

ably according to the weather, ranging from May 25 to June 15. Methods of setting are quite different but in my opinion it matters not how you set so long as you get them set firmly into moist earth.

After setting is done cultivation should begin. This should be thorough, going through them once



Pruning Peaches in the Niagara District

Cut back last year's growth to a side branch. Head back fairly severely. Thin out surplus branches. Some varieties require heavier pruning than others. Aim to keep the bearing wood as low down as possible.

a week at least and especially after every rain to prevent the land from becoming crusted. Continue cultivation just as long as it is possible to get through the rows even though the cultivator should whip the ends of the vines a little, as this late cultivation helps to hold moisture to mature the crop.

Last of all comes the picking. Here is where a great deal of care needs to be given as a very unprofitable sample of tomatoes may be produced out of what might be made a fairly good sample.

If you are picking red ripe fruit, pick it all that way, if a little on the green side, pick it all alike. Then the canner will not be grumbling at you. He can handle them accordingly.

Improved Crops for Eastern Ontario Farms

T. G. Raynor, B.S.A., Seed Branch, Ottawa

It naturally follows that, as dairying is the chief business of many Ontario farmers, such crops as would be fed to dairy stock would be most largely grown. Hay and pasture constitute more than one half of the cleared land under the plow in Eastern Ontario. Seeing that so much land is annually in meadow much attention should be paid to the supply of small seeds, which are used for this purpose. In this connection many have been found wanting. The oxeye daisy is too common to say nothing of other meadow weeds, to deny this fact.

Much of the noxious weed life has been brought in by the purchase of small seeds as grasses and clovers. Is it not time that more attention should be paid to the selection if not the growing of such seeds? There is no reason whatever why red clover and alsike seed should not be grown in quantity on many farms to supply at least local needs. At the Experimental Farm, Macdonald College, Mr. Fixter, the farm manager, has grown a considerable quantity of red clover seed and has threshed it with the ordinary threshing machine. Two or three acres on the ordinary 100 acre farm could be kept for growing the clover seed from each year's crop and the seed could be flailed out and sown by hand.

SELECTION 50 YEARS AGO

While East this winter attending a short course at Truro, N.S., a Mr. McDonald, who lives 30 miles from Sydney, C.B., told about how his father, when he was a boy, 50 years ago, had his

children select the best heads of clover and thresh it with a flail. He told how he sowed it on the farm with the very best of results. Since Western clover seed came down and a change of seed was made the results have been nearly so good. Old Mr. McDonald lived 50 years in advance of his time for he not only made clover seed selections but he had his grain hand picked and hung up to the ceiling, until ready to sow the next year.

There is no doubt, but that clover seed, both alsike and red could be grown in paying quantities in a number of Eastern Ontario localities. In the County of Renfrew near the town of Lenfrew good clover seed has been grown. As no hullers have been used in the Eastern part of the Province, no attention has been paid to clover seed production; consequently the farmers have pastured the second growth and have bought their clover seed sometimes at high prices, and not infrequently have they got not only a lot of, but a great variety of, weed life which might easily have been avoided had they some years ago grown their own seed.

The East is on the whole worse off for weeds both in quantity and variety than many parts of Western Ontario.

POTATOES AND CORN

Potatoes too are a profitable crop for the Eastern Ontario farmer to grow. The hill system of selection is far better than any other method yet adopted in order to secure uniformity and an increase in merchantable potatoes. The farmers of this district should be growing some of their own corn, at least, some of the early maturing flints, for instance, such as Longellow, Compton's Early, or Eight-rowed Yellow.

If one could act as a clearing house for seeds there would be no trouble for Farmers' Clubs to secure from the growers hundreds if not thousands of bushels of grain of the very best quality, so many are the enquiries for good seed, that come from various sources.

The campaign for improved clean seed was reflected in the splendid exhibit of seed grain in the Winter Fair building at Ottawa, this year. It showed a great improvement in both quantity and quality over last year or over any preceding year.

We trust that this year we shall see more farmers become interested in their seed grain by sel-



Good Sheep Deserve a Place on the Average Farm

The sheep illustrated is one from the flock owned by Mr. W. D. Monkman, since Co., Ont., who has been very successful with sheep. Read the adjoining article by Mr. Monkman.

ecting and growing more of a suitable variety at home instead of "going down to Egypt to buy corn," as has been and still is the practice of so many Eastern Ontario farmers.

Don't forget to renew your subscription.

General Care of Breeding Sheep

W. D. Monkman, Since Co., Ont.

To make sheep raising a success a farmer needs to get the breed he likes best and which is best adapted to his farm. I never urge a man to buy Shropshires if he fancies some other breed to be better.

Sheep, like other animals, require some attention. I have known sheep to be shut in a back field without water (some people imagine they don't need any), and the only moisture they could get was off the stubbles in the early morning. I don't know whether or not sheep pray, as people did in olden times when rain storms were scarce, but they must be very thankful when clouds arise and thunders roar that they may be able to cool their parched tongues. Often sheep are turned on the road, and the only time they get a lick of salt is when some widow puts a bit on the road for her cow. Under such treatment if some of the poor things should lie down and "hand in their checks" the rest of the flock would be sold to the first drover that comes along for whatever price he will offer.

Then the song goes around, "Sheep raising don't pay."

WINTER MANAGEMENT.

I have found it a good plan to give the breeding ewes lots of exercise, if possible a good-sized yard in which to feed, and a comfortable shed in which to take shelter away from other stock, especially from old sows, for they are very fond of young lambs and soon store the little tender things in a warm place. It is necessary to have a warm place for the ewes which are to come in early. These ewes should be carefully watched and as they are getting near lambing they should be moved away from the outer flock. I have found it to pay to shear them before lambing, no matter at what time of year if they are in a warm house. The ewes then do not sweat and the lambs do better since they are not bothered with wool balls or ticks.

My practice in winter feeding is as follows: When pea straw is available I throw some in the yard for the sheep to eat over through the day. They are given one feed of roots, turnips preferred, and when the ewes are near lambing, a feed of mixed grain—a little bran in it if possible. A feed of alfalfa or red clover hay once a

day in addition to the foregoing, will bring the breeding ewes through the winter if the ticks are kept off them. There are lots of reliable tick destroyers to be had and a few hours work spent in clipping will well repay any man, as it takes a lot of feed to keep sheep alive with ticks continually sucking the life out of them.

HARD LUCK EXPLAINED. When we have what is called bad luck it is necessary to know the reason. I have had good luck with the exception of one year, when I kept the ewes shut in to keep them from falling about on ice, then four good ewes died. Some would call it "grab in the head," from the symptoms they showed, but it was want of exercise.

I see some of our sheep go and drink at the fountain on the coldest days in the year when there is lots of snow that they can get. We need to pay a little attention to what these dumb creatures do. We will then soon learn their needs. I have found it well to provide them with lots of water and salt, lots of sun-

light and the best for in the out of the

The heavy duty with most of the demand for this year well in the crop of "thought" would drive Northwesterly prices have the whole crop. It or—good grow more will continue year.

There is the Ontario breeding, right type To make well for the stock, not mar with back ribs, the flank surplus plus good head Having you wish for the be off; breed It may service of last few more too)

A good heavy breed cussing they have got that is breed aims (or s dians, being Clydesdale Scottish bird draft breed Clydesdale Canadian 1,450 make all the w foals in th at the sam sell readily years old.

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*Extract Ottawa Win