

# Women!

Look for this Trade Mark when You Buy Kitchen Utensils

Would you buy a can of salmon if it had no label? Or a bag of flour? No, certainly not! Then be just as careful when you are buying kitchen utensils. Purchase only those articles of Enamelled Ware carrying the SMP trade-mark. It is your safeguard and your guarantee of quality. Ask for

## SMP Diamond or Pearl WARE

Diamond Ware is a three-coated enameled steel, sky blue and white outside with a snowy white lining. Pearl Ware is a two-coated enameled steel, pearl grey and white inside and out.

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### SKINNING AN ANIMAL

How to Get the Best Out of a Hide.

Skin While the Carcass Is Warm—Have the Knife Sharp—Avoid Wrinkling—Cut Carefully About the Legs.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

During the autumn season, considerable farm butchering is done, and in the operation many good hides are spoiled in the skinning. To do a good job easily select a clean hard spot in the shelter of a tree or in a building if the floor is good. A block and tackle or other hoist arrangement should be rigged in a convenient position.

Skin While Carcass Is Warm.

The animal should be clean; if not it will be difficult to keep the hide and carcass in proper condition. The skinning should start immediately the animal is dead, and the more quickly it is done while the animal is warm the more easily the hide will come off. Make sure that the knife is sharp. After stunning and sticking the animal it should be suspended to facilitate bleeding. When in the suspended position the operator should begin skinning the head, cheeks and face. When skinning over the face leave the flesh on the head. The presence of meat on the hide is an objection. The head is removed from the neck at the atlas joint, or end of the spinal column. The horns should not be removed from the skull. With the head out of the way the animal should be completely lowered and placed breast up, being held in this position by a spiked stick between brisket and floor. The legs should then be skinned out and the feet removed.

Avoid Forming of Wrinkles.

After removing the feet the hide should be ripped down the belly from the sticking cut to the tail. The sides should then be skinned by working forward to the brisket and then back to the inside of the hind legs, close to the tail. The free hand should be used to lift away, pulling outward and upward against the knife. Care should be taken to prevent the formation of wrinkles under the hide as it is being removed. The hide should be skinned off nearly to the back bone, leaving it attached at the thighs and shoulders. Change the prop over to the other side of brisket and skin the other side in the same manner.

Cut Carefully About the Legs.

For the cut at the front legs start in the center, cutting the skin well forward at the brisket and in advance of the front legs, cut back to the union of the fore leg and body and on down the inside of leg to meet the cut made when skinning the same. In skinning the hind legs start at the center line about six inches from the tail and split the skin in straight line to the neck. Skin over the rump and thighs. At this stage it is best to insert a gambrel above the hock joints and raise the carcass so that the shoulder will still rest on the floor. Split the skin on the under side of the tail and skin out the tail bone to the end.

Skin Away From Tail and Legs.

Skin the hide carefully away from the base of the tail and strip from the legs and back, using the rest or a blunt instrument such as a knife handle, skimming stone or the back of a cleaver. Be careful and do not cut the hide, since each cut reduces the value. When skinned down to the shoulders the carcass is hoisted clear of the floor and the skinning completed down over the neck. Split the ears by cutting lengthwise and fold the hide head side in. For shipment.—Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.

Cheap Ice For the Farmer.

Farmers who have not already done so should prepare to lay by a store of ice for cooling milk and for household use next summer. The cost of harvesting and storing ice is low when compared with the saving effected. Ordinarily it is said to harvest two tons of ice for each cow in the herd. This will allow for melting and leave enough for family needs. Where cream only is sold, about one-third of that quantity of ice will be needed.

Did you ever try co-operation in ice harvesting? It works like a charm. Get one or two of your neighbors to go into such a scheme. One pond or stream and one set of tools will answer for all. The equipment necessary for harvesting and storing ice consists simply of saws, tongs, and iron bars for passing the blocks of ice around.

A rough board enclosure ten feet square and eight feet high will hold sufficient ice to provide fifty pounds per day for 130 days after allowing for a reasonable amount of wastage. An important fact to be remembered is that the smaller the quantity of ice stored the larger is the proportion of waste. The bottom of the enclosure should be covered with a foot of sawdust, and a foot of space left between the boards and the ice, which should also be filled with sawdust. The ice

should be similarly covered. The drier the sawdust the better. If the soil beneath the enclosure is impervious clay, a layer of gravel under the sawdust is advisable.

If sawdust is not obtainable, planer mill shavings will serve. If neither is to be had, two feet of marsh hay or any wild hay will answer. The strongest kind of a shed that will resist the weather is all that is required.

If you are not making money on the farm, scratch your head and give some hard thinking.

Keep feeding the hens or the stop laying. Keep feeding the calves or they'll stop growing.

### UNPAID FARM HELPERS

Birds Work Well for Man Practically Without Wages

Do Splendid Work in Field as Orchard—Meadow Larks and Robins Real Friends of Farmers—Redbreast Devours Many Cut-worms—Farmer's Wife Should Be a Co-partner.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

When we employ a man and put him to work in the fields destroying the weeds and insects that are injurious to crop production, we are obliged to pay for the service with the coin of the realm. If the weeds and insects were not controlled, crop production would be greatly hampered. We willingly pay the human labor to cultivate and protect the crops, while at the same time giving little thought to the great service rendered by birds as farm help—yes, unpaid farm help. Weeds grow from weed seeds. Destroy the weed seed and we could in time get rid of this agricultural pest. Insects that feed on farm crops come from the eggs of moths, flies, beetles and butterflies; destroy these early in the year and prevent the swarms of young crawlers gaining life and menacing the crops.

The Bird Is the Unpaid Farm Help.

A meadow lark will eat each day weed seeds and insects in quantity greater than its own body weight. Four ounces of weed seeds or young grasshoppers each day on an average for the year would mean the destruction of over 90 pounds in a year. Twenty meadow larks on the farm would consume a ton of weed seed during the year. A ton of weed seed gathered from the fields may seem like delivering a large order, but a little flock of meadow larks will do it. Are such birds worth protecting? If you saw a little meadow lark perched beside a hundred pound sack of weed seeds, the gathering of which represented his year's work, don't you think your heart would soften and you would spare the bird's life? The normal man who appreciates a good friend will not injure nor will he permit any one else to injure the insect and weed destroying birds of our meadow lands.

The Robin No Mere Fruit Thief.

Is the robin a cherry thief? No, this bird has a perfect right to satisfy his hunger by consuming a few cherries in season in the orchard where he works as an insect destroyer for six months of the year without any wage contract. The few cherries and other domestic fruits that robins take during June and July make up less than one-third of their food for that short period. During all the rest of the season, from March to October, the robin feeds largely on insects that infest the orchard and garden. If it were not for the good work of the robin, many attempts at vegetable production would fail. Vegetable gardens and small fruit plantations are largely at the mercy of the cut-worm. Redbreast a Great Devourer of Cut-worms.

The robin is the best cut-worm hunter that we have. His daily capacity when the hunting is good and there are hungry nestlings to feed, is not less than 300 cut-worms per day. Any bird that will destroy 300 cut-worms each day during the season when the garden vegetables are getting started is certainly worthy of the respect of all people. The taking of a few cherries or an odd strawberry by the robin is just to change the taste in his mouth after consuming so many wiggly worms. Be broad-minded, and protect the robin. Only the meanest of narrow-minded people will destroy such a useful bird.

Protecting Fruit From Birds.

If every single cherry must be reserved for sale, and robins abound, cover the tree with wire netting or old fish net or else put up a cherry cack or old auto-horn in the tree. The period of cherry raiding is short, since the birds prefer the wild fruit and will go to the fence rows as soon as they are ripe, leaving the cultivated fruit. Protect the meadow lark from the boy with a gun, and protect the robin from people who do not know any better than to destroy a useful servant. The farm birds make life possible for us all.—L. Stevenson, Sec., Dept. of Agriculture, Toronto.

### SUCCESS AND FAILURE

In Raising Young Pigs for Real Profit.

Fifty Paragraphs Full of Facts About Feeding Them—Fertilizers for Fall Wheat—Pregnant Ewes Require the Best of Care.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

Causes of failure and success in the feeding of young pigs are pointed out in the following article: Causes of Failure in Feeding Young Pigs.

1. No one on hand to see that everything is right when pigs are born.
2. Excess of fat in mother's milk.
3. Cold, damp, uncomfortable quarters.
4. Intestinal parasites.
5. Shortage of sweet skim milk at weaning time.
6. Ration out of balance.
7. Ration composed of unsuitable grains.
8. Lack of mineral matter in food.
9. Housing conditions unsuitable.
10. Diseases—hog cholera, etc.
11. Neglect to alter male pigs at proper time.
12. Neglect to supply ample feed for proper development, regularly.
13. Working with poor stock.
14. Treating the pig as a general scavenger.

Success in Feeding Young Pigs.

1. Mother's milk normal.
2. Clean, dry, bright, comfortable quarters.
3. Practice of disease preventive measures.
4. Ample yard room, protection from hot sun and flies.
5. Ample clean drinking water and wallow, during hot weather.
6. Mineral matter and conditions supplied during winter when on the soil conditions are not available.
7. Working with well bred, vigorous stock.
8. Ample supply of green forage, such as alfalfa, red clover, sweet clover, rape and blue grass.—L. Stevenson, Sec. Dept. of Agriculture, Toronto.

Fertilizers for Fall Wheat.

Fall wheat must have a strong well-rooted plant to withstand the winter. To insure this there should be an abundance of all kinds of available plant food in the soil. The two constituents the wheat plant has the greatest difficulty in getting out of the soil are nitrogen and phosphorus. If the land has been manured and summer fallowed, or if a clover sod has been ploughed down there will probably be no need of purchasing a further supply of nitrogen and an application of acid phosphate alone will probably be sufficient. If, on the other hand, the wheat is to follow oats, or if there is any fear that the plants will not develop a good top, then some form of readily available nitrogenous fertilizer may be used to advantage.

Cereal crops have little difficulty in getting their supply of potash, consequently it will rarely pay to purchase a fertilizer containing this constituent for application on the land to be sown to wheat.

The Department of Chemistry at the Ontario Agricultural College has found that an application of from 200 to 400 pounds of acid phosphate and 100 pounds of ammonium sulphate per acre has very much increased the yield of wheat on the clay soils predominating in the Niagara Peninsula and in the area lying along the north shore of Lake Erie. It is probable, however, that when the soil contains a good supply of organic matter, enough to furnish sufficient nitrogen, the ammonium sulphate may be omitted.—Chemistry Dept., O. A. College, Guelph.

Pregnant Ewes Need Best of Feed and Care.

Lambing time is perhaps the most important season of the year for the shepherd. A successful lambing period helps to make a successful sheep year. It then behooves every shepherd to have as high a percentage of strong, healthy lambs as possible. The lambs, and perhaps here and there a ewe, that he will save by good feed and care will amply repay him.

If the ewes are to lamb before going on pasture they should receive some grain about one month before lambing. This insures a good flow of milk. Oats and wheat bran, either half and half or two parts of oats and one of bran, which is lower in price, should be fed. One-half pound a day of this mixture for each ewe should prove sufficient.

It is also very important that succulent feeds, such as corn silage or roots, be given pregnant ewes. These keep the bowels in good condition and serve as general tonics and regulators. The weight of the wool can also be increased by feeding good succulence. All winter long each ewe should receive daily from two to two and one-half pounds. After lambing this amount can be increased. It should be remembered that no frozen silage or roots should be fed to sheep. Either is very dangerous. The flock should be supplied with pure, fresh water at all times and barrel salt should be placed within their reach so that they can get it at will.