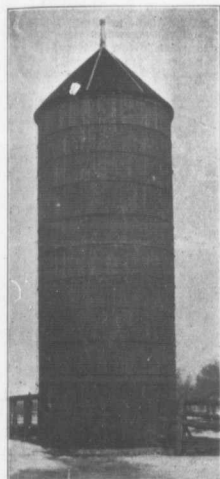


The Stave Silo—Its Merits

Haigh Bros., Bloomfield, Ont.
At the request of Farm and Dairy we give the following information concerning the Ideal Green Feed silo manufactured by the Canadian Dairy Supply Co., Ltd., and erected by us on the farm of A. D. Foster, Prince Edward Co., Ont., a cut of which is shown on this page. This is a round stave silo with modern doors and snow-front and all other improvements. All lumber used in its construction was thoroughly saturated and treated with specially prepared wood-preservative. We have put out quite a number of these silos, and they give our customers the best of satisfaction.

A farmer puts up a silo for one purpose only—the preservation of ensilage. All other points concerning a silo are subservient to this. This silo



Where Cows are Fed Cheaply in Summer

Summer silos offer dairymen the cheapest method of supplementing short pastures. The silo here illustrated is the one used by A. D. Foster, of Prince Edward Co., Ont., for feeding in summer. Part of the cow stanchions, where the cows stand when being fed and milked may be seen to the left of the silo.—Photo by an editor of Farm and Dairy.

is expected to preserve ensilage season after season every year that it is used. In an improperly constructed silo, the loss in damaged ensilage year after year amounts to enough to pay for several good silos.

COMPARISON WITH CEMENT SILOS
In our experience with cement silos the ensilage around the walls is damaged to a greater or less degree, and does not contain the same feeding value as the ensilage in the middle; in this climate the amount of ensilage spoiled by freezing is an important consideration. Go into cement silos in winter and you will find a pick-axe or common ax handy, to chop out the frozen ensilage, which for feeding value is nearly worthless. Often this frozen ensilage will extend two or three feet from the sides of the silo. In our silo, we never have found a case where the ensilage could not be taken out with a fork, even where the silo has been left all winter without a roof.

Regarding the relative cost of an Ideal silo, as compared with the ce-

ment, we find that the Ideal even while producing the best results is the most reasonable in price, as a properly constructed cement silo with ingredients mixed in correct proportions, cost of labor, hauling gravel, etc., included, is not a cheap affair. We would cite the case of Church Bros., of Picton, in this connection, who built a 10x35 cement silo at a cost of \$600.00 or Mr. J. M. Branscombe of Bloomfield, who put up a 12x35 ft. cement silo at a cost of \$205 without counting drawing, gravel or hauling men who erected it. It takes from two to three weeks to erect a concrete silo whereas the Ideal can be erected in a day or two.

Canadian Alfalfa in England

The journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England for 1910 contains the final report of an interesting experiment conducted at the Woburn Experiment Station in the testing of varieties of alfalfa grown from seed of French (Provence), American and Canadian origins. The test was begun in 1905, and in 1910, the fifth and final year, the report says: "The plots were all dug up in preparation for a more extended experiment with lucerne, the Provence and American varieties having, to all purposes, come to an end, though the Canadian variety would have continued to yield a crop for some years more."

In every year, the yield of the Canadian variety was markedly higher than that of either of the others, the excess over its nearest competitor, the American, being five tons, ten cwt. in 1909 and seven tons, six cwt. in 1910.

Three varieties from the Argentine were also tested but failed completely, being attacked by a fungus from which the earlier-sown plots were free.

The luxuriant growth of the Canadian sort kept down the weeds effectively, while the lighter yield on the other plots resulted in their being overrun with them. The name of the Canadian seed originally used in this experiment is not known, but the test is being renewed this year with Canadian seed of known origin, in comparison with varieties obtained from Turkish, Provence and other countries.

Pointers on Cultivating Corn*

J. H. Grisdale, Dir. Dom. Exp. Farms

Corn after it is up from two to eight inches, may be harrowed and if we have had a cold rain or some unfavorable conditions, it is well to harrow it even after it gets to this height. The chances are the harrow won't tear out much of the corn. The slanting tooth harrow might be useful at that stage, but it is just as well to use the straight tooth harrow. The slanting tooth puts the face of the harrow too close to the ground and the bars sometimes do damage. If we use a straight tooth harrow, it is only once in a while that it will hit a plant.

After we have harrowed, we get our cultivator going as soon as we can, especially if it is dry weather. The more frequently we cultivate in dry weather, the greater are our chances of success. In Eastern Canada, we think we are in a zone where there is never any trouble about moisture, but I venture to say there is not a farmer in this room to-day who has not had some difficulty every year and would like to have a little more rain, especially when forage crops are grown. We can make rain to a certain extent by proper cultivation and that is one of the principal reasons for this intensive cultivation. It is the best provision against lack of rain that one can have.

*Extract from an address before the E. O. D. A. Convention at Perth.

If we knew that we could give our corn fields half an inch or one inch of rain whenever we took the notion, then it would not be necessary to work our land so much, but we do not know anything about that. Therefore, we must get our rain ready; get the moisture ready and make provision against a drought by cultivation and keep it up right through the summer. We must provide against droughts from the middle of May to the last day of August and after that the corn can look after itself.

When we are harrowing corn land, after it is sown, we do not go very deep, just let the harrow track over lightly. When we start to cultivate between the rows, we can put on a little power, because the soil is not occupied by the roots and no harm is being done. As the season becomes further advanced we should cultivate a little shallower.

Alfalfa is Just Great Horse Feed

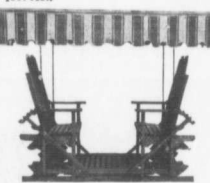
We hear much of what a splendid feed alfalfa hay makes for feeding dairy cows. Occasionally we hear of it being fed to horses. Mr. W. O. Morse, of Hallow Co., Ont., recently told an editor of Farm and Dairy that he finds it such a splendid feed for his horses that little is left for his other stock. Mr. Morse's driving horses this past winter received very little else than alfalfa hay. When seen by our representative, they were in splendid condition. "See here," said Mr. Morse, laying his hand on the side of one of his horses, "There are no bones showing. And when you drive them you do not need to use the whip either."

When working the horses Mr. Morse feeds a grain ration in addition to the alfalfa.

Enclosed is \$1.00 for my renewal to Farm and Dairy. Accept my congratulations. Farm and Dairy is improving every issue.—F. R. Oliver, York County, Ont.

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