

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

1st.—Questions asked by bona-fide subscribers to the "Farmer's Advocate" are answered in this department free.

2nd.—Our purpose is to give help in real difficulties; therefore, we reserve the right to discard enquiries not of general interest, or which appear to be asked out of mere curiosity.

3rd.—Questions should be clearly stated and plainly written, on one side of the paper only, and must be accompanied by the full name and address of the writer, as a guarantee of good faith, though the name is not necessarily for publication.

4th.—In veterinary questions, the symptoms especially must be fully and clearly stated, otherwise satisfactory replies cannot be given.

Veterinary.

THOROUGHPIN.

A three-year-old colt has a thoroughpin of two months standing. We bandaged and applied cold water, which helped it. We then blistered, but this did no good.

2. I have a horse that has warts.

Wellington Co., Ont.

J. B. A.

Ans.—The treatment you adopted for thoroughpin was correct; either, if continued long enough, will probably effect a cure. I would advise repeated blistering.

3. Any warts with constricted necks can be cut off with a knife; flat ones can be removed by applying butter of antimony once daily with a feather, until they disappear.

J. H. REED, V. S.

ECZEMA.

I drove my nine-year-old mare hard and overheated her before foaling. Now she is covered with small lumps about the size of peas and quite itchy. The colt has two small lumps under each jaw, which were there at birth. W. L. Wentworth Co., Ont.

Ans.—Your mare has eczema, probably the result of overheating. Wash thoroughly with strong, warm soft-soap suds, applied with a scrubbing brush. Rub until dry, and then apply twice daily a lotion made of 1 oz. each, sugar of lead and sulphate of zinc, to a quart of water. This lotion must be well rubbed through the hair in order to come in contact with the skin. As soon as you wean the colt give her (the mare) a purgative of 8 drs. aloes and 2 drs. ginger, and follow up with 2 oz. Fowler's solution of arsenic twice daily. If the lumps on the colt's jaw are enlarged glands, they will disappear; if a congenital bony malformation, the only method of removing them is by an operation. You had better have your veterinarian examine them.

J. H. REED, V. S.

HEAVES.

About three months ago my five-year-old horse became thick in his wind. He breathes heavy in the morning or when drawing a heavy load. He seldom coughs.

Huron Co., Ont.

BUFFALO BILL.

Ans.—From symptoms given, I am afraid your horse has heaves. When the condition is well established, a cure cannot be effected. Benefit will probably result from the following: Take 3 oz. powdered gum opium, 1 oz. digitalis, 6 oz. liquorice root; mix and make into 24 powders; give one night and morning in damp food. Dampen all food taken with lime water. Feed limited quantities of bulky food of first-class quality.

J. H. REED, V. S.

INFLUENZA.

My colts, two and three years old, have a cough and discharge from the nostrils. They appear to have difficulty in moving their hind legs when I go to turn them out in the morning.

Elgin Co., Ont.

J. S. G.

Ans.—Your colts have influenza, which is often associated with soreness of the joints; this accounts for the stiffness mentioned. Rub their throats twice daily for two days with two parts each raw linseed oil and turpentine and one part liquor ammonia Fortier. Feed warm food, as scalded bran or boiled oats, and give $\frac{1}{2}$ dr. quinine to each three times daily. Be very careful to not allow them to get wet or cold. The disease is liable to many complications, so if any serious symptoms occur, call your veterinarian.

J. H. REED, V. S.

NASAL GLEET.

My six-year-old mare rattles in the head when she breathes, more so when excited. When warm or drawing heavily, there is a discharge from the nostrils. She is worse in damp, heavy weather. I think the heaves are starting.

Essex Co., Ont.

W. R. W.

Ans.—The symptoms given indicate nasal gleet. Feed 1 dr. sulphate of copper twice daily in damp food. If she shows symptoms of heaves treat as recommended elsewhere in this department.

J. H. REED, V. S.

BARBED-WIRE WOUND.

Mare received a barbed-wire wound in front of the hock. It is nearly healed, but there is a thickening of the skin.

2. A calf four months old passed, in two sections, a worm six feet long. I think it was a tapeworm.

Bruce Co., Ont.

A. McL.

Ans.—The thickening mentioned will doubtless disappear by absorption to a great extent, but

mostly all barbed-wire wounds leave a little enlargement. Repeated hand rubbing after the wound has healed will assist absorption.

2. Do not allow the calf anything to eat for 10 or 12 hours; then give $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. oil of turpentine in $\frac{1}{2}$ pt. of sweet milk. Continue to fast for 3 hours. Repeat the treatment in a week.

J. H. REED, V. S.

WORMS IN MARE.

Mare, five years old, has long white worms, pointed at each end. She is suckling a foal and safe in foal again.

Stormont Co., Ont.

Ans.—Take $1\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. each of powdered sulphate of iron, sulphate of copper and tartar emetic; mix and make into 12 powders. Give a powder every night and morning in damp food, or mixed with $\frac{1}{2}$ pt. cold water as a drench. After the last powder has been given feed only bran for 8 or 10 hours, and then give $1\frac{1}{2}$ pts. raw linseed oil, feed only bran for 24 hours longer and give water in small quantities and often.

J. H. REED, V. S.

Miscellaneous.

CEMENT OR FLAGSTONE FOR FLOOR.

I want to floor my barn with either stone or cement. I can get stone flags within two miles, about 6 ft. by 4 ft., 3 inches thick. I would have to draw them, but the quarry man would lay them with cement for 40 cents a square yard. Portland cement costs 63 cents a bag of 80 lbs. Which do you think would be best and cheapest? The stone flags are a hard limestone, and have been largely used, locally, for house cellars, but so far no one has had experience for barn stables.

Grey Co., Ont.

B. C.

Ans.—In our observation, flagstones properly laid are fairly durable, but make a rough floor and difficult to keep clean. It could not be called strictly sanitary nor suitable for dairy cows. Cement might cost more, but we would prefer it. Professional cement floor layers, who supply cement and also gravel, quote 9 cents per square yard for stable floor when gravel costs \$5 per cord. Where farmers furnish the gravel and do most of the work, the outlay could be greatly reduced. Gravel is very much cheaper in some districts than \$5 per cord.

MARSH FIRES—BULLS TRESPASSING.

Five years ago, the last of September coming, a fire crossed A's lot, out of a marsh, into B's lot, the marsh being on fire at the time. C started a fire on his own lot which crossed into B's lot. The field being mucky, the fires spread and ran down the field about 60 rods, and burned a piece of B's fence on the line between A and B. B says A started the fire that burned his fence, and he will not build it.

1. Can B compel A to build the fence, supposing he did start a fire, and let C go, when A can prove that C's fire crossed into the same field?

2. Can B compel anybody to build the fence after the lapse of five years?

3. Can A compel B to build his fence?

4. B has a lot of young scrub bulls running around. If they cross the line into A's property and through A's inside fence to some heifers is there any law for it, or has A to put up with losses till the fence is built?

E. J.

Carleton Co., Ont.

Ans.—1. We do not think that B is in a position to compel A to build the fence, but he may bring action against A for damages, and that too without suing C as well.

2. We think not.

3. Not without first paying or tendering B a suitable sum of money by way of damages.

4. Assuming that there is no by-law of the municipality permitting bulls to run at large, B would be responsible for any such damage.

YOUNG DUCKS DYING.

Kindly inform me how to raise ducks. I succeed very well until they begin to feather, when, without any symptoms of disease, the ducklings lay down as if asleep and, without a struggle, die. I fed them on shorts while young, and afterwards gave bran and a teaspoonful of Hess Poultry Food twice a week. Water was always kept convenient. None were ever opened.

Grey Co., Ont.

W. GEDDES.

Ans.—Ducks are usually exceptionally easy to rear. They must, however, be supplied with grit (either gravel or ground-up granite), and also with shade. Sometimes when ducks are running where there is no shade and the sun comes out hot, they will fall over and die, apparently sunstruck. I find it necessary to mix the grit in the soft food for the ducks; we generally put in about a teaspoonful to a gallon of food. It would be better to mix some other grain with the shorts and bran, say equal amounts of shorts, bran, and barley, or corn. This should be moistened with skim milk, or else use a small amount of blood meal or animal meal. These last mentioned foods are necessary to supply the material for the growing feathers. I am of the opinion that your ducks are either starving for the animal food or else have no grit with which to grind the food you are giving them.

W. R. GRAHAM.

TO MAKE CISTERN WATER-TIGHT.

I have built a stone wall at one end of my barn 15 x 20 ft., 10 ft. high, and 2 ft. in thickness, which I purpose to use for a cistern. Would you kindly inform me how I can make it water-tight?

J. M.

Chateauguay Co., P. Q.

Ans.—A cistern built of stone such as described, can easily be made water-tight by plastering wall with cement and sand, in the proportion of one of cement to two or three of the latter, depending upon the strength of the cement. In case the wall has not yet been pointed, cement should be used instead of lime in preparing the mortar. If this can be done, the main plastering will not require to be so heavy as otherwise. The floor of the cistern may be put down similar to ordinary cement floors, except that it need not be more than two inches thick where the bottom is solid. The finishing coat for both walls and floor should be a thick wash of cement, applied with a brush, in the same manner as ordinary whitewash. This closes any crevices that remain in the plaster, making the wall quite water-tight.

VARIETY OF GRASS FOR MUCKY LAND.

I have a mucky field and would like to know what kind of grass would be best to seed down. Would you advise me to sow red-top or blue-joint, and how many pounds to the acre, and when would be the best time to seed?

H. ALLEN.

Russell Co., Ont.

Ans.—An excellent mixture of grass with which to seed a mucky field would be, per acre, as follows: Timothy, 3 lbs.; meadow fescue, red-top and Canadian blue-joint, 6 lbs. each. Red-top and blue-joint alone might be sown at the rate of 12 lbs. each per acre, but would not likely give as good results either for pasture or hay as the former mixture. They might be sown early in September, but if the field be damp a good stand should be secured by sowing in spring as soon as land is workable.

BLADDER CAMPION.

Please give the name of the weed enclosed, and if it be a bad one, tell how to kill it?

Bruce Co., Ont.

D. McDUGALL.

Ans.—The weed is bladder campion (*Silene inflata*). Where it has gained a foothold, it is regarded as a difficult one to eradicate. Being a perennial, it lives over from year to year, and reproduces from the root as well as from seed, of which a single plant ripens many hundred annually. In fields where it has become troublesome, persistent cultivation must be carried on. Immediately after harvest, plow lightly and continue cultivation at repeated intervals during the fall, so that the seeds in the ground may be germinated and the roots prevented from producing leaves through which to breathe. The next season use the affected area for corn, rape, roots, or any crop that will admit of regular intertillage. Under no circumstance allow any plants to produce seed. Where this method is carefully followed, the plants will be so scarce the third season that a short time only will be required to hand-pull all in sight.

MARKETS.

Chicago Markets.

Chicago, Aug. 27.—Cattle—Good to prime steers, \$8 to \$9; poor to medium, \$4 to \$7.25; stockers and feeders, \$2.50 to \$5.25; cows, \$1.50 to \$5.90; heifers, \$2.50 to \$6; bulls, \$2.25 to \$5.25; Western steers, \$4.50 to \$6.

Hogs.—Mixed and butchers', \$7.35 to \$7.90; good to choice heavy, \$7.60 to \$7.95; rough heavy, \$7.25 to \$7.60; light, \$7.35 to \$7.75; bulk of sales at \$7.50 to \$7.75.

Sheep.—Good to choice wethers, \$3.50 to \$3.75; fair to choice mixed, \$2.50 to \$3.50; native lambs, \$3.75 to \$6.10.

Buffalo Markets.

East Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 27.—Cattle—Prime steers, \$8 to \$8.25; fair to choice, \$4.75 to \$7.75; heifers, \$3 to \$6.50; cows, \$3 to \$5; bulls, \$3 to \$4.75; feeders, \$4.25 to \$5; stockers, \$3 to \$4.45; stockers, heifers, \$3 to \$3.75. Veals slow; tops, \$7.75 to \$8; fair to good, \$7 to \$7.50; common to light, \$5.75 to \$6.75.

Hogs.—Heavy, \$7.85 to \$7.90; mixed, \$7.75 to \$7.85; Yorkers, \$7.65 to \$7.75; light, do., \$7.50 to \$7.65; pigs, \$7.50 to \$7.60; roughs, \$6 to \$6.50; stags, \$5 to \$5.50; grassers, \$7.30 to \$7.50.

Sheep and Lambs.—Top lambs, \$5.75 to \$5.85; fair to good, \$5.25 to \$5.50; culls to common, \$3.75 to \$4; yearlings, \$4 to \$4.50; wethers, \$4 to \$4.25; ewes, \$3 to \$3.50; sheep, top mixed, \$3.50 to \$3.70; fair to good, \$3.25 to \$3.40; culls to common, \$1.75 to \$2.75.

Toronto Live Stock.

Cattle.—Export cattle, choice, cwt., \$5.50 to \$6; do. medium, \$5 to \$5.50; do. cows, per cwt., \$3.50 to \$4; butchers' cattle, picked, \$4.50 to \$5; do. choice, \$4 to \$4.50; do. fair, \$3.50 to \$4; do. common, \$3 to \$3.50; do. bulls, \$2.50 to \$3.25; feeders, short-keep, \$4.75 to \$5.25; do. medium, \$3.50 to \$4.50; stockers, 400 to 800 lbs., \$3 to \$3.60; milch cows, each, \$32 to \$54.

Sheep.—Export ewes, \$3.40 to \$3.60; butchers' sheep, each, \$2 to \$3; bucks, per cwt., \$2.50 to \$2.75; lambs, \$4 to \$4.50; culls, \$1.75 to \$2.75.

Hogs.—Choice, per cwt., \$7.25; light, per cwt., \$7; fat, per cwt., \$7.