

## Tulips and Hyacinths.

"I should like to procure some plants like those beautiful ones in bloom in the park," is an order given to the seedsman many times daily during the spring, while hyacinths, tulips, narcissi and other spring-flowering bulbs are delighting the spectators with their gorgeous hues. The same old answer has to be repeated again and again: "The flowers you describe are produced from bulbs which must be planted in the fall; they will then flower the following spring. It is now entirely too late."

It is really surprising how few people realize that while their gardens are in their autumn glory it is also the proper time to order and plant hardy spring-flowering bulbs, without which most gardens will be bare of flowers for many weeks the following season. In fact, there are many people who do not know what bulbs are. For the benefit of such I may state that flowering bulbs are like an onion. The roots and foliage die away; i. e., "ripen off," leaving the naked bulb, in the heart of which are stored incipient flowers, stems and leaves, which are therein sustained while the bulb remains in a dormant condition. During the dormant season bulbs may be dug up, shipped, stored and replanted, like so many potatoes, and after their term of rest has expired, conditions being congenial, they will again start into growth, first throwing out roots and then developing the stored-up leaves and flowers.

As the majority of hardy flowering bulbs ripen off during the early summer months, and as they do not naturally remain in a dormant condition longer than from three to six months, it is absolutely essential that they be planted in the fall. This permits them to make their root-growth before freezing weather sets in, and the better the root-growth the better will be the flowers.

Bulbs planted very late in the fall or carried over winter in cold storage and planted in the spring seldom give satisfactory flowers, for the reason that the foliage and flowers commence to develop as soon as the roots; therefore the flowers cannot develop beyond the sustenance supplied by the rootless bulbs, and this sustenance is usually exhausted when the flowers are about half-grown. While it is true that the flowers, etc., are formed within the bulb before they ripen off, yet it is absolutely essential for their maximum development that the bulbs become thoroughly rooted before the tops are allowed to start.

A good rule to follow as to the proper time to plant hardy spring-flowering bulbs in the open ground is from four to six weeks before freezing nights are expected. Then the under soil is still warm enough to induce root-action, while the cooler surface and air checks top-growth until spring.—[From Country Life in America.

## 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 disregard 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.

## FARDEL-BOUND COW—OX'S EYE HURT.

1. Two-year-old cow calved June 15th; gave a good flow of milk for a month, when she appeared to be unwell, staying around at times instead of going around with other cattle; appeared stupid and failed one-half in her milk. Since then has got a little better, but has failed in flesh, and is now very thin, though not for lack of food. For the past week a lump has been growing on her backbone, and is now about three inches across and one inch in depth, is painful even to slight pressure; cow has not been hurt, to my knowledge.

2. Young ox accidentally struck over the eye with whip-lash; eye began to run water, and in an hour or so turned white. Eye runs considerable at times, but does not appear shrunken. Keeps it closed most of the time, and appears blind.

Muskoka and Parry Sound.

Ans.—1. Your cow is suffering from impaction of the third stomach, usually called fardel-bound. Give two pounds of Epsom salts, and if that does not purge her, give a pint of raw linseed oil every day till you get a free movement of the bowels. Give, also, the following mixture: Take 12 drams each nux vomica, pul. gentian, and ginger, mix into a dozen powders, and give one morning and evening till done. Give her plenty of sloppy food, but avoid rich meal, such as pea and corn meal.

2. Bathe the ox's eye with warm water twice a day till the inflammation subsides, then, if the scum is still there, take five grains nitrate of silver and mix with two ounces of water and apply to the eye with a feather once a day. I think there is a chance of the eye coming all right,

but if the internal structures are much inflamed blindness may result. H. G. REED, V. S.

## DYSENTERY IN COW.

Holstein cow took sick Sunday morning; slight diarrhoea, discharge of a very dark color; fell off in her milk; did not appear very bad; Monday morning followed the other cattle, but didn't feed; Tuesday was worse, and stood with head down and made a noise when breathing. Administered a dose of Epsom salts; at noon cow was dead. Opened her stomach, which appeared all right, with the exception of some gravel and small stones in it; small bowels much inflamed, and parts of them of a very bad color. Sherbrooke, P. Q. J. L. R.

Ans.—From the symptoms described, I think it likely your cow died from an attack of dysentery which resulted in inflammation of the small intestines. The ordinary treatment for this disease is a purgative dose of Epsom salts, followed up with well-boiled starch gruel. Give also 2 ozs. opium morning and evening. A little gravel in the stomach is quite an ordinary occurrence. H. G. REED, V. S.

## SPLINT, AND PUNCTURED SOLE.

I have a horse that, about two years ago, started to grow a lump on the inside of fore leg, about six inches below the knee. The same horse, about three weeks ago, run a nail in his foot, just on one side of the frog, near the center. I have kept the hole open and the foot poulticed, but he is hardly able to put the foot on the ground yet. G. R.

Ans.—The lump on your horse's leg is a splint, and is not likely ever to injure the animal. Blistering in the first stages would have done good, but would be useless now. As regards the punctured foot, your treatment was all right, and unless the nail penetrated very deeply into the internal structures of the foot he will come all right. See that the hole is kept well open, so that no pus can remain above the sole, and go on with the poulticing; make quite a large opening through the sole along the track the nail left, so that the matter can escape freely. H. G. REED, V. S.

## LAME FOAL—EYE TROUBLE.

1. I have a foal, born June 1st; a few days after birth its joints swelled, and the swelling went from one leg to another and settled in the hind leg, and it now goes like a horse that is tripped; there is no soreness nor swelling, and it is quite healthy, only it cannot put any weight on that leg.

2. Mare with a narrow white scum across one eye; came on about three months ago. It seems to get no better nor worse. W. G. P. Durham Co., Ont.

Ans.—1. I think your foal is suffering from rheumatism. Young animals frequently get better if left alone, but your case appears a stubborn one. You might try giving it one dram of salicylic acid morning and evening.

2. From the fact that your mare's eye has been so long in the condition described, I think it is hardly likely a cure can be effected, but you might try five grains of nitrate of silver in two ounces of water; apply once daily with feather. H. G. REED, V. S.

## ENLARGED FETLOCK.

I have a mare that in driving last winter struck the hind ankle and it swelled. After a time the soreness and heat left, but the enlargement remains. After a long drive the enlargement will almost disappear, but will return again. Leeds Co., Ont. S. S. C.

Ans.—As a rule, an injury such as this is completely cured by a month's run on pasture. If not convenient to try this, or if you have tried it and it failed to cure, then bandage the leg every night with a good strong bandage wrung out of cold water; in the morning remove the bandage and rub in the following liniment: 1 ounce each of spirits of ammonia, methylated spirits and oil of terebinth, to which add 5 ounces of water. Give regular exercise. You may have to persevere in this treatment for several weeks before effecting a cure. H. G. REED, V. S.

## Miscellaneous.

## STORING GREEN CORN.

I have a quantity of fodder corn this season, and would like to know if I could put it into the mow green, without putting it through an ensilage machine? I have no silo. The corn is "Mammoth Sweet" and "Red-cob White Cap Dent," sown separately. W. G. WRIGHT. Hastings Co.

Ans.—Being without a silo, it would be best to leave the corn in large shocks in the field until winter, when layers one foot deep might be spread over the mow. Green corn, if stored in quantities in the barn, would not pack solid enough to prevent the entrance of air, and hence fermentation would proceed until the fodder would rot and be totally lost. Uncut cornstalks, green, have been successfully stored in silos, but the practice does not grow in favor, for obvious reasons.

## RIB GRASS AND BINDWEED.

1. The enclosed weed is one of many that I found in my meadow. Is it a dangerous weed, especially in pastures? Will the cattle eat it? Will plowing the ground kill it?

2. Would you please give me a description of bindweed? Prince Edward Co., Ont. SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—1. Rib grass, the weed received, is not one of our worst enemies. Ordinary care in selecting seed, and good cultivation, should keep any farm free from this pest. Cattle do not care for it, but when pasture is scarce they may eat a small quantity. If the plants are not numerous, cut below the crown with a spud. If they are, plow lightly after harvest and when the seeds have had time to germinate cultivate thoroughly and continue at intervals until late in the fall, when the surface should be ribbed with a double-mould-board plow, or cultivator with ribbing attachment, to present the largest possible area to the freezing and thawing action which takes place during winter and early spring. The next season follow with a hoe crop, and don't allow any plants to go to seed. The year following, all specimens to appear should be promptly pulled by hand or cut below the surface. This will take but a short time if the directions heretofore described have been carried out.

2. Bindweed may be described as a very troublesome perennial which winds its tough and curling stems around other plants, thereby partially choking them and hindering their growth. It has a very large creeping root which penetrates far into the soil. Any piece of this root which possesses even two buds is capable of producing a new plant. The stems are quite branching and either trail on the ground or climb and entwine anything standing within their reach. The leaves are rather small, having two to four lobes at the base, giving it an arrow-shaped appearance. The flowers, which may be found any time from June to September, are white or rose colored, about one inch in diameter, and, although smaller, resemble those of the common morning-glory very much. The seeds, three in number, are large, black and angular, about 3-16 inch in length, and are held in a spherical capsule. This is one of our very worst weeds to eradicate, and those whose farms are now clean cannot be too careful in the selection of seed grains of all kinds.

## AN UNSATISFACTORY TENANT.

A had a farm of two hundred acres. Eight years ago A died, without a will, leaving a wife and family, none of the family being of age. Since his death the wife has done the renting of the farm, and as the tenant who had the farm was leaving it last fall, she bargained with another tenant to have it, whose term was to commence March 1st, 1902. But as the former tenant moved out in the fall, next tenant got leave to move in then; and before the lease for the farm was made the wife happened with accident, causing death, thus leaving the place without an administrator. Most of the family are of age now and wish to do business with the tenant as to giving a lease, and that he strictly refuses to do, to comply with an ordinary farm lease. He will give one to suit himself, but the family would not accept that, and have given him six months' notice to give up the farm, which he refuses to do, as he says he had it rented for more than one year. But all the bargain that was made was the number of years and the rent he was to pay, and an understanding that there was to be a lease. Can the family take legal proceedings to compel him to leave the place? If so, how? I. J. R.

Ans.—It does not appear, from your statement, that as the case stands at present the family are in a position to legally dispossess the tenant. But the matter is in a very unsatisfactory state, and, while legal proceedings are hardly advisable at this time, a solicitor ought certainly to be instructed to endeavor, without legal steps, to effect a suitable arrangement.

## COWS COUGHING.

Three or four of my cows took a cough about four weeks ago. They don't seem to get any worse, and yet don't seem to get better. What shall I do for them? J. S. Larnark Co., Ont.

Ans.—Get four ounces of potassium chlorate and four drams of digitalis pulverized; mix and divide into twenty-four powders; give one night and morning on food. For external application, get linseed oil, turpentine and ammonia, equal parts; mix and apply to throat once a day.

## COW WITH SORE TEAT.

One of my cows has a chink in one of her teats, and has been giving bloody milk for four or five months. Can you suggest a cure? Wolland Co., Ont. N. S.

Ans.—Get one dram of oxide of zinc, mix with six drams of lard; apply twice a day. 2. Give two pounds of sulphate of magnesia, and give one half ounce of potassium nitrate once a day for a week, and give scalded bran night and morning.