

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[In order to make this department as useful as possible, parties enclosing stamped envelopes will receive answers by mail, in cases where early replies appear to us advisable; all enquiries, when of general interest, will be published in next succeeding issue, if received at this office in sufficient time. Enquirers must in all cases attach their name and address in full, though not necessarily for publication.]

Veterinary.

AILING COW—OBSTRUCTED TEATS—MANGE IN PIGS.
YOUNG SUBSCRIBER:—(1.) "I have a young cow, calved about a week ago; about three weeks before she fell away in flesh greatly; appetite poor, scouring frequently. What would you recommend?" (2.) The cow has small lumps, size of a pea, about the centre of two of her teats. They give same quantity of milk as the others, but the lumps prevent the milk from flowing as fast as it should. How could the obstruction be removed? (3.) Have a litter of pigs, two months old, which do not thrive, although well fed. They are continually rubbing and scratching, and there is a sort of rash on their bellies and inside of legs. What treatment would you advise?"

[1. We are of opinion that there must be some cause in feeding either frosted roots or innutritious hay. Give her the following dose of medicine every day until purgation is freely produced:—Epsom salts, 4 ozs.; powdered sulphur, 1 oz.; gentian, 2 drachms; ginger, 2 drachms. This should be carefully mixed, dissolved in warm gruel, and given to the cow immediately before feeding.
 2. Cracks and sores on the teats cause much uneasiness when the cow is being milked, and will often cause an obstruction in the teat from a small piece of mucous membrane. An operation by a qualified veterinary, or the insertion of the milk siphon, is the only remedy.
 3. First wash the skin thoroughly with warm water and soap, then apply any of the good sheep dips or soluble phenyle in the proportion of one part to twenty of water. Give a small quantity of nitrate of potash and sulphur in the animal's feed, say half an ounce to each painful of food.]

Dr. Wm. Mole, M.R.C.V.S., Toronto.]

SWOLLEN JOINTS.

MATTHEW NICHOL, Woodlands, Man.:—"I have a four-year-old mare that has a large swelling in the knee joint; the swelling starts about two inches above the joint, on the outside, and runs down round behind the joint; the swelling seems hard and firm. I think it is a twist or wrench she got when running out with a band of horses about eight months ago. She is quite lame, and stands with it pointed out."

[Apply the following blister:—Biniodide of mercury, one drachm; powdered cantharides, two drachms; vaseline, two ounces; mix. Clip the hair closely from the parts; wash the skin with warm water and soap; rub dry with coarse cloths; rub the blister well in with the fingers; let it remain for forty-eight hours; wash off and apply lard or vaseline to the blistered surface. Repeat in two weeks if necessary.]

W. A. DUNBAR, V.S., Winnipeg.]

LUMP ON COLT'S JAW.

F. NELSON, Fleming, Assa.:—"I have a three-year-old colt that has a lump on under jaw. I just noticed it six days ago. There is no discharge from the nostrils yet. Colt is in good condition. Please advise?"

[The lump may develop into an abscess, and the only treatment necessary is to apply hot fomentations, or a stimulating liniment, to bring it quickly to a head, after which it should be opened freely with a sharp-pointed knife. W. A. DUNBAR, V.S.]

Miscellaneous.

OUR REPORTS APPRECIATED—STABLES.

F. MARSHALL, Westbrook:—"We consider your reports of the best yielding varieties of grain, roots, etc., very valuable. Hope you will give us descriptions and particulars of other forms and designs of silos; also, which are best for cow stables, frame or stone, bank or surface buildings?"

[We refer Mr. Marshall to article on silos in this issue. We much prefer a stable above ground to one in a bank. Canadian experience, speaking generally, is in favor of the stone or cement concrete wall as against frame.]

ANOTHER SELF-FEEDING PIG-TROUGH.

N. BEDFORD, Glencross, Man.:—"A short time ago a writer in the ADVOCATE asked how to make a self-feeding pig-trough. I have been using one with great success for the last four or five years. It is simply a narrow box ten feet long, three or four feet high, two feet wide at the top, six inches at the bottom, with a little platform in front ten inches wide. I just leave room enough under the lower board in front so pigs can work the chop out with their noses, but not wide enough for the chop to run out itself. I find they do not waste any grain, as they only work out just what they eat up cleanly. I have a trough for water in the pen which I fill three times a day. Before I got the self-feeder, I did not like feeding pigs, but now I rather like it, as I can put enough chop in the box at one time to keep 15 pigs for a week, and it is not much trouble to keep them supplied with water and bedding. I got this idea out of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE a good while ago. I think the FARMER'S ADVOCATE a grand help on the farm."

KEEPING OVER ENSILAGE.

R. N., Middlesex Co.:—"Except spring pasture is very late in coming, I am going to have a lot of splendid ensilage left over. My silo is round, 14

feet in diameter, and about 30 feet deep. Will the ensilage keep satisfactorily through the summer?"

[We know of several farmers who have kept silage perfectly through the summer season, and can therefore recommend R. N. to rest assured that his ensilage will be all right next autumn. It would probably be better to cover it carefully with cut straw or hay.]

CRIMSON CLOVER.

A SUBSCRIBER, Lorneville:—"I would like a little information regarding Crimson clover—the best time to sow. Does it require a foster crop? Does it make good hay for horses? Will it grow after it is cut? Will the hay be any good if allowed to ripen for seed? I will have no hay this year, and would like to know if I sow it in the spring could I cut it for hay this summer?"

[So little Crimson clover has been grown in Ontario as yet little can be said with certainty regarding its usefulness in the Province. It has been grown on the Guelph College Farm for three years, and when sown in the spring it usually grew to a height of about one foot, yielding about one ton of hay per acre. Being an annual, it dies out each winter after the crop is removed. American authorities claim that Crimson clover hay is nutritious and much relished by horses and cattle. It cannot be depended upon to produce an aftermath. We do not imagine that hay from Crimson clover which has produced seed will be of much value.]

LUCERNE.

ANDREW YOUNG, Peterborough:—"Please inform me, through the ADVOCATE, if Lucerne clover seed can be sown along with grain, like other clover seed, or has it to be sown by itself, and how much per acre?"

[Lucerne sown broadcast along with wheat, oats, or barley, sown thinly, comes along well for a crop the following year on deep, well-drained land. If sown alone it should be drilled in, when it will make quite a strong growth the first season, though not sufficient to stand much pasturing. About 15 pounds per acre is considered a good seeding.]

TOP DRESSING.

RODNEY:—"I have a field of light, sandy loam, which I seeded down in the fall and spring of 1893-94. It was mowed last year for the first time. The soil being light, the crop was light. Will you kindly inform me what kind of top-dressing you consider the best for it, and when it should be applied. How would it do to use unleached ashes at this season of the year, or what particular time would you advise using them, and quantity to the acre?"

[For top-dressing meadows nothing seems to give as much satisfaction as well-rotted farm-yard manure. When applied at this time of the year the litter from which it is made should have been cut, or else it should be put on with a manure-spreader. The proper time to have applied this sort of manure was last autumn. With regard to unleached wood ashes, we might say that a scattering of from 10 to 15 bushels per acre, applied now (better last autumn), cannot fail to give excellent results. So firm is the faith of many English farmers in the virtue of wood ashes that they consider them not only the chief fertilizer for light, run-out soil, but the sole thing needful to restore it to its former productive condition. Says Prof. Storer, S.B., A.M.: "A favorite way of applying wood ashes is as a top-dressing to grass-land and to pastures, where, by encouraging the growth of clover and some of the better kinds of grasses, they do good service in crowding out inferior grasses and weeds."]

SALT OR GYPSUM.

A FARMER, Kent Co.:—"Will you or some of your readers advise me on the following: (a) I have a ten-acre field which I wish to sow this spring with oats or barley. The said is a clay loam, formerly rich, but having been rented for three years, has got a little 'run down.' I have it well fall-ploughed, and thoroughly surface-drained. It had oats on last year, but, being spring-ploughed, the dry season effected it greatly, and it only yielded about twenty-five bushels per acre. I want to seed it to clover this year, and wish to secure a good crop of oats as well, as I believe the land is still strong, only requires proper treatment. Which would you advise me to use—salt or gypsum? or would either be of use to such a crop, and how much would you advise to apply per acre, and at what stage should I apply it? (b) Also, how would it answer to apply gypsum to clover stubble as soon as hay is off, in order to hasten the second growth of seed? (c) I purpose enclosing an acre which has long been pastured and never ploughed, on which cattle and sheep have rested at night. Would you consider it suitable for mangolds and carrots, providing I plough it early, and work it often till seeding time, or would it pay me better to plant it to fodder corn? (d) How would you apply salt to root crops in order to get the best results, as I see salt is largely recommended for that purpose? The farmer of to-day must in my opinion strive to increase the yield rather than his acres. (e) Do you consider it proper to sow oats after oats?"

[(a) Neither the salt nor the gypsum would be of benefit to either crop upon the land to which "Farmer" refers. Better work the land thoroughly to prepare a splendid seed bed, which thorough working of soil promotes for increased root growth, and thereby increases the plants' food-collecting capacity. (b) It will accomplish the same object in the second crop, and give you increased returns for its use to gypsum in the spring immediately after seeding. (c) The acre of pasture

to be ploughed in the spring can scarcely be brought into proper condition for either roots or corn this year. It should have been ploughed last fall, and, for mangolds or carrots, surface-cultivated and manured, either late in autumn or during winter. (d) Unless under exceptional cases, I would not apply salt to turnips. Upon mangolds salt usually gives splendid results, and may be applied at the rate of 300 pounds per acre, broadcast just before ridging up. (e) No. A. E. SHUTTLEWORTH, Professor of Chemistry, O. A. C., Guelph.]

LONG CHURNING.

MR. JAS. TABB, Auburn:—"Could you inform me through your valuable paper what is the trouble with cream. Have had great difficulty in getting butter to come by sometimes churning three hours. We use a revolving barrel-churn. Cows are fed well. Last summer, in addition to pasture, they were given green corn night and morning. Cream was rich and well-ripened, still it took a long time to churn it?"

[See "Trouble with the Cream," in Jan. 15th issue.]

GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Annual Meeting.

(SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.)

(Continued from page 93.)

"*Facts and Fancies in Horticulture*" was the subject of an address by J. H. Harris, of the Halifax Nurseries, which was of especial importance to those interested in vegetable and landscape gardening, also floriculture. The vegetable markets were impoverished for lack of vegetables in winter. There was profit in celery; mushrooms, lettuce, etc., could be grown in cold-frames and hotheouses with success. Outlines in landscape work should be natural. Trees in cities between buildings had often saved buildings from fire in adjacent houses; this was proved by actual experience. A few flowers in window of dwelling house was much better than many—less liable to disease, and better cared for.

"*Merits and Uses of American Plums*," an address by Prof. Craig. The wild plum of America belonged to *Prunus Americana*; the common plum, *Prunus Domestica*. He compared the good and bad qualities of each. The good qualities of the latter were their firmness in shipping; they were quite susceptible to diseases—black-knot and plum rot, were tender in fruit buds, and lacked in weight. The good qualities of the American plums were their extreme hardiness, great productiveness, and immense growth on a large range of soils less subject to attacks of fungi or insects. Their weak points were: soft fruit and poorer quality. The varieties in favor at Ottawa, among those tested: Clingstones, De Sota, Hawkeye, Wolf, Freestones, Wyant, Newman, Pottawatamie. These varieties he thought might do well in some parts of the Province where hardy varieties were needed. The Marriana made an excellent stock, and when fruited gave a small plum of good flavor. He spoke of the need of intermixing varieties, as some were infertile with their own pollen, others were completely sterile. Trees in planting should be not more than fifteen feet apart. Pick plums before completely ripened, as they would market better. Plums and peaches would keep for only a couple of weeks in cold-storage. The Professor later gave a talk on spraying in the orchard, and showed a chart illustrating sprayed and unsprayed trees, which showed a gain of over fifty per cent. in yield of No. 1 apples in sprayed trees over those untreated. Spraying should be applied as a preventive, and as an active remedy. The best nozzles in use are the Vermorel and McGowan, as proved by experiment.

Fertilization of Orchards.—A paper by Prof. Shutt, Chemist, Ottawa Experimental Farm, showed that the farmer was taking off a large amount of fertilizing agents each year, and if he hoped to meet with success he must return what he has taken, as well as often increasing the dose. By table, was shown the amount of nitrogen, potash, and phosphoric acid found in an average analysis of 1,000 pounds leaves, and barrel of apples. Advised the sowing of legumes as the agent for supplying nitrogen, when practical. The following tables showed formula of best results with commercial fertilizers to be applied to orchards, per acre:—

1—Nitrate of soda	100 pounds.
Ground bone	100 "
Superphosphate	125 "
Muriate of potash	150 "
2—Nitrate of soda	125 pounds.
Superphosphate	200 "
Muriate of potash	100 "
Barnyard manure	10 tons.
Kaoline	500 pounds.
Bone meal	150 "

The above formulae could be selected from to suit the soil or conditions—all had been tried with success.

"*The Pin-Borer*" was discussed by W. H. Woodworth, Berwick. This was a pest well-known in the Annapolis Valley, local in nature, having destroyed hundreds of trees, attacking both healthy and diseased trees, boring small holes into the centre on trunk and limbs. Many remedies had been tried without avail, the best and only one found to be of any use—a mixture of crude carbolic acid and soap solution, prepared as follows:—1 part of crude carbolic acid: 5 to 7 parts of soap solution. Soap solution prepared by adding one quart of soft-soap to two gallons of water.