

FEEDING WHEAT TO STOCK.

1. Can you inform me how to obtain the best result from feeding wheat to small pigs, colts and calves, or even to grown stock, such as horses?

2. Can the same results be obtained from feeding whole wheat as from feeding bran, and what proportion is equivalent to bran? C. F. K. Elgin Co.

Ans.—1. To obtain the best results in feeding wheat to growing stock, such as young pigs, colts or calves, it should be mixed with some other concentrate of lighter weight, easier to digest. For pigs under three months of age, an equal quantity of ground oats, with the hulls removed, by sifting, will give good results, and for calves, the same might be given without the hulls being removed. In feeding colts, it is unwise to allow wheat to enter to any extent into the bill of fare. It is too likely to impair the digestive organs, and since ground oats are known to be so satisfactory, no risk should be run with wheat.

2. At the North Dakota Experiment Station, whole wheat was fed to work horses for some time, and although they gained in weight, it was with the greatest difficulty that indigestion was averted. This has been the experience of most practical men who have tried it.

Since wheat and bran differ considerably in composition, and also in their action upon the animal body when consumed, no real comparison as to their value can be made. For example, if either were to be fed alone, which, of course, would not be judicious, wheat would give the best returns with fattening stock, while for growing animals, in most cases bran would be preferable.

REGISTRATION OF STOCK.

Kindly give particulars as to registration of pure-bred stock, especially sheep. In buying stock at an auction sale, are there any papers the buyer is entitled to? N. R. J. Waterloo Co., Ont.

Ans.—In all cases of the auction sale of stock represented to be registered, the buyer is entitled to a certificate of registration, duly signed by the Secretary of the Association under whose authority the herdbook or record is kept. Most of the pedigree records for sheep in America are kept in the United States, but in nearly all such cases Canadian breeders are represented by one or more members on the executive board of the breed association controlling the registry. Full particulars and rules in printed form may be had by applying to the secretary of such association. In the case of the sale of stock, either by auction or private treaty, represented to be "eligible to registry," the seller must give to the buyer all necessary information and sign all necessary papers to enable him to have the animal registered in the record to which it has been represented to be eligible. In that case we are not aware that there is any established rule as to who shall bear the expense of registration, unless a promise to do so has been given by the seller. It is well always in a bargain to have a fair understanding on this point, and better to have a written agreement.

WORMSEED MUSTARD—CHICKWEED.

Please let me know the name and character of two weeds, which I enclose? The one with yellow flower does not give trouble until after the crop is harvested, but the other, with the fine stems and the small leaves, is apparently spreading. JNO. S. M. Wellington Co., Ont.

Ans.—The specimen with yellow flowers about a quarter inch in diameter is wormseed mustard (*Erysimum cheiranthoides*). This plant is an annual, growing up and producing seed in a single season. The chief source of distribution is through clover seed. Although it should always be avoided, it is not so difficult as some others to eradicate. Where it occurs in small quantity, hand-pulling and burning is the best remedy; otherwise good surface cultivation after harvest should be practiced, and the following season the land occupied by a hoed crop and no plants allowed to seed.

The specimen which you state is spreading, is mouse-ear chickweed (*Cerastium vulgatum*), also an annual, but more difficult to eradicate than the former. The plants mature early in the season, and produce an enormous amount of seed. The only remedy is constant surface cultivation, to germinate the seed and prevent any specimens maturing. Follow method of eradication as outlined in Oct. 15th edition for ox-eye daisy.

COUGH IN PIGS.

Can you give me any advice what to give pigs for a dry cough? They have been fed shorts. A. M. F.

Ans.—Cough in pigs may be due to different causes, and some cases are quite contagious. One of the early symptoms of hog cholera is a dry cough, so it is well to be on the alert for this disease, especially since it is known to be in the country. For a cough caused by indigestion, the remedy is soft feed, accompanied by a brisk purgative, as Epsom salts, from 4 to 6 ozs. If due merely to a cold, use pine-tar freely in the troughs, and supply soft feed and good shelter until cured.

WOOLLY BEAR CATERPILLAR—KEEPING CEMENT OVER WINTER.

1. I am sending you a caterpillar, about an inch long, black at both ends and with a light brown band across the center of the body. Please state whether it is destructive or not?

2. What is the best way to keep cement over winter without it being injured? J. FERGUSON. Russell Co.

Ans.—1. The specimen received is the larva of woolly bear (*Spilosoma Isabella*). In this state the insect passes the winter, hiding in any secluded spot, from which it emerges in early spring, and soon after becomes a pupa. In June the adult state is reached, and a brownish yellow moth may be seen flying at night. While it feeds on almost any form of vegetable life, the damage done is generally so little that it is not regarded as a troublesome pest.

2. There is no difficulty in keeping cement over winter, provided it be stored in a dry place, and not allowed to come in contact with the earth in any way. Sheds without a floor, but affording protection from rain and snow, will do very well, by laying a few boards under the barrels or sacks.

WHITE HAIR ON SHOULDER.

I have a colt, bay in color, but the hair on his shoulder has become white through hard work. Is there any way of restoring the original color? Peel Co. T. G. C.

Ans.—No method has yet been discovered, according to our knowledge, whereby hair so colored may be restored to its original shade. When the hair-roots have been disturbed by wounds on any part of a horse's body, and it is feared that white hair may grow in, some claim that it may be prevented by the application of an ointment, made of burnt leather and lard, if applied just as the wound has become nicely healed and before the hair has begun to appear.

COLORING COLT'S HAIR.

We have a valuable yearling light-chestnut carriage colt, having a silver mane and tail and a white face. Can I get a dye that will color the mane, tail and face, and not be injurious to the hair? WELLINGTON CO. SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—The color of animals' hair is regulated by the pigment which is contained in minute cells in the epidermal layer of the skin, and hence any dye which might be used can only have a temporary effect and would require to be continually applied. The ordinary dyes of commerce, we judge, could be used without danger, but dyeing hair on living animals is neither profitable nor judicious.

KEEPING CIDER SWEET.

Please publish in your next issue a recipe to keep cider sweet. A. B. M. Oxford County, Ont.

Ans.—Cider may be kept sweet by raising its temperature to 170 degrees F., keeping it at this point for ten minutes, and then bottling quickly in sterilized bottles. A good air-tight covering may be made by using paraffin wax.

AN OCCUPATION RENT.

We own hay sheds. In Dec., 1901, received contract of supplying hay to Montreal firm. They placed press and engine in buildings in February, and paid rent to May 1st, 1902, being charged with 3 months rent. Press run in June and hay was stored in till October. Engine and press still in buildings, also culled hay. Contract was to be completed by May, but they could not receive it all at that time, and accepted hay in June. Have no writings on rent, but they paid as per verbal agreement to May 1st, 1902. Have not notified them to move press. Can we collect rent since May 1st, 1902, in 3-months terms, at rate charged for 3 months ending May 1st, 1902? ONTARIO.

Ans.—You are entitled to charge the parties as for use and occupation of the premises for the overtime during which same may be actually in occupation by them, and at a rate proportionate to that agreed upon in respect of the three-months term.

REGISTRATION OF CLYDESDALE.

1. How many crosses does a Clydesdale mare require to register?
2. When was the standard set last?
3. What does it cost to register a mare?

Ans.—1. In the rules governing entries in the Canadian Clydesdale Studbook, as printed in the front of each of the eleven volumes issued, we read Clydesdale stallions and mares will be admitted to registry as follows: (1) Clydesdale stallions or mares by sire and out of dam both recorded in the Clydesdale Studbook of Canada. (2) Clydesdale stallions having five top crosses with their dams on record, and Clydesdale mares having four top crosses, in each case by sires recorded in the Clydesdale Studbook of Canada.

2. Vol. 1 was published in 1886, and there has been no change in the standard since.

3. To members \$1, to non-members \$2. Membership fee is \$2 annually.

SILO CONSTRUCTION AND FILLING.

A friend of mine, when I was in Virginia the last few weeks, requested me to obtain information of how to build a "silo"; that is, dimensions and capacity, when to fill, how to fill, and how long to be filled before corn put therein can be used for feeding purposes, and such other information as would enable him to operate successfully. It occurs to me that you would likely have on file a few issues of your paper containing fullest instructions on this subject.

Wentworth Co., Ont.

G. T. TUCKETT.

Ans.—The information desired will be found in the "Farmer's Advocate" for July 15th, 1901; April 15th, May 15th and Sept. 1st, 1902.

A FARMER'S FIRM—LEASE WITH OPTION TO PURCHASE.

1. Can two men buy a farm and work it together as partners, without being liable to a fine? 2. Suppose one wants to sell out, what can he do if the other will do nothing? 3. Two men rent a farm for a term of years, with a clause in lease giving them the privilege of purchase any time during said lease, at a stated sum. Will such a privilege stand law? 4. If so, is it any good to one man who wishes to buy, should the other refuse to buy with him, they having no registered partnership? WELLINGTON CO., ONT. SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—1. Yes. 2. He can dispose of his interest in the firm assets, including the farm. 3. Yes. 4. Yes.

FARM GOSSIP.

Every reader is invited to write something for this department that other farmers ought to know. Do it while you think of it. Put it on a post card if you haven't time to put it in a letter.

A Scottish Editor's Visit.

On November 12th, Mr. Arch. McNeillage, editor of the Scottish Farmer and Secretary of the Clydesdale Society of Great Britain, sailed from Liverpool for Canada, where he will deliver a course of lectures during the Winter Fair weeks at Guelph, Ont., and Amherst, N. S., chiefly in relation to dairying and horse breeding, and will also likely visit the Chicago International Show. In this connection, it will be of interest to mention that one of the features of the forthcoming Christmas number of the "Farmer's Advocate" will be a thoughtful article from the vigorous pen of Mr. McNeillage on "The Attitude of the British Farmer Towards Canada." His views on this subject are deserving of serious consideration.

The Macdonald Benefaction.

The contract for the Macdonald Institute, at the Agricultural College, Guelph, has been let to Schultz Bros., of Brantford, and they are now at work on the foundation of that building. The contract for the Macdonald Hall, or a residence for women, has not yet been let, but will be as soon as possible. Both buildings are to be finished by the middle of August next, with a view to opening the new department by the middle of September.

President Mills, of the College, announces that Sir William Macdonald, of Montreal, has, owing to the largely increased cost of building material, consented to add \$25,000 to his gift of \$125,000 made some time ago for the erection of the two buildings at the College for purposes of instruction in manual training and domestic science.

Forestry Association Report.

The report of the third annual meeting of the Canadian Forestry Association, held at Ottawa, in March last, has recently been issued. It contains a host of information valuable to farmers in all parts of the Dominion, and should be read with interest. The subject of forestry is rapidly becoming more prominent, and there is little doubt but that the Canadian Association is doing a good work in drawing public attention to the rapid denudation of our forest lands and the possibilities of reclaiming areas that are now barren and the benefits to be had therefrom. Copies of the report may be had by addressing, Secretary, Forestry Association, Department of Interior, Ottawa.

Peat Fuel.

The coal strike and high-priced fuel has caused a stir in Canadian peat manufacturing circles. In a recent trip, Mr. W. E. H. Carter, Secretary of the Bureau of Mines, found a new plant in course of erection at Newington, in Eastern Ontario, where a German process will be tested. The bogs at Brockville and Perth were also inspected. Mr. Carter says the deposits at each of these three places are upwards of 1,000 acres in extent, and run from 10 to 25 feet deep on an average. The success of the plant at Beaverton has been a stimulus to the other companies experimenting in Ontario.

Western Cattle for Ontario Feeders.

It has been announced that an experiment will be conducted in Ontario this winter to determine the possibility of finishing Western steers at a profit before being shipped to the British market. Twenty-four grades from the Northwest Territories have been purchased for the purpose, and will be exhibited at the Guelph Fat Stock Show, after which they will go into suitable fattening quarters somewhere in the Province.