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MANURE WASTE COSTLY

Losses Run Into Millions of Dollars Annually.

Waste Begins In the Stable—Manure Should Be Put on the Land Early —Chemical Value of Barnyard Manure — Wood for Fuel In Terms of Coal.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

On many farms animal manures accumulate about the buildings and are permitted to waste. The average farmer appreciates the value of the farmer appreciates the value of the farm manures, but he dislikes the task of giving these materials the attention that their value in keeping up soil fertility warrants. The handling of animal manures is not a pleasant task at any time, but the following of a proper system would reduce the disagreeableness of the work and at the same time prevent waste. The average farmer of Outsrie. waste. The average farmer of Ontario wastes the fertility value of the ma-nure by at least one-third just through neglect in management. Loss Runs Into Millions of Dollars. With the ordinary one hundred

acre farm producing two hundred tons of manure each year, and valu-ing this at \$2.50 per load, then figuring on one-third waste through neglect, we have an annual loss in neglect, we have an annual loss in soil fertility through failure to return all value to the lands of Ontario that aggregates many millions of dollars. We owe to the soils of our farms all the fertility that it is possible to return to them. The manure waste of the past fifty years on the farms of Ontario would aggregate a colossal sum. This waste will be appreciated more by the future tillers of the soil than by those who have permitted the waste. When there is an abundance, wastes are not noticed, but when soils fail to produce abundantly some attention is given to those factors that will maintain or increase soil fertility. The Waste Begins In the Stable.

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Waste of manure usually begins in the stable, leaky gutters, or no absorbing material to hold the liquid portion of the manure. From the stable it is thrown out, sometimes piled but more frequently not, and left exposed to the weather to lie around for months. Manure incorporated with the soil as soon as made sustains the minimum loss. It is impossible of course to incorporate manure with the soil during the winter, but frequent opportunities occur when manure may be applied to the land. Accumulations during the periods when it is difficult to team the manure on to the land occur in the spring and autumn. These accumulations are best taken care of within the shelter of a manure shed, or if such is not available, then by piling in such a way as to réduce waste to a minimum.

Get Manure on the Land Early. The Waste Begins In the Stable.

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Get Manure on the Land Early.

The most successful of our farmers aim to get the manure on the land as soon as possible. When conable to the application of manure they take care of this by-product by first providing sufficient absorbent material to hold all the liquids, piling the manure in a manure shed, keeping it sufficiently moist and firm enough to prevent heating until it is desired to apply it to the land. Many of the Old Country farmers store the manure in water tight pits, pack it by tramping sufficiently tight to exclude all the air possible, and then turn on the hose as frequently as necessary to prevent heating. The same system would do as much for the Ontario farmer as it is doing for the Scotch farmer.

The Chemical Value of Manure.

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The Chemical Value of Manure.

If we had to buy manures at prices equal to the retail commercial fertilizer prices better care would be taken of this soil fertility material. Few farmers realize that the manure from a horse weighing 1,000 pounds is worth at chemical fertilizer prices \$42.15 per annum. A dairy cow weighing 1,000 pounds will produce manure to a value of \$39 per annum. A farm carrying four horses, ten cows and ten pigs of average weight produces, if valued at retail prices for commercial fertilizers, \$640 worth of manure in a year. The unfortunate part of it is that from \$100 to \$300 worth of soil fertility elements are permitted to waste on too many farms each year. The next time you travel by auto or railroad just take note while passing farm barns how much waste is going on through the careless handling or no attention being given to the animal manure.—L. Stevenson, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Toronto.

Every farm and country home should feed itself, and to do this it is necessary for each family to grow garden vegetables and small fruits.

All corn cribs and grain bins should be carefully inspected to see that they are rat and mouse proof. A concrete foundation for storage buildings is advisable whenever it is practicable.

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