

Question Drawer Veterinary

This department of the Guide is open to all readers, and it is hoped that they will take advantage of it. All questions relating to the problems of the farmer of Western Canada will be answered in this department. Write questions on one side of the paper only. Send only one question on one sheet of paper. Join in making this department of the greatest value.

MUST HAVE NAMES

Questions sent in without the name of the sender attached will not be answered. The name will not be used if not desired. It will be sent in as a guarantee of good faith.

BRANDING CATTLE

Subscriber, Saskatchewan, wishes to know how to brand cattle. First he must get permission from the Provincial government. There is a penalty of \$200 for using an unregistered brand. The operation is simple. Secure the animal on a branding stand or throw and for him up securely. Have the iron a cherry red heat. Before applying the iron rub the spot to be branded with lard oil, or water will do. If this is done, a better job will result as the iron will make steam of the lard and drive it right in and the hair and skin will not burn. Use a good brand. Some experience is needed to know how much heat is required to prevent the hair from growing and still not burn the skin. Cattle need more than horses, their hides being a good deal thicker and tougher.

CURE FOR MANGE

Answer to W. G. W.'s query regarding a cure for mange. Make a 2 to 3 per cent. solution of creolin, using warm soft water, and wash the horse thoroughly all over. Then rub the animal with the solution if the weather is cool, otherwise he may catch cold. Use such all horses, butters and blankets in the same solution. Wash the animal's nose, rubbing feet with a solution made of lime and water and some crude carbolic acid. If this is not done the horse is liable to catch it again by coming in contact with these things.

CURING PORK

G. E. B. Roper, Man.—In answer to a query regarding curing pork, I submit the following: Rule for salting 1,000 lbs. of pork. Salt, 10 quarts; yellow sugar, 5 pounds; black pepper, 1 pound; saltpetre, 1 pound; soft water, 1 quart. Mix thoroughly in a large tub and apply as soon as the meat is well cooled, rubbing it well in with the hand. Leave the meat lying for ten days and it will then be ready to hang up and smoke, if you prefer to have it smoked. Very large hams or shoulders should be cut through before salting. I have given this recipe to some of my neighbors and they are very well pleased with it. Flies will not touch meat treated in this way if properly done. Care should be taken after it is intended to turn it or cure it in any other way for 5 days so that it will not spoil before curing is complete. The meat should not be left to freeze.

DRIFTING FIELDS

Subscriber, Man.—A good way to prevent drifting fields, particularly summer fallows that have been seeded, is to go with the wagon and rack to a last year's straw pile, get on a good load, and wear the drag behind to run on the field drive crossways of the wind, throwing out footfalls of straw which, on striking the ground, anchor and hold a great deal of the soil that would otherwise drift away.

DISTINGUISHING SEX

Subscriber, Sask.—I have a goose or it may be a gander, I cannot tell which. I wish to get a mate for it and will be glad if you will tell me how I can tell whether it is a male or a female. Ans.—It is almost impossible to give you by letter any information that will enable you to decide positively whether you have a goose or a gander. The heads of the gander are coarser than those of the goose, and there is a difference about the eyes of the goose that is found in the females of most poultry and farm animals. If there is a goose raising living anywhere near you he could probably tell you immediately what sex the bird belongs to, just as you could tell if you were experienced in goose culture.

MUSHROOM SPAWN

G. N. A. Man.—I am raising mushrooms and want to produce my own spawn. What process shall I follow to do so? Ans.—There are several kinds of spawn that may be produced, namely, those which are inoculated from spores growing soil, those started by means of spores, and those started by the tissue culture method. The bricks inoculated from spawn found growing wild are the best for the average grower to make, but do not always give as good results as spawn made by other of the methods. The manufacture of spawn requires skill and care and favorable conditions.

HARROWING THE CROP

Subscriber, Man.—Does harrowing injure the crop after it is up? Ans.—Harrowing is distinctly beneficial, provided the harrow used is very heavy and is not equipped with very sharp teeth. The crop may appear injured for a day or two, but those

who have experienced say that the harrowing does the crop good. It at least kills young weeds and stir up a surface mulch that helps to conserve moisture, and these are two very desirable factors in farming. Both tend to give better crop returns.

POTATO DIGGERS

W. D. Alta.—Referring to question asked by "A. B.," relative to potato diggers, will you say I am growing about 120 acres of potatoes annually I have had some experience with potato diggers. Any potato digger, except an elevator digger is not little use. I find that it pays well to get plenty of dirt on top of the potatoes while cultivating so as to protect them from frost before they are all out in the fall. This necessitates a digger with a great deal of separating capacity, which necessitates a long elevator and the chain must not have too short links or the dirt will not fall through fast enough to make perfect separation. The elevator should also be wide so that it will not move too many potatoes on the sides of the rows.

CANADIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURE

J. A. M. Will you please explain for the benefit of the new readers of the Guide what the Canadian Council of Agriculture is, when it was organized, and what are its aims? Ans.—The Canadian Council of Agriculture is a Dominion-wide farmers' organization and is composed of the executive officers of the Dominion Grange of Ontario, the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association and the United Farmers of Alberta. The organization was started in November, 1909, at the annual meeting of the Dominion Grange in Toronto. Representatives were present from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Ontario, and the United Farmers of Alberta. A draft constitution of the Canadian Council of Agriculture was prepared at the meeting and was adopted unanimously by the delegates present. It was then brought before the annual conventions in the three western provinces during the same winter and unanimously adopted by each of them. The first meeting of the Canadian Council of Agriculture was held at the close of the annual convention of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association in Prince Albert in February, 1910. The leading officers from each of the four provinces were present, and D. W. McLaughlin, of Winnipeg, was elected president, Robert, of Red River, vice president, and E. C. Drury, of Barrie, Ont., secretary-treasurer. The meeting delegation to Ottawa in December, 1910, was held under the auspices of the Council of Agriculture. The second annual meeting of the Council was held in Regina this winter at the close of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association convention. James H. Flower was elected president, R. C. Henderson, of Calgary, Man., vice-president, and E. C. Drury was elected secretary-treasurer. The Canadian Council sets out clearly its aims and object and is here reproduced in full.

"This Association shall be called the Canadian Council of Agriculture.

"The objects of the association shall be:

"(a) To organize the farm population of the Dominion for the study of social and economic problems having a bearing on the happiness and material prosperity of the people.

"(b) To collect such material from scientific and literary sources, the annals of class movements and the records of legislative enactments in our own and other countries as are necessary for the proper information of our people and dissemination of the same.

"(c) To formulate our demands for legislation and present them through the officers of the association to the notice of Parliament and our different legislative bodies.

"(d) To encourage the entry of our farmers into active membership in one or other of the political organizations according to individual predilection as a means to make the political parties without distinction responsive to and representative of the demands of the people who form the bulk of the population.

"(e) To urge the adoption of co-operative methods by our members (not outside our association) in the purchase and sale of commodities, that equity may be established in the business of exchange.

"Any association of farmers entirely independent of government control in the Dominion of Canada organized to give effect to any or all of the purposes set forth in the preamble of this constitution shall be eligible for membership in this association.

"The membership of each of the affiliated associations provided that no affiliated association shall be represented by more than five members.

"The officers of the Council shall consist of a president, vice-president and secretary-treasurer, to be elected from the members of the Council at each annual meeting.

"Five members to be drawn from not less than five associations shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the annual or special meeting. The Council shall hold a meeting at least once a year.

"The time and place of meeting shall be fixed by the president, providing that a meeting must be held when demanded by any three associations having membership in the Council. One month of meeting must, however, be given, except a majority of associations declare for an emergency meeting, when one week's notice shall suffice.

"The expenses incurred in the conduct of the business of the Council shall be provided for by a pro rata levy on the membership of the affiliated associations as shown in the last annual report of each.

"Traveling expenses of delegates to the Council shall be pooled, and the flat rate borne by the association which they represent in proportion to the number of delegates sent.

"Living expenses of delegates when in session shall be borne by the association they represent.

"Note.—It is recommended that all associations seeking affiliation under the Council shall prefix their respective constitutions with a preamble setting forth the objects for which they are organized in the general terms of the preamble to the constitution of the Council."

We shall be glad to have our readers remember that all Veterinary Questions they wish to ask will be answered free of charge in the Guide. The services of one of Winnipeg's leading veterinarians have been secured for this work. Please register by return mail, if desired, will be sent upon receipt of our dollar.

SWOLLEN FORELEG

Subscriber, Glenora, Sask.—Seven year old horse has swelling on near foreleg coming at knee and extending to pastern. Please advise treatment. Ans.—Apply the following blister: Cantharides, 1 dram; Vaseline, 8 drams. Give well on 48 hours and wash off Glycerin well.

CATTLE WITH WARRIBLES

G. Sask.—Cattle have warbles. Will they kill the animals? Please advise treatment. Ans.—Open up the lumps and press out the worms, then wash out with a solution of creolin. They will not kill the cattle if this treatment is followed.

LUMP ON GELDING'S KNEE

E. W. M. Rapid City, Man.—Gelding, coming three years old, has a hard effusion on knee, sore at one side and runs matter. Would it do any harm to work him a little? He shows no lameness.

Ans.—Have the hole opened up and thoroughly scraped by a veterinarian. Keep on working the horse.

LUMP ON BULL'S JAW

E. L. S. Grassy Lake, Alta.—Bull has large lump on lower jaw. Please prescribe. Ans.—If possible have his mouth examined by a veterinarian, as the lump is probably caused by a decayed tooth which needs extracting.

CULT WITH DISTEMPER

T. L. H. Kenton, Sask.—Year old colt has distemper. Please prescribe.

Ans.—Treat the sores on legs by washing with a solution of chlorate of mercury. Use one to one thousand, once daily, and dust on iodine after washing. Give internally the following powders: Potassium iodide, 5 drams; Divide into twelve powders and give one in feed night and morning.

MULE'S LEGS SWOLLEN

J. L. Mule has slight swelling on front leg between hoof and knee. Swelling is hard and appears as if mules or tendons were knotted up. He walks on his toes whenever possible. Stretches out in stall at night and has a "crack" in the leg, morning. (2) Mare cut leg five or six years ago. The leg is swollen to about twice natural size. Is it possible to reduce swelling?

Ans.—(1) Apply to the swelling the following blister: Cantharides, 1 dram; Vaseline, 8 drams. Mix well, rub in and leave on 48 hours. Glycerin well after washing off the blister. (2) After six years it is useless to attempt treatment.

COW WITH LUMP JAW

T. H. L. Gilbert Plains, Man.—Would the following cure with lump jaw be fit for food? Ans.—It is, provided the disease is not general throughout the system, but it is hardly safe to use it unless the carcass has been examined by a veterinary inspector.

STIFF FRONT FEET

T. L. E. Bangor, Sask.—Seven year old horse is stiff in his front feet. Can't hardly walk on hard ground. Please advise. Ans.—Give the horse an eight dram ball of aloes on an empty stomach and keep the feet in warm linseed meal poultices for 48 hours. After the purgative has acted, give the following powders: Potassium iodide, 3 ounces. Divide into 12 powders and give one in feed night and morning.

COW WITH WARRIBLES

G. A. G. Wellsburg, Sask.—Cow has lumps on back out of which may be squeezed worms. Please advise treatment. Ans.—Open up lumps and squeeze out worms. Then inject a solution of creolin.

HORSE WITH WEAK BACK

J. R. G.—Please prescribe for five year old gelding with a weak back. Ans.—Give the following: Liquor strychnine, 4 ounces; Tincture of iron, 4 ounces; Liquor arseniculi hydrochloric, 4 ounces. Mix well and give one tablespoonful in feed night and morning.

LAME MARE

T. J. Saskatchewan, Sask.—Please prescribe for a mare lame in front foot.

Ans.—Apply to the parts affected the following ointment, after thoroughly cleaning and washing out the foot with a solution of creolin:

Oxide of zinc, 3 drams; Linseed oil, 30 minims; Vaseline, 1 ounce. Apply once daily after washing as directed.



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