

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

1st.—Questions asked by bona-fide subscribers to "The Farmer's Advocate" are answered in this department free.
2nd.—Questions should be clearly stated and plainly written, on one side of the paper only, and must be accompanied by the full name and address of the writer.
3rd.—In Veterinary questions, the symptoms especially must be fully and clearly stated, otherwise satisfactory replies cannot be given.
4th.—When a reply by mail is required, to urgent veterinary or legal enquiries, \$1 must be enclosed.

Veterinary.

INFLUENZA.

Two of my horses have had a cough for ten days. They sneeze and cough, but there is little nasal discharge.
C. W. B.

Ans.—They have influenza. This usually yields readily to treatment, but is liable to almost any complication. Keep comfortable and dry. So long as they eat fairly well, gentle work in fine weather will do no harm, but they should not be heated nor allowed to get wet or cold. Make a liniment of equal parts raw linseed oil, oil of turpentine and liquor ammonia, and rub their throats, twice daily, with it for three days. Take 10 ounces chlorate of potassium and 2 ounces quinine. Mix, and make into 48 powders. Give a powder to each horse three times daily.
V.

PARALYSIS.

My sheep are fed on clover hay and pea straw, with a little grain, and a few roots, and have plenty of exercise. One ewe frequently fell on her knees, and the others would push her over when feeding. She lost control of her limbs entirely. We treated her with linseed oil and turpentine, and applied pine tar to nostrils, but she died.
A. J.

Ans.—The ewe died from paralysis. It is not possible to say what caused the trouble; any animal of any class is liable. It frequently arises from stomach trouble, but probably is more often due to a growth upon the spinal cord. Treatment is often unsuccessful, and consists in purging with 6 to 8 ozs. raw linseed oil, and following up with 20 grains nux vomica three times daily.
V.

INAPPETENCE.

Ram took diarrhea. We treated with castor oil, laudanum and tincture of arnica. The diarrhea ceased, but he has little appetite. We drench him with new milk, eggs and brandy. He has a slight discharge from his nostrils, and he coughs a little after being drenched. He is still strong. He has been fed clover hay, cut corn, a few pulped roots, and a little meal consisting of corn and frozen wheat. He may have had an overfeed of frozen wheat.
W. E. S.

Ans.—Take 2 ounces each of sulphate of iron, gentian, ginger and aux vomica. Mix, and make into 36 powders. Give a powder three times daily mixed with the milk, eggs and brandy. Be very careful in drenching him, as there is danger of some of the fluid passing down the windpipe. This is probably what causes him to cough. Give him anything he will eat, except the frozen wheat.
V.

Miscellaneous.

BUYING UNSOUND HORSE.

A has an auction sale. B buys a span of horses. Unknown to B, one of these horses is ailing seriously with his water. A admits he was wrong two weeks before the sale, but refuses to take the horses back. If this horse dies on B's hands (he having done everything to cure the horse), can A collect the price of same from B?
P. F. Ontario.

Ans.—We think so, for it does not appear from your statement of facts that there was any misrepresentation on A's part, or any concealment by him of the animal's unsoundness. Indeed, it does not appear that to A's knowledge the horse was unsound at the time of sale. And, moreover, the statement does not show that there was any return or formal tendering back to A by B of the horse in question upon the latter's discovery of the fact of the unsoundness.

LINE FENCING.

A and B are two farmers living alongside of each other. The school ground between them is on A. B's share of line fence is at the back, A's share being front. Where would be the lawful place to measure from? Would it be from the road, or from back part of school fence?
Ontario. FARMER.

Ans.—From the rear end of the school fence.

POULTRY MANAGERS AT EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

Who is in charge of the poultry department at the Government farm?
New Brunswick. W. J. U.

Ans.—There are many Government farms in Canada. A correspondent should be specific. The poultry manager at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, is A. G. Gilbert. At the Agricultural College, Truro, N. S., the poultryman is J. P. Landry. At the Maritime (Dominion Government) Experimental Farm, at Nappan, N. S., the poultry as well as other departments are under the supervision of the Superintendent, R. Robertson.

REPAIRING APPROACH.

I am repairing approach to barn, the dimensions of which are sixteen feet wide by twenty feet long. Could you suggest a suitable covering for it, which would not be too expensive?

1. Would you think a building over it would look all right, on account of its length out from barn?
2. Would a covering of cement be more suitable and less expensive?
3. If I put cement, would you advise putting it on boards laid on wooden stringers?
4. What slope would you give it per foot?

5. Would cement be too slippery for horses to go up on?
READER.

Ans.—1. We think the length out from the barn would be too great for best appearance, and the expense is unnecessary anyway.

2. Cement would be cheaper, and as good.

3. The one thing essential is that it be laid on something solid. Much use can be made of wire in strengthening cement.

4. One inch would be about right.

5. Cement-concrete smoothed is very slippery, but it can be scored with cross grooves to make it safe; or it could be covered with earth.
T.

HIGHEST GOOD LAND NEAR TORONTO.

Which is the highest, good, agricultural section within 80 miles of Toronto, and what is the altitude of the place, also the kind of farming that is general in that section, also the price per acre of good, improved farm land, with house and other buildings all in good order?
W. A.

Ans.—The high ground, of course, is immediately north of Toronto. The Union Station is 254 feet above the level of the sea, and just a few feet above the level of the lake. Richmond Hill, 18 miles north of Toronto, is 817 feet above the sea, and 26 miles north we have the highest ground, immediately north of Toronto, 1,000 feet at King Station. All the intervening section is good farming land. The value varies according to the distance from Toronto and from the larger towns in the neighborhood. Ordinary farm lands, having no particular advantages with reference to situation, sell from \$45 to \$70 per acre. Land near Toronto, partly on account of its great fertility, but more, perhaps, on account of its situation, will sell for double that. Farms with good buildings, but nothing extra, would go from \$50 to \$80 per acre. Where the buildings are a special feature, from \$30 to \$50 per acre would be added. As a matter of fact, the price varies very distinctly with the improvements and with the situation so that only a personal examination could determine whether there was value for the price asked.

Mixed farming is the ordinary occupation. Near Toronto, dairy farming is a very important feature, supplying city with milk. This is also becoming a feature in the neighborhood of the stations 40 or 50 miles north of Toronto. In a few sections, pure-bred stock breeding is followed, both in York County and in Ontario County. The only way of determining accurately would be to secure lists of places for sale from real-estate agents and pass upon them individually.

Speaking generally, improved farms have as high a value within a radius of 80 miles of Toronto as in any other part of Canada. I except, of course, the high land lying to the north-west of Toronto, in the Counties of Wellington and Dufferin, which would come within the 80-mile belt. There is much rough land there, especially in the Township of Caledon and generally around Orangeville.

A. McNeill,
Chief, Fruit Division.
SECRETARY OF THE DOMINION GRANGE.

Kindly give me, through your columns, the address of the Secretary of the Grange in Ontario.
W. M.
Ans.—The Secretary of the Dominion Grange is W. F. W. Fisher, Burlington, Ont.

CALCULATIONS OF COST OF FEEDING—HOG PASTURE.

1. How much is it worth to keep four horses for two winters and one summer, fed about half clover hay and half straw, and about four quarts of oats and bran, equal parts, per day?

2. How much is it worth to keep one cow two winters and one summer? She milked some this winter, but not much, being her first calf. Cattle were fed straw and cut cornstalks, without husking. No chop.

3. How much is it worth to keep a calf, born in the fall of 1906, to the present time?

4. I have small piece of clover I intended for hog pasture, but the clover seems to be killed. Is there anything I could sow for pasture this summer?

AN INTERESTED READER.

Ans.—1. If we assume that the horse was kept for exactly one and one-half years, then if it was fed during all that time an average of four quarts daily of a mixture of equal parts by bulk of oats and bran, it would consume approximately thirty-four and one-quarter bushels of oats, and about five hundred and fifty pounds of bran. The amount of hay and straw consumed by a horse will depend, of course, upon the size of the animal, and it will also depend upon the care exercised in feeding. A moderate-sized horse should get along very nicely upon about fifteen pounds of hay per day. At this rate, in one and one-half years, the horse would consume a little over four tons of the mixture of hay and straw. From these figures your correspondent can estimate the cost fairly accurately from the market value of the products he fed. It is impossible for an outsider to say just exactly what rate should be charged for these foods.

2. As to the cost of keeping a cow during one and one-half years, I think it would be fairly safe to estimate that she would consume about thirty pounds daily of the straw and cornstalks. Possibly she would use really more than this, but it would hardly be safe to make the estimate higher. As for the summer, I presume she was on pasture, and pasture is variously estimated all the way from \$1 to \$2 per month per cow. Your correspondent, no doubt, will be able to ascertain what is the common charge for pasture in his locality, and from the figures I have given he will be able to arrive at an approximate idea of the cost of keeping the cow.

3. In regard to the calf, it is impossible to say, from the statement furnished by your correspondent what it would cost to feed this calf. It will all depend upon how the calf was fed. The cost of keeping the calf a year may be kept down below \$20 in some cases, and if the calf is liberally fed, and given whole milk for a considerable period at the start, the cost may run as high as \$40. Your correspondent will have to make his own calculation in this case.

4. One of the best things to sow for a hog pasture is rape. The main objection to it is that it is somewhat late in the season before it can be used. If the rape is sown very early, it is liable to be eaten off by the flea beetle, and our experience is that it is not safe to sow rape before the end of May at the earliest, and it would probably be five or six weeks before the rape would afford pasture worth speaking of. At the same time, I think that, under the circumstances, rape should be about as satisfactory a pasture crop as your correspondent could use.
G. E. DAY.

STRYCHNINE FOR CROWS.

I am thinking of saturating for a short time, and then drying my seed corn in a solution of strychnine to prevent crows from pulling. What do you think of the plan? Would it injure its germinating qualities, or would the action of the soil remove its poisonous effects? Coal tar is not entirely satisfactory, as it has a tendency to gum-up the planter, and crows will pull a considerable amount and leave it lying upon the ground untouched.

CORN-GROWER.

Ans.—Strychnine would probably be found quite an effective protection, and we would not anticipate adverse effects on the germination, but it is somewhat dangerous to use, especially where children or poultry are about. Moreover, it is not advisable to kill crows, unless overly numerous. A reasonable number of crows do far more good than harm. The aim should be, therefore, merely to keep them from pulling up the corn. Coal tar, applied as recently directed through these columns, is pretty effective, not very troublesome, and thoroughly safe. In planting, it is well to step on every hill after the planter is withdrawn. This helps to cover any exposed kernels, and by pressing the soil about the seed tends to hasten germination as well. After the field is planted, it should be lightly harrowed to restore a surface mulch and especially to prevent the soil baking over the hill, as tramped soil of a clayey nature is liable to do more or less.

TIME TO SOW CLOVER—SPAVIN.

1. Taking one year with another, when is the proper time to sow clover seed?

2. Explain in what condition a horse's joint is in when spavined.

3. How would coal oil act on it?

4. Will coal oil blister if rubbed in?

5. Is there any benefit derived from feeding horses tobacco in small quantities?

6. Which is the most beneficial feeding for horses, a cut mess or whole grain, and why?
H. W.

Ans.—1. On fall wheat, it is generally sown in April, when the ground is freezing and thawing alternately, the seed being covered by the contraction and expansion of the soil. If sown on fall wheat, after freezing is over, harrowing is advised, as it not only covers the seed, but, also, as a rule, improves the growth of the wheat. With spring grain, it is sown at the same time as the grain, either by means of a grass-seed attachment to the drill, or by hand and covered by a stroke of the harrows. The earlier in spring the seed is sown, the better, provided the land is in fit condition to be worked into a fine tilth.

2. There are two kinds of spavin, namely, bone spavin and bog spavin. Bone or jack spavin is a disease of the bone of the hock, an inflammation of the articular (joint) surface, as a result of which marked lameness is usually shown, following which a bony enlargement is thrown out at the lower part of the internal side of the hock joint. The result of this is often stiffening of the joint. Bog spavin appears as a soft, puffy swelling on the inner sides of the hock, just above the site of bone spavin.

3 and 4.—Coal oil will blister if applied where there is hair; but a stronger blister is needed for the cure of bone spavin, and generally needs to be repeated. The biniodide-of-mercury blister is generally used. The preparation and use of this is frequently described in these columns. For bog spavin, bathe with lukewarm salt water until soreness and lameness disappears, then blister as in the other case.

5. We know nothing from experience of this, and have not heard of its use being practiced or recommended.

6. If a horse's teeth are in good condition, whole grain and hay is as good as any method of feeding, unless he has the habit of gulping his oats without chewing, in which cases mixing the oats with cut hay or bran to secure better mastication is advisable. Indeed, it is good practice to feed at least one meal a day, the night meal preferred, mixed with a cut mess, or with sifted wheat chaff, or bran.