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The Farm Horse Work

The spring season is a trying one on farm work horses. Usually they are idle during the winter, and should not be worked too hard at the commencement of seeding. If before the spring work begins, horses have had a few weeks' training in some light work they will render better service and come through the seeding operations in better condition.

Many colts are put to work for the first time in the fields in the spring. These should be handled with the greatest care. The initial work they should be light and increased as the colts become accustomed to hard work. The value of a colt may be decreased 50 per cent. by injudicious treatment when put to work. They cannot stand the hardest work of the trained horse. While it is advisable that the older horse be toned up to the work, it is infinitely more so that the colt should be so treated. Many an otherwise good colt has been spoiled during two or three weeks' hard work in the field when the spring rush is on, by not being carefully treated.

After the winter idleness horses' shoulders are more or less tender. Care should be taken that the collar fits properly and is in clean condition. Especially should the shoulders of the young horses be taken care of by rubbing and soreness. A strong solution of white oak bark rubbed on, will harden them somewhat, and there will be less danger of their becoming tender.

Careful grooming, as well as careful feeding is necessary to keep horses in condition at this season.

Seed Oats

Last year upwards of 2,700,000 acres were used in Ontario for the cultivation of oats. This area is three times as large as that used for any other cereal grown in the province. A return of 40 bushels an acre would give a total yield of 108,000,000 bushels. This would be largely increased by the use of better seed. At the Ontario Agriculture College for the past five years some varieties of oats have yielded 102 bushels to the acre, while others have run as low as 56 bushels to the acre. The variety sown is not the main thing, however. The yield depends to a large extent upon the quality of the seed itself. It would be possible not only to increase the yield of oats in Ontario by several million bushels annually, as well as greatly improve the quality of the crop by using better seed.

Every precaution should be observed when selecting seed oats. Oats containing barley, wheat, wild oats, or other foreign grain, should not be used for seeding purposes. Dirty seed means a dirty stand and seed weak in vitality will result in an inferior harvest. Foreign material in the marketable product considerably depreciates the value of the oats when being offered for sale. Therefore we cannot lay too much stress upon the importance of using only the cleanest of seed oats.

Heretofore we have been accustomed to sow our oats upon our poor-

est fields. Think what it would mean to us financially if we would place our best fields at the disposal of our oat crop, for in the long run oats are one of the most profitable crops the farmer can grow.

A large share of the surplus oat crop is exported. Large quantities are used in the manufacture of oat meal for home and foreign consumption and export. The demand for this purpose is increasing, and could be increased still more if farmers would give closer attention to producing oats of the highest quality. For oatmeal purposes the crop must be clean and of the very best quality.

Well Pleased

"My Berkshire boar pig, which was given me for securing some new subscriptions to The Canadian Dairyman at \$1.00 each, arrived safely from William A. Wallace, Kars, Ont., and I am well pleased with it. I have to thank Mr. Wallace for the fine pig he selected, and for the care taken in shipping it to me. I also have to thank The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World for the interest they take in securing valuable premiums for their subscribers."—R. C. Clark, Russell Co., Ont.

The foregoing letter was received from Mr. Clark, who, in response to an advertisement which appeared this winter in The Canadian Dairyman, offering pure bred live stock as premiums for new subscriptions, secured a class of new subscriptions to The Canadian Dairyman, and chose as his premium a pure-bred Berkshire boar. This offer is still being continued by The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World. We will give a pure-bred Berkshire or Tamworth boar or sow, to any of our subscribers who will send us only ten new subscriptions, all taken at \$1.00 a year. Or, if you think you can secure more than ten subscriptions, we will send you a pure-bred bull or heifer calf, of any of the standard dairy breeds, (with the exception of Holstein heifers.) for thirty new subscriptions, all secured at \$1.00 a year. On account of the high price asked by breeders for Holstein heifers, it is necessary to secure 45 new subscriptions to secure one of these animals.

If you have some spare time, and wish to secure some pure-bred stock write to us at once for sample copies, which will be sent by return mail. Address: Circulation Department, The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World, Peterboro, Ont.

April has arrived, and lambs are dropping daily. If not done previously the shears should be used immediately after lambing to remove all wool around the udder, as lambs, while searching for the teat, are apt to suck a lock of wool, thereby getting the first start of wool from their stomach, which causes scouring, bloating, and sooner or later, death. Prevention is the only cure known of, so far.—John Campbell, Woodville, Ont.

CANADIAN NATIONAL HORSE SHOW

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL RENEWAL

ST. LAWRENCE ARENA, TORONTO, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday April 29th, 30th, and 1st May.

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