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Questions and Answers. Miscellaneous.

Seeding Low-lying Land—Size of Water Tank.

1. I have a small oat stubble of light clay loam soil, very good natural drainage, free of all weeds and in good tilth, which I wish to sow to fall wheat and seed down with alfalfa clover. Would you advise this to seeding it with oats or barley? For many reasons I would prefer the former method, but if the latter will insure a much better chance of a catch of the alfalfa that's the one I shall adopt.

2. What mode of cultivation and what variety of seed would you advise for the re-seeding of the low-lying land in a long-used pasture run?

3. Suggest the most convenient place, in a barn 30 by 64 feet, with the pig pen 25 feet due west of that end of barn, to have the well of water, which is to be pumped by a small engine to a tank on the barn floor. What kind and size of tank would you recommend for a stock of about 12 cows, 8 young animals, 6 horses, 4 or 5 colts, 2 brood sows, and from 12 to 20 pigs of different size? What should be done by way of precaution to prevent the water freezing in the pipes as it approaches the tank? Can you tell me how to locate the vein of water in a low-lying, marshy spot beneath a ridge along which old springs were formerly located? J. M. M.

Ans.—1. Alfalfa is usually seeded with barley or spring wheat in the spring, or else sown in early July without a nurse crop. However, good catches have been obtained by sowing the seed on fall wheat early in the spring. There is generally a light fall of snow late in the season and alfalfa seed has been sown at that time with satisfactory results. It has also been sown later in the season with fall wheat. If your soil is good wheat land it is reasonably safe to sow the wheat this fall and the alfalfa in the spring.

2. If it is not possible or convenient to break up the field and sow to a crop of grain for a year or two a seed-bed for the small seeds may be made with a disc harrow. For a permanent pasture on low land a mixture of red top, 4 lbs.; orchard grass, 4 lbs.; Kentucky blue grass, 2 lbs.; alsike, 2 lbs.; white clover, 2 lbs.; timothy, 2 lbs.; making a mixture of 16 lbs. seed per acre, has given very good satisfaction.

3. Unless the well is drilled and the piping put in so that there is no chance of seepage from the barnyard coming in contact with the water we would not advise having the well in the stable. If it is in the stable one end of the feed passage is a fairly convenient place. The water can be piped to all parts of the stable. If the water rises to within 20 feet of the surface the engine for pumping could be located in the stable and the water could be drawn a distance of 100 feet or more. This would permit of locating the well a short distance from the buildings. However, when the water does not rise near the surface the pump must be located directly over the well. A round tank 6 feet across and from 6 to 8 feet deep, or a square tank 4 feet wide, 8 feet long and about 4½ feet deep would be large enough, especially when an engine is used for pumping. Even a smaller tank might prove satisfactory. Tanks are generally built round, although a square tank is serviceable. Concrete makes a permanent tank but requires a firm foundation. A wooden tank lined with galvanized material would probably be preferable to concrete when it is placed on the barn floor. If the stable is cold it will be necessary to wrap the piping below where it enters the tank. The tank may be protected with straw. It is doubtful if there is any accurate method of locating a vein of water. Some take a small crutch of a limb and claim it will turn in their hands when they hold it directly over a spring. There appears to be under-ground currents of water which take more or less of a definite course. These currents are indicated by wells already drilled in the neighborhood. It is advisable to follow these courses as closely as possible.



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Note—Another prominent physician to whom the above article was submitted, said: "Bon-Opto is a very remarkable remedy. Its constituent ingredients are well known to eminent eye specialists and widely prescribed by them. The manufacturers guarantee it to strengthen eye sight 50 per cent. in one week's time in many instances or refund the money. It can be obtained from any good druggist and is one of the very few preparations I feel should be kept on hand for regular use in almost every family."

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