

Issued
Each Week

FARM AND DAIRY

&

RURAL HOME

Only \$1.00
a Year

FORMERLY THE CANADIAN DAIRYMAN AND FARMING WORLD

Vol. XXVIII.

FOR WEEK ENDING APRIL 29, 1909.

No. 17.

The Cultivation of Corn

A. L. Arner, Essex Co., Ont.

Corn requires careful attention and a favorable climate, if its growth is to be success. It is a crop that requires some study in its general management. It must have a good seed bed. A rich black loam is the best, but it will do well on any rich soil, that is well drained. Clover is the best crop for corn to follow, but timothy will answer fairly well, much better than for it to follow any cereal crop.

When it follows clover, the ground is generally plowed in the spring, as soon as it is in fit condition. For timothy fall plowing is preferable, as the timothy sod being very tough, becomes putrid, and makes a better seed bed when plowed in the fall. On spring plowed sod follow each day's plowing with the roller. Then commence the working of the ground. If it is free from stumps and roots, the spring tooth cultivator is best for tearing up the sod roots, and making the ground mellow. The sod should be put in as loose and mellow a condition as possible. If there are stumps and roots the disc-harrow may be used. First double disc the land the way it is plowed; then disc it cornwise. Finish the field with several harrowings with the drags. On fall plowing the ground may be worked in the same manner with the exception of the rolling.

When manure is to be applied on ground for corn, it should be applied in late winter or early spring, and plowed under. On fall plowing it is best to top-dress, provided the manure is well rolled and very fine. If not it should be applied in the fall and plowed under.

After a perfect seed bed is made, and the weather is warm enough for rapid plant growth which is usually from the 25th of May to the first of June, the planting should be done. Before planting see to it that you have made a selection of strong, healthy seed. Test it by taking a grain from every ear that is to be planted, and putting it in sawdust or earth in some warm place to sprout. After the seed has been tested get it ready to plant. Shell the butts and tips of the ears off before shelling the ear. By this means the grains are all of a uniform size, and drop better in the planter.

We use the two-horse planter for planting corn. Until recent years the old method of marking out, and using the hand planter was used. Our corn is planted three feet eight inches each way for dent varieties, and three feet six inches for flint. If the ground is dry and inclined to be lumpy, the roller is applied ahead of the planter, but if it should be a little wet the drag-harrow is applied cornwise ahead of the planter, as it

has a tendency to dry the top of the ground and by going cornerwise, the harrow marks do not interfere with the mark made by the marker on the planter.

HARROWING CORN

When the corn is just appearing through the ground, and even though it is an inch or more high, we harrow it with an ordinary drag harrow, a light one is preferred. This kills all small weeds and gives the corn a free, loose soil to grow in. The corn will appear to be entirely covered at the time and some little of it will be torn out, but in a few days, it can be seen to shoot ahead. As soon as it is high enough (from two to three inches) we cultivate it with the two-horse cultivator, cultivating as close to the corn as possible. By keeping the fenders of the cultivator just off the ground, a little loose earth will work in around the young plants thereby covering any weeds that may be starting in the hill. The next time

general rule (once each way). This implement consists of an ordinary five-shovel cultivator, with one three inch shovel in front, and one ten inch thistle cutter, and twelve three inch thistle cutters (or sweeps) behind. These sweeps do not go deep in the ground, but rather make the surface loose, at the same time cutting all weeds, but not cutting off the corn roots. This outfit is used once in a row, and after it has been through once each way, the corn cultivating is finished for the season, except should there be some very bad weeds to kill. As a general rule by the time the last cultivating is finished, the ears are beginning to droop, and are liable to be broken off by the horse in walking through. The method as outlined has proved very successful in raising bumper crops of corn.

The Importance of Healthy Stock

Dr. David Roberts, Wisconsin State Veterinarian
1906-7-8

Many things must be considered in order to be successful in stock raising. Perhaps the first thing to consider is the breed of cattle to keep. This can only be decided by the stock raiser himself. We should select a breed that will be the most profitable in our locality, always keeping a pure bred sire at the head of the herd.

In selecting dairy cattle there is a large variety to select from such as the Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Red Poll, Dutch Belted, French Canadian, and a number of others.

In selecting dairy cows we have a different standard to go by than in selecting beef animals. A dairy cow should be a machine that turns feed into milk, so we must look for a cow that will convert the largest quantity of feed into the largest quantity of milk. The type of dairy cows we want is a cow weighing from 1,000 to 1,200 lbs. She should have a lean head and neck, her eyes should be clear and large, indicating health and temperament. Her body should be narrow over the shoulders and broad at the hip and rump. She should have a large chest, indicating vitality. Her barrel or belly should be large, showing that she is able to consume a large amount of rough feed. She should have a set of large, branching milk veins leading to a well developed udder on which are placed four, large well shaped teats. She should carry enough flesh to look well, but not in excess.

SELECTING A BEEF HERD

In selecting a beef herd, select cows that have broad, deep square bodies, cows with a good coating of flesh for these if bred to the right kind of sire will produce calves that will prove profitable feeders.

In selecting a sire select a good, pure bred bull



Sliding Up the Road at a Seasonable Time

Marvellous indeed is the work of the split-log drag. It costs little. Anyone can make the drag, and it is always available when wanted. This is the second season for the split-log drag on the piece of road illustrated. The photo was taken recently on the road dividing Mr. H. R. Nixon's farm, by our special representative while in Brant Co., Ont.

it is cultivated the fenders are raised a little more allowing a little more earth to work in around the hill, just enough so that the corn is not covered. In all it gets from four to five cultivations with the two-horse cultivator, or the cultivator is used as long as possible before it breaks the corn. At each cultivating the shovels are set a little farther from the corn, to prevent cutting off the roots, and the fenders are raised until the corn is tall enough to have the earth thrown directly against it, at which time they are removed entirely. The kind of shovels used on the two-horse cultivator, are two ordinary four inch shovels on the outside.

FINISHING TOUCHES

After the corn is too large for the two-horse outfit, the one-horse cultivator is used, twice as a