

Questions and Answers.

Miscellaneous.

Split Hoof.

1. I have a yearling colt with a split hoof. How can it be cured? J. S.

Ans.—1. It may be necessary to put a shoe on the foot to prevent the hoof from splitting farther, and then it would be necessary to poultice the foot for a few days, especially if there is any inflammation. Applying a blister to the coronet immediately above the crack, may be effective as an increased secretion of the horn is brought about and the crack prevented from becoming longer. The blister may have to be repeated several times.

Tuberculosis in Fowl.

1. I killed a hen the other day which seemed perfectly healthy, but her liver had yellow spots on it about the size of a pea. Would this meat be good to use?

2. We had a few hens that gradually got weak and then died. Their feathers appeared to become dead but did not fall out. What is the cause of this?

3. Horse's sheath is swollen—what should I do for it? R. K.

Ans.—1. The symptoms are those of tuberculosis. It is almost a sure indication when spots appear on the liver. While a hen suffering from this disease usually becomes anaemic and light in weight, the disease is sometimes prevalent in fat hens. We would not care to use the meat.

2. The symptoms are not very clear, but we are inclined to think that the hens are possibly suffering from some anaemic trouble or tuberculosis. Little can be done for birds so affected. When tuberculosis gets in a flock, it is almost necessary to get rid of the flock and then thoroughly disinfect the premises before securing more birds. The disease causes a heavy loss every year. Any bird showing symptoms should be isolated from the main flock, or, better still, killed and buried deeply or burned. Medicinal treatment is unavailing. Prevention is the better plan.

3. Try bathing it frequently with warm water. It may be necessary to cleanse it on the inside before the swelling will disappear.

Cut Worms.

How can we rid our garden of cut worms? What is the best way to prepare the soil for this season's planting so as to eradicate the pests? B. S.

Ans.—Cut worms work at night, hiding in the soil by day. One of the best ways is to poison the worms by sprinkling poisoned mash around the plants. The following are methods given for controlling cut worms:

1. Plow fields as soon as possible after crop is off, to prevent weeds springing up and attracting moths to lay eggs.

2. Use poisoned bran mash, applied about sunset; a spoonful or a little less dropped beside each plant is sufficient. Make mash as follows: Place 50 lbs. of bran in a box, moisten with about one patent pail of water sweetened with molasses or cheap sugar. Add one pound of Paris green by dusting a little over it at a time, then mixing well and repeating till the green can be seen everywhere through the bran. Do not add too much water, but just enough to moisten, so that the mash will fall through the fingers like sawdust. It is also often desirable to scatter a little of this poisoned material over the ground a day or two before setting out cabbage or tomatoes to attract the cut worms and kill them.

3. If the caterpillars are very abundant and marching in army-worm fashion, they can usually be stopped by plowing a furrow with the steep side out ahead of them, though sometimes a regular trench is necessary. The soil on the outside of the trench or furrow must be dry and quite loose to prevent caterpillars crawling up. A fine-toothed garden rake may be used to loosen it after rain. Postholes can be dug at intervals in the furrow or trench to trap and destroy caterpillars.

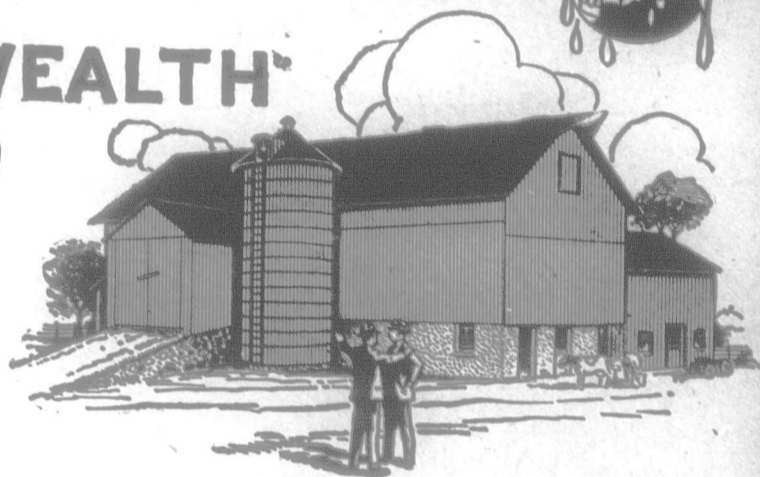
4. As an extra precaution, spray the plants a yard or two in front of the trench or furrow very thoroughly with Paris green, 2 lbs. to 40 gallons of water.

5. Where practicable, rolling a field after sunset or early in morning with a heavy roller kills many cut worms.

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