

## Questions and Answers.

### Miscellaneous.

#### Twitch Grass.

How would you clean a plot of land that is practically nothing but twitch grass? R. E. A.

Ans.—Persistent cultivation is the chief means of eradicating this perennial weed from the land. Growing a smothering crop such as buckwheat will tend to weaken the plant and make eradication by cultivation easier. Avoid cultivation when the ground is wet. June or July and again after harvest is a very good time to wage war upon weeds with running roots. Twitch grass does not go deeply as a rule. Plow the depth of the roots if possible then use the harrows and cultivator. The roots will be drawn to the surface where they will be sapped of their vitality by the hot sun. If they are very thick, use the horse rake to gather them up, then burn. We have known badly infested fields to be cleaned in this way.

#### Growing Sorghum.

What is your opinion about growing sorghum for milk cows and fattening cattle? When is the best time to plant it? Which is the better method of sowing it, with a disc drill or little garden seeder?

2. How would you stop a horse from pawing and striking the manger when the feed is being distributed? J. W. G.

Ans.—1. Some who have grown both corn and sorghum claim that the latter outyields the former. It does fairly well on most soils, but a gravelly soil is to be preferred. Owing to the sugar content it is not advisable to ensile sorghum, but it makes excellent fodder if fed dry. On account of the saccharine nature it tends to fatten animals readily and is relished by all classes of stock. If properly harvested and cured, the stalks are entirely consumed by the animals. It can be harvested with the corn binder and left in large shocks until it is thoroughly dry. It should be drilled about the first week in June and about 10 lbs. of seed gives a good stand, provided the germination is all right. The seed is rather slow to start growing therefore the land should be clean. Cultivation is similar to that of corn.

2. This is merely a bad habit which the horse has contracted. Chastisement at the time the horses are being fed is about the only means of breaking him of the habit.

#### Canning Vegetables—Ticks on Sheep.

Is there any way you can kill ticks on sheep without dipping them?

2. Would you advise keeping two-year-old sheep if they had failed to have lambs?

3. Would it pay to go into the gardening business if a person lived 25 miles from the Toronto market, even if they had a truck for transporting the produce? Would it pay better to build a small canning factory to can what vegetables are grown? What equipment is needed for a canning factory? R. B.

Ans.—1. Dipping is the easiest and most practical method of ridding the sheep of ticks. The dip may be poured over the sheep to destroy the ticks. This will save constructing a dipping tank.

2. If two-year-old sheep failed to breed we would be inclined to market them. If they were high-quality stock we might be tempted to try them another season.

3. If the soil is suited for gardening the business could be conducted and the produce hauled the distance mentioned. However, it would mean 50 miles every trip and considerable time would be spent on the road. Market gardeners usually try to locate within reasonable distance of a market. It would take considerable money to build and equip a canning factory. However, there are what is called "Home Canning Outfits" which can be used to put up a large quantity of vegetables in a comparatively short time. Unless you are going into gardening on a very large scale, we doubt the advisability of building a factory. The home equipment consists of a large boiler for cooking the vegetables under pressure, and materials required for capping the tins, etc. The outfit is not difficult to operate.



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