FARM AND DAIRY

Milks Forty Cows with Machine

H. Atkinson, Frontenac Co., Ont. We installed our mechanical milker in July of last year and find that it is the greatest labor saving machine on the farm. It can be used for 12 months of the year, while other farm machinery is not used for much more than one month.

Since we have used the mechanical milker we have not had one case of teat or udder trouble, and no decrease whatever in the amount of milk.

During the harvest, my wife and I, both well up in years, milked our herd of 40 cows every evening. We milked and separated in about two hours.

The cost of installing a three-unit machine would be about \$600. Of course the cost of installing depends much on the distance the power house is from the barn. We use a two and a half horse power gasoline engine. It has power enough to run the milker and a No. 9 tubular separator at the same time.

Hardy Alfalfa

T. G. Raynor, Seed Division, Ottawa

Last summer I saw a first class demonstration of the difference in the hardiness of alfalfa plants where the seed had come from entirely different sources. A farmer had gone to a local store keeper and had asked him for a barrel of alfalfa seed. He told him it wasn't a question of price with him. What he wanted was good seed. The store keeper had no seed on hand, but said he would send and get some for him, which he did. It was sown on a good piece of clay loam soil, somewhat rolling in nature; but the bushel lacked in sowing the four acre strip by about onehalf an acre. This the farmer sowed with some local grown seed he was able to get from a neighbor, and which proved to be of Ontario variegated origin. In finishing the seeding he sowed one width of the drill down along one side of the whole piece, which was out in the middle of the

Evidently the bushel of seed was of foreign origin and was full of sweet clover seed. Last spring, a year from the seeding time there were only here and there patches of alfalfa, mostly on the clay knowls, and on one side hill there was possibly a quarter of an acre or so on which the second growth was coming very well. It had practically all been winter killed. There seemed to have been enough sweet clover seed for a plant every six square inches over the field, and which had come on so thick in the spring as to have fooled the farmer into thinking he had a splendid crop of alfalfa in prospect. Imagine his surprise and chagrin when it blossomed and showed itself to be sweet clover.

CANADIAN VARIEGATED & SUCCESS

While this occurred on the one part on the other part seeded with the Ontario Variegated he cut at the rate of two tons of alfalfa an acre in which there wasn't a plant of the sweet clover, Even the width of the drill down the centre of the field stood in with the exception of two or three low spots.

Fortunately the season proved a favorable one for killing the sweet clover, as he looked upon it as a weed on his farm. He cut the sweet clover with a mower before any seed had formed, and when it had dried out well he burnt it on the stubble in the dry time in June. It seemed to have finished every stem of the sweet clover, but the alfalfa that was living was coming on well.

One bright spot in this farmer's alfalfa troubles is that his soil will be thoroughly inoculated for future alfalfa growing. Doubtless he has learned too, and in the most practical way possible, that the Ontario Variegated alfalfa strain is suited to his farm at least, and is a safer strain

to try than much of the seed that is put on the market. Sweet clover may have its place, and I believe it has, but not where alfalfa can be grown

Pointers on Shoeing

By F. S. Key-Smith A word about shoeing. Every horseman should learn something about how his horse should be shod. Too many leave this all-important matter entirely to the farrier. This is a mistake. The best workmen become careless at times, and a consciousness that their work is never scrutinized is not calculated to improve matters. Besides there will come times when the services of a thoroughly competent and careful workman cannot



The Author of "Farm Chats"

The Author of "Farm Chais" Herewith we present to Qure Folks an exection like like fiber of the second second second second second Chais," are sea appearing under the head "Farm Chais," are seare seare Mr. Hit by Farm and Dairy readerse For many seare Mr. Hit by Farm and Dairy readerse For many seare Mr. Hit by Farm and Dairy readerse For many seare Mr. Hit by Farm and Dairy interest in a seare Mr. Hit by Farm and Dairy here for many seare Mr. Hit by Farm and Dairy here for many seare Mr. Hit by Farm and Dairy here for the first seare Mr. Hit by Farm and Dairy here for the first seare Mr. Hit by Farm and Dairy here for the seare for the search of the search here first search of the search of the search of the lives Hit search of the community in which here quest contributor to Farm and Dairy methods.

be had. At such times the owner who has sufficient knowledge to oversee the work being properly done may save himself the loss of a valuable animal.

THE HOOF EASILY INJURED

Proper shoeing is very important. The hoof is not merely a horny, not to be injured, substance as many suppose. It is porous and contains myriads of small canals running perpendicularly, through which flows blood and run nerves which nature provides for its nourishment and protection. A nail driven improperly may close or even destroy one or more of these canals, depriving the hoof of nourishment and work irreparable injury. Other dangers to be guarded against are improper fitting. Never should a horse's foot he rasped to fit the shoe. Calks, were necessary, should be carefully supervised, as nothing is likely to strain a tendon quicker than a shoe improperly calked.

Perhaps the commonest danger is too great a tendency to rasp and cut the hoof. This must be curbed. There is no occasion ever to rasp the hoof further than necessary to file its ragged edges or the clinched ends of the nails. Neither is it necessary to cut the frog or bars. These are nature's shock absorbers and cannot be improved upan

March 12, 1914.

Home Growing of Root Seed

B. H. C. Blanchard, Wellington Co., Ont. The growing of our turnip and mangel seed is one thing that Canadian farmers have been quite content to let some one else do. Seed grain, hay seed and clover seed we believe in producing ourselves, but root seed-oh, well, we only use a little, a dollar's worth will plant a whole acre, so why bother with it?

That we are paying for our indifference is becoming apparent as the results of experiments at our agricultural colleges show. At Guelph, Macdonald College and Truro, home grown has given heavier yields of roots than imported seed. Some have even thought that we couldn't grow root seed, but that fallacy is easily exploded.

Down in the County of Yarmouth, at the southern extremity of Nova Scotia, farmers have been growing their own turnip seed for over 30 years. Thirty-five years ago a Scotchman brought with him from his home land, one pound of turnip seed. This seed gave such fine results that some of the roots were saved and planted. The seed from these did equally well. The turnips seemed to grow faster than the old Lapland Swede (then called) that was most commonly grown.

START OF A GOOD VARIETY

The Scotch variety is of the round type and exceptionally smooth. Mr. Wm. Corning, whose brother introduced the seed, states, "We took great pains in the selection of the turnips when gathering the crop in the fall. When we found a nice large smooth one we set it aside with others for planting in the spring. I always followed this course myself, and my son still does the same. My own experience is that by so doing the standard has been steadily improved."

Other farmers in Mr. Corning's neighborhood, noting his success, have followed his example, and now a large proportion of the farmers of Yarmouth county are growing their own turnip seed. That the seed is of the very best quality is attested by no less an authority than P. A. Boving, root specialist at Macdonald College. Additional proof lies in the fact that ready sales have been made at double the price at which turnip seed is usually sold. The only reason that the seed has not become widely known is the lack of advertising.

QUALITY THROUGH SEED CENTRES

Under existing conditions it is probably as well that the seed has not been "boomed." There is little or no control of the selection made by the individual grower, and some might be tempted to forsake quality in favor of quantity. But the remedy for such a condition is in sight. The formation of a seed centre, as proposed by the Canadian Seed Growers' Association, would result in each grower being responsible to the Association for the quality of seed proposed by him. The standard would thus be maintained and at the same time the C. S. G. A. could guarantee the quality to purchasers of turnip seed.

The success that has been the lot of Yarmouth county farmers is just one instance of what can be done in this county in the home production of root seed.

The greater the number of people who leave the land, the nearer our race is coming to degeneracy .-- "Uncle John" Hyatt, Prince Edward Co., Ont.

I believe we should give the young breeder our best. Let the old breeder come into the stable and select his own, but give the young man a good start. It will mean dollars to you back again: Aim at the improvement of the breed. This is the aim to which older men come in the end .- Alex. Hume, Northumberland Co., Ont.

March 12, 1

Moisture

Moisture is on production. In instance, it is Through many is determined m timeliness durin d moisture' th factor. The m this year's cro

cumulated moi the soil from 1 tion of the sno and the spring The amount a rainfall are als There is only factors that is be controlled t the farmer; t moisture that or carried over fall.

Here are so sults of interes gations on the stration Farms fact that the r the soil from of the large fa year's crop. were made or monstration These determi considering a amount of m the subsoil is average of th equal of 191 These facts a found that w mojsture in secured the i contains but ceeding year through the abundant rai with the resu Department tural College The farme

tions in plan is especially a form of ro lation of soil maisture on considerable depth to whi ing approxin conditions o small amou chances show acreages of proportion o or planted the accumu years. In th member that have invaria and that the depend upo crops in sea

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James

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