I am a young, strong man, single, but have had no experience in farming. Should I like to know what sort of farming it would be best for me to start at, and what is the smallest capital that I could start with?—R. G., York Co.

Not knowing our correspondent's question is somewhat difficult to answer satisfactorily. We would not advise him to start up farming on his own account without first having had experience in connection with farm work. To this end, we would advise him to secure a position with some good, up-to-date farmer, who has already made a success of his business. In this way, he could gain an experience which would be invaluable to him in years to come, and at the same time, he would not be risking his capital at the start. An inexperienced man, starting farming would be almost sure to sink his money right at the first. Starting out as a hired man to a farmer, may seem to our young friend like making a slow beginning, but he will find that it is better to progress slowly while gaining his farm experience. After he has put in a season or two on the farm, he will be able to form his own

opinion as to how much capital he will require to start up in business for himself.

Would some of our readers, who have been in a similar position to this young man, and who have since made a success of farming, kindly give their opinions on this matter.—Ed.

The Roofing Proposition

Is prepared roofing all right for farm buildings? How does it compare with shingles? I am told that the wind plays havoc with prepared roofings. Can you tell us something about it?—T. H. D., Lanark Co.

A cheap, thin prepared roofing would not give satisfaction. It would be dear at any price, and we would not advise its use. The good, heavy roofing is all right, and you can use it without fear of its blowing away, or leaking, if you use even ordinary care in putting it on. Some roofings on the market are not much thicker than common paper. This should never be used. The heavy, mineral roofing that does not need painting, is a good kind to get. It will cost you a little more at first, but in after years you will be glad that you invested in that brand.

A good brand of roofing to use is "Amatite." We know of roofs that have been covered with this material for a long time and it is giving the best results. You can obtain a free sample of "Amatite," by addressing the nearest office of the manufacturers, The Peterson Mfg. Co., Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, St. John and Halifax.

Could Not Do Without Silos

Ed. The Dairyman and Farming World.—I have had six years experience with silos. Two silos, if not too large, are much better than one larger one, there being less surface of silage exposed to the air, hence the feed is much fresher and there is much less waste.

Two silos of 12 feet diameter, by 30 feet high, made of 2 x 6 dressed hemlock, tongued and grooved, with a space of four feet between, are very convenient. Join them together, and you have shoot through which to throw the silage from the silo doors to the feed room. These two silos will hold acres of a good average crop of corn. I have fed between 50 and 60 head of stock during the winter months. Without the silage, I could not think of keeping so much stock.—A. F. Jackson, York Co.

Designs in Dairy Buildings

The great demand for information relative to the construction of dairy buildings has led the Dairy Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry, United States Department of Agriculture, to start a line of investigation for the purpose of developing the basic principles of such construction. In order to make the work thoroughly practical, these studies were extended to the planning and actual supervision of construction of a number of dairy buildings in different sections of the country. The work already promises valuable results in securing better methods of construction. In order to place the matter now available in form for wider distribution and usefulness, a number of plans, with brief descriptions, by Mr. Ed. H. Webster, Chief of the Dairy Division, have been published as Circular 131 of the Bureau of Animal Industry, and copies may be obtained free of charge on application to the Dairy Division at Washington, D.C.

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JAMES DALGETY, Fraser Hotel, LONDON, ONT.

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We are shipping to our American branch another consignment of Shire Stallions, Mares and Fillies. They are expected to land at St. Thomas, Ont., April 15th, this making the third shipment within a year. Over to land in all. This lot includes several 1 and 2 year-olds, as well as a number of heavy mature Stallions, a number of Mares and Fillies, in foal. Horses shod or imported by us won at the Ontario Horse Breeds' Show, Toronto, Feb. 1908. Also 4th aged Mares, 1st, 2nd and 4th on 3-year-old Fillies. We import good ones and all them worth the money and on favourable terms. Let your wants be known to

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To be eligible for registration, a graded Clydesdale filly must have four crosses by Clydesdale sires recorded in Canada. Stallions require three crosses. It will save trouble and expense to attend to this matter early. For application forms, etc., apply to Accountant, National Live Stock Records, Ottawa.

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