

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.  
Miscellaneous.

SOWING FERTILIZER—OIL  
CAKE.

1. Is it necessary to have a seed-drill built on purpose for sowing fertilizer with grain before you can use fertilizer successfully on land?  
2. Does oil cake increase the butter-fat in milk, or does it tend to fatten when fed to milking cows?

G. and H. F.

Ans.—1. A drill is not necessary to apply fertilizer, as you may broadcast successfully by hand.

2. Oil cake does not increase the percentage of butter-fat in milk, except in so far as any change of feed is liable to have this effect for a short period. It should, and usually does, increase the flow of milk. It is high-protein feed. When fed to cattle other than milch cows, it tends to make growth, flesh, and fat.

ALFALFA IN PARRY SOUND.

Kindly advise me if alfalfa could be grown successfully and profitably in this district of Parry Sound. My farm is a clay loam, with a hard-pan clay sub-soil. How should the land be prepared, and how should the seed be sown—with or without a nurse crop? If with a nurse crop, what would you advise to sow with it? How should it be treated after nurse crop is cut, and when should it be pastured? How much seed should be sown per acre?

T. L. K.

Ans.—With all our enthusiasm for alfalfa, we could not go further than advise a cautious trial under Parry Sound conditions. Choose, if you have it, a hard-clay hillside that has been well enriched by previous manuring. If it had potatoes or other hoe crop on it, so much the better. Make sure the land is well worked, rich, and perfectly clean. Then sow 20 pounds of Canadian-grown or European alfalfa seed to the acre, harrow or disk in well, and wait for results. If you can get some of the Canadian variegated alfalfa seed which Prof. Zavitz, of the Ontario Agricultural College, has been exploiting, try that. It is very hardy; so is the Grimm alfalfa, originated in Minnesota. Do not sow a nurse crop. If necessary to clip at all, be sure to do so early enough that a big top of twelve inches or more in length, may be produced before winter.

GROUND HOGS.

Have a field badly infested with ground hogs. Would you kindly advise the best method to exterminate them?

W. J. P.

Ans.—Poisoning, by placing in the burrows cloths dipped in carbon bisulphide, an inflammable, poisonous liquid, which volatilizes readily, forming a vapor which is heavier than the air, and hence sinks to the bottom of the burrow, killing the ground hogs, is a remedy which has been often recommended in these columns, and is effective. This liquid can be purchased at any druggists, at about five cents an ounce—cheaper in large quantities—and an ounce is quite sufficient for one hole or nest. Spot out the holes which you know to be habited, and then, about sundown, with bottle and bits of old woollen rags or waste of any kind, go the round and doctor each one. Roll up a little piece of rag about the size of a hen's egg, not too tight, and saturate this from the bottle, pouring on until the rag has all it will hold. Then reach down the hole as far as you can and deposit it there, after which cover up the entrance with sods or loose earth, and tramp solid, being careful not to allow the earth to roll down and cover up the rag, else this might stop the volatilization of the liquid into the deadly gas which suffocates the animal. This gas is heavier than air, so penetrates to the bottom of the hole and kills all living things. Covering the hole is probably unnecessary, as the gas, being heavier than air, would go down and exclude the air; but when you cover the end of the hole, or holes, as the case may be, you can see, if you go back, whether the ground hog has dug out or not. If not so, in a day or two, you may conclude he has been despatched. A good fox barrier will kill a great many ground hogs.

CALGARY  
HAMILTON  
WINNIPEG  
MONTREAL

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# McClary's

ST. JOHN, N. B.  
VANCOUVER  
TORONTO  
LONDON

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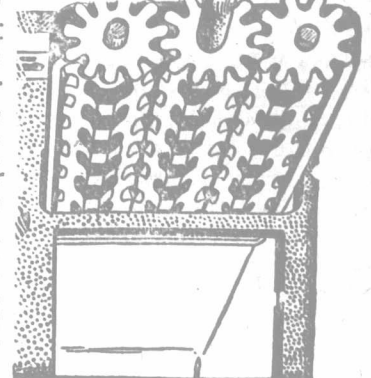


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A. WATSON & SONS, R. R. No. 1, St. Thomas, Ont. L.-D. 'phone from Fingal.

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