

MUSTARD SPRAYING AT MACDONALD COLLEGE.

A visitor to the Macdonald College Farm at Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que., reports that the spraying experiment with copper sulphate for the destruction of wild mustard in a barley crop on the farm this spring, has fairly satisfactorily demonstrated the practicability and success of the treatment. The work was not done under the best conditions. The spraying ought to have been done two or three days earlier, before the mustard was in bloom, and before the barley had grown so high. The spray nozzles might better have been closer together and the pressure lower, but, with the machine used (which was designed primarily for spraying potatoes), the nozzles could not be brought nearer to each other than was done. On the other hand, the barley being only a nurse crop, it was permissible to apply more of the copper sulphate than usual, 11 or 12 pounds being used to the acre instead of the usual 8 pounds. The barley was browned somewhat by the chemical, but looks all right now. Under these conditions, fully eighty per cent. of the mustard plants were killed, and the remainder have since been pulled by hand. Had the spraying been done a few days earlier, and at the lower pressure, it is believed that practically every mustard plant up would have been killed.

The reason that the spraying has to be repeated so many years is that the mustard seeds, when deeply covered, will remain in the ground for years without germinating, and as the ground is worked year after year, new seeds are brought to the surface and germinated.

In connection with mustard, a story is told which may be new to some "Farmer's Advocate" readers. It is said that when, a few years ago, the farmers came on their June excursions to the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, President Mills use to give them their lunch in the gymnasium, and then station the College staff at the doors to keep them in until he had given them a half-hour lecture. And one of the main points of the lecture was an exhortation to fight the pestiferous mustard plant. As he repeated the lecture to deputation after deputation, he became warmer and warmer upon this subject, and finally, after describing the inroads the plant was making upon formerly clean farms, he would burst out with, "For God's sake, gentlemen, take off your coats and pull out that mustard!" One day Mrs. Mills came down to hear her husband talk, and, after the farmers had departed, remonstrated with the Doctor upon the violence of his language. "I am afraid, James," she said, "you will shock and offend some of those good people." James promised to be more careful, and the next day, when in the course of his talk he reached the subject of mustard, after, as usual, expressing his regret and indignation at the progress the weed was allowed to make, he proceeded: "Now, I am not going to talk to you as I have to previous deputations. Mrs. Mills has told me my language has been too strong, and likely to give offence. So you are to be spared what your predecessors have suffered, but—for God's sake, gentlemen, get off your coats and pull that mustard."

THE DAIRY.

ESSENTIALS FOR SUPPLYING GOOD MILK.

The following important points are effectively presented in a circular distributed by the Western Dairy-men's Association:

Clean milk, no dust, dirt, or bad odors, and cool milk, secured by ice or cold water, insures good cheese and butter. More money for the farmer and manufacturer, and a permanent industry.

Clean milk implies well-cared-for cows, milked by careful and clean milkers.

Boil cloth strainers after they have been thoroughly washed.

Utensils should have all crevices filled with solder. Rusty cans and pails cannot be kept clean.

Cool your milk, and do it quickly.

Stir the milk while cooling.

Bad odors and flavors are often caused by unsuitable foods or poor water.

Use a brush for washing dairy utensils.

Co-operate with your instructor, maker and proprietor of factory in improving the quality and increasing output of cheese.

NEVER TOO LATE.

It is never too late to commence keeping individual milk records, so long as you have a herd of cows. Never too late, and for that matter never too soon. Write to J. H. Grisdale, Agriculturist, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Ont., for blank ruled forms for recording the weight of milk.

E. Bjorkeland, Mgr. Stoneycroft Stock Farm, Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que., says: Personally, I have kept milk records for 25 years, from the time I learned farming in Denmark. They are simply indispensable in the improvement of the dairy herd.

PUT A DETECTIVE ON THE POOR COWS.

Two comparisons of milk and fat yield in the cow-testing associations organized by the Branch of the Dominion Dairy and Cold-storage Commissioner, are of peculiar interest. In the Coaticook, Que., association June test, 128 cows gave a total yield of 3,412 pounds of butter-fat, but in the St. Prosper association, during the same period, 124 cows gave a total yield of 4,002 pounds of fat, or 590 pounds more. The average yield per cow at Coaticook was 26.6 pounds fat, and at St. Prosper, Que., 32.2 pounds of fat per cow, in 36 days.

Did you catch that point? In one association a lot of 124 cows yielded an additional 590 pounds of butter-fat over the total product of another lot of 128 cows in another association. This is equivalent to at least one hundred and forty dollars, representing the amount of hard cash that the 128 cows might easily have returned to their owners more than they did, and that just in 30 days. A simple word of advice that means thousands of dollars extra into the pockets of our farmers is just this: "Get rid of the poor cows, and feed the pretty good cows more liberally."

At Warsaw, Ont., 199 cows gave a total yield during the June test of 152,880 pounds of milk, but at North Oxford, Ont., the same weight of milk, within 45 pounds, was produced by 147 cows. In other words, 52 cows fewer need have been milked and cared for in the Warsaw Association to bring as much return. What a distinct saving of energy in this hot weather there might be if the general average production were better. The average yield increases quickly when the poor cows are disposed of. The poor cows can quickly be detected, just as soon as a record is kept of

DAIRY AND OTHER NOTES FROM P. E. ISLAND.

In this section of the Island we had a cold, dry June, but on July 3rd the welcome rain came, and we have had perfect growing weather ever since. Every few days we have a lovely warm rain, followed by heat, and one can fairly hear the crops growing. Some parts of Prince County are reporting to have a heavy crop of hay, and I hope such is the case, but I can safely say there are few, if any, heavy fields of hay for miles around this part of the Island. Many thought that the hay would be all right after the rain began to come, but it was too late to insure a full crop of hay, yet it has helped wonderfully what would otherwise have been the lightest crop inside of twenty years. The grain crop did not appear to suffer to any extent from the drouth, and now, since the heat with the warm rains has come just at the time the grain needed it, we can look with pleasure and satisfaction on what promises to be the best harvest we have had for many years.

Corn, potatoes and roots of all kinds have made an excellent start, and they, too, will likely yield a heavy crop. Last year hundreds of acres planted to potatoes missed, principally on account of the deluge of rain in the month of June, while this year not more than two hours' rain fell during the whole month. The outlook for the coming winter's feed is by no means discouraging. Hay will be a little scarce, of course, but if the farmers have plenty of grain to feed, with abundance of straw, and some hay, the stock will come out all right.

The greatest drawback to this Province is the long time we farmers have to feed our stock in the stables. We begin stabling them in October, and it is generally the middle of June before they

can get their living outside.

The pastures, although a little shorter than we would wish to see them, are fresh and sweet, and the cows are pulling out well, and our cheese and butter factories are doing a big business. Dairying in P. E. I. has come to stay, and farmers intend to stick to it until they get something better. Some still go in for raising beef, but they are getting fewer every year. Five cents live weight is a pretty good price for stall-fed beef, but few farmers can make it pay even at that price, and especially this spring, when hay was selling for \$20 per ton, oats at 50 cents, and potatoes reached 70-cent mark for one day, but a week later were sold for 20 cents. The dairy industry is increasing year by year, and yet the output of cheese and butter could easily be doubled, and it should be doubled. Many

Island farms are at present contributing little or nothing, and if we should take an average of the milk produced for every hundred acres under cultivation, it would be ridiculously low. We do not need to increase the number of cows in order to increase the supply of milk, but there is certainly need of more attention to the breeding, care and feeding of what we now have, and likewise the weeding, for there are hundreds of cows now kept on our farms which do not pay their board, and many of them would not do it even if they were well fed. Who are the men who are making money out of milk? It is the farmers who are not afraid to spend a little money in the purchase or the patronage of a pure-bred sire; while some, to this day, think if they can save half a dollar on the service fee by breeding to a scrub they are that much better off. Experience has taught many farmers that they can get scrubs enough by using the very best sire that can be had.

The pork industry has hardly kept pace with the dairy industry in this section, and I think there will be quite a shortage in pork this fall from that of a year ago. Yet the price is good, but there is none handling this warm weather.

The oats are looking splendid, growing very rank, and of a very rich-green color. This is partly due, I think, to the excellent condition of the land this spring, which worked up so well on account of so much frost last winter. Some of the early spring wheat is beginning to shoot; wheat will be a good crop. The potato bug and horn fly are still with us, but are not so bad as other years, and they don't need to be when Paris green has gone up to 35 cents per pound. Eggs have dropped to 14c; wool is 30c. per pound; potatoes



Golden Treasure.

Shorthorn yearling bull. First at Bath & West Show, 1907. Shown by His Majesty the King.

the production of each cow in the herd. Cow-testing associations are of immense benefit in this regard.

Some of the current records of the cow-testing associations under the charge of the Dairy and Cold-storage Commissioner, Ottawa, are:

Beaverton, Ont., 7th June—102 cows average 641 pounds milk, 3.5 test, 22.6 pounds fat. Highest yield, 1,045 pounds milk, testing 3.8.

Lorneville, Ont., 13th June—87 cows average 580 pounds milk, 3.5 test, 20.4 pounds fat. Best yield, 1,270 pounds milk, testing 4.6.

Bagotville, Que., 19th June—127 cows average 734 pounds milk, 3.7 test, 27.7 pounds fat. Best cow, 1,195 pounds milk, testing 4.0.

Chicoutimi, Que., 26th June—108 cows average 728 pounds milk, 4.0 test, 29.3 pounds fat. Best yield, 1,150 pounds milk, testing 4.3.

St. Armand, Que., 20th June—163 cows average 660 pounds milk, 4.0 test, 24.2 pounds fat. Best yield, 1,100 pounds milk, testing 4.1.

Warsaw, Ont., 20th June—199 cows average 768 pounds milk, 3.2 test, 25.1 pounds fat. Highest individual yield of milk, 1,250 pounds, testing 3.4, in the thirty days.

North Oxford, Ont., 21st June—199 cows average 1,039 pounds milk, 3.2 test, 33.9 pounds fat. Best yield, 1,665 pounds milk, testing 3.0.

A summary of the tests shows the average yield of 3,660 cows for the month of May to be 661 pounds milk, 3.5 test, 23.1 pounds fat. Of these cows, 1,663 in Ontario had an average for May of 764 pounds milk, 3.3 test, 25.4 pounds fat; while 1,963 cows in Quebec averaged 574 pounds milk, 3.7 test, and 21.2 pounds fat.

C. F. W.