

Notes on Potato Culture

E. F. Eaton, Colchester Co. N.S.

Potatoes are one of our best money-making crops down here in Nova Scotia. I am told that in many sections of Ontario the farmers grow on so, and the chances are, put their potatoes on the poorest piece of land under the plow that season. We do not consider that we can farm profitably without a good area in potatoes.

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Some breeders have stood aghast at the idea! Others have asked, "Does it pay?" Business men of the progressive type KNEW THAT IT WOULD PAY Gordon S. Gooderham, of the Manor Farm, to have his QUARTER PAGE of space in Farm and Dairy EVERY WEEK to advertise and make sale for the increase in his herd of Holstein cattle.

Mr. Gooderham has now been running his ad. for several weeks over his first year in his quarter-page space in Farm and Dairy. It is his decided intention to continue right along.

What more proof would you desire that it pays him to use this space in Farm and Dairy!

He says: "Advertising in Farm and Dairy is excellent! I am satisfied right from the ground up!"

Of course you can picture to yourself much of just what it means to Mr. Gooderham to have his message going out each week to more than 16,000 possible buyers of his Holsteins.

He sends this message out in his commanding space in Farm and Dairy at the merest fraction of what it would cost to accomplish the same results in any other way!

In each and all of his ads. he has told a plain, simple message. He has good stuff to tell about, good stuff to sell, and he sells it at reasonable prices.

In many ways his advertisements have been unique. He has set an absolutely new standard for live stock breeders—(not alone in point of space)—his ads. have been of real sales stuff, generally written in the first person, and always readable, interesting, well displayed, and often illustrated from photos of his own stock.

Never before in Canadian journalism has a farmer made bold to try out his convictions that it pays to advertise as Mr. Gooderham has done in his 1/4-page weekly space now running well into the second year.

Others may be expected to shortly follow him. There are a score and more of breeders whom we know it would pay well to have a quarter-page each week in Farm and Dairy.

It simply means setting aside the value of one real good Holstein cow to advertise and make sale for the increase from a herd of 50 to 100! Mighty good business that!

Write us for particulars when you are ready to reap a similar advantage through Farm and Dairy—

"A Paper Farmers Swear By"

and we give our potato crop the best land and the best attention. We calculate in getting at least 500 bushels of marketable potatoes to the acre. At an average price of 50 cents a bushel, an acre's crop would bring us \$100. Outside of fruit I know of no other crop as profitable. By storing our potatoes and shipping in the winter we can bring the aggregate return per acre considerably over \$100. We can ship our potatoes all the way to Toronto and in competition with the Ontario grower and still make money. Perhaps, therefore, a description of our cultural methods would interest Farm and Dairy readers.

The first point, and one on which we lay great emphasis, is the thorough working of the soil. We prefer to start in the fall, plowing the sod quite early, working both lengthwise and crosswise with the disk harrow and then running up in ridges with the double-mold board plow. This gives the frost every chance to pulverize the soil and make plant food available. When spring comes we cross over the ridges with a spring tooth harrow and a couple of draggings levels the field and leaves on the surface three inches or so of fine mellow soil. We do not stop there, however. We then spread eight or 10 loads of manure to the acre, more if we have it, over the field and disk it in. After the disk comes another turn with the spike tooth harrow and we are then ready for planting.

We make the horse do the most of the work. The drills are opened with the plow, each drill being from 27 to 30 inches from the next one. The seed is then dropped by hand, one piece each 15 inches in the drill. We then cover with the plow and the planting operation is over.

I must not forget to say something about commercial fertilizers. Even when we have lots of manure, the most of us use commercial fertilizer and believe that we get good returns from it. Quite a few farmers use ready mixed fertilizers, but others are coming to believe that it is more profitable to buy the pure chemicals and mix them at home. A mixture that some are using with good results is 300 lbs. sulphate of potash, 150 lbs. of acid phosphate, 100 lbs. nitrate of soda. This application is used where there is little manure available. If there is plenty of manure the nitrate of soda might be omitted altogether and the quantities of the other two ingredients reduced.

It is important that the commercial fertilizer have a high percentage of potash as the potato is a potash consuming plant. Another point that I might caution readers against is using muriate of potash instead of the more expensive sulphate. Potatoes grown on land fertilized with muriate of potash are almost certain to be soggy and of poor quality. This fertilizer proposition is one with which every farmer should experiment. The fertilizer may be sowed either in the drill behind the plow or broadcast on the land. We have noticed no difference in results between these two methods and the latter is easier.

After cultivation consists in dragging the rows behind with a spike tooth harrow before the plants appear above the surface and then in constant cultivation.

Just one other thing I would mention. We have tried standard varieties and grow no others. A dealer in Halifax wrote to us for a car load of one variety we could give it to him. If we did not have a whole car load ourselves, our neighbors and grow the same variety as we do and we could soon patch up a car among us. This we consider a most important point.

Ask Your Neighbor About his DE LAVAL

Wherever you find a De Laval user you will find a "booster."

The De Laval satisfies, pleases and makes money for its more than a million and a half owners.

There are probably quite a number of your neighbors who are using cream separators and in most communities a majority of these machines are De Laval's.

If you expect to buy a separator it will be worth your while to see what some of these De Laval users think of their machines.

If the evidence of your neighbors who use and recommend the De Laval is not enough to convince you of De Laval's superiority, have the local De Laval agent put one on trial for you and try any other machine you want to alongside of the De Laval.

Let the De Laval start saving your cream right now, this spring. It will soon pay for itself.

The new 72-page De Laval Dairy Hand Book, in which important dairy questions are fully discussed by the best authorities, is a book that every cow owner should have. Make it your request if you mention this paper. New 1913 De Laval catalog also mailed upon request. Write to nearest office.



De Laval Dairy Supply Co.

Limited

MONTREAL

PETERBORO

WINNIPEG

VANCOUVER

SOONER OR LATER YOU WILL BUY A DE LAVAL

PUMPING

With a "GOES LIKE SIXTY" Pumping Outfit

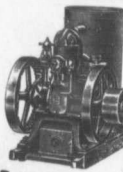


No more backaches. No more waiting for the wind. The Gilson 60 SPEED is the ideal pumping engine. It "GOES LIKE SIXTY." It is a portable power house, ready to operate any wash machine, cream separator, churn, electric light dynamo, wood saw, feed cutter, grinder, pulper, etc. It is mounted on wheels, complete with line shaft, fly interchange, able pulleys, and universal pump jack. The only engine, fully equipped, ready to yield 100% service. A powerful, durable engine, built to last a lifetime. The simplest engine on the market. A child can operate it.

Write for full particulars and also catalogue of pumps, pump jacks, wood saws, etc.

Gilson Manufacturing Co.

302 York St., Guelph, Ont.



This Engine Runs on Coal Oil

Every farmer can afford an Ellis Coal Oil Engine. They give far more power from coal oil than other engines do from gasoline. They are safe, as well as cheap; no danger of explosion or fire.

The strongest and simplest farm engine made; only three moving parts; nothing to get out of repair. Any one can run it without experience. Thousands of satisfied customers use these engines to grind feed, fill silos, do most of other jobs. Cheaper than horses or hired men. Fill up the tank and start it running, and no further attention is necessary; it will run till you stop it.

FREE TRIAL FOR 30 DAYS. You do not have to take our word for it. We'll send an engine anywhere in Canada on Thirty Days' Free Trial. We furnish full instructions for testing on your work. If it does not suit you send it back at our expense. We pay freight and duty to get it to you and we'll pay it to get it back if you don't want it.

Absolutely guaranteed for 12 years. Write for free catalogue and options of satisfied users. Special offer to new territory.

3 to 15 horse-power. We pay Duty and Freight

Ellis Engine Co., 90 Mullett Street, DETROIT, MICH.