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Questions and Answers.

1st—Questions asked by bona-fide subscribers to "The Farmer's Advocate" are answered in this department free.

2nd—Questions should be clearly stated and plainly written, on one side of the paper only, and must be accompanied by the full name and address of the writer.

3rd—In veterinary questions, the symptoms especially must be fully and clearly stated, otherwise satisfactory replies cannot be given.

4th—When a reply by mail is required to urgent veterinary or legal enquiries, \$1.00 must be enclosing.

Miscellaneous.

Cement and Gravel for Barn Wall.

Kindly let me know how many cords of gravel it would take to build a barn wall 34 x 71 feet, and nine feet, high, with five doors and ten windows of average size; also the number of barrels of cement it would take, mixed eight to one, wall to be twelve inches thick?

A READER.

Ans.—It is rather hard to suggest an average size for barn doors and windows, but those calculated on here are 3½ feet by 7 feet for doors, and 3 feet each way for windows. A wall of the dimensions listed in the query would require 12 cords of gravel and 48 barrels of cement. However, in a barn wall of this thickness it is sometimes advisable to use a filler, such as small stones, which should not come nearer than an inch or two to the surface of the wall. The amount of stone used would reduce the concrete proportionately.

Cherry Growing.

"The Cherry in Ontario," by E. F. Palmer, B.S.A., is the title of Bulletin No. 230, forty pages, well illustrated, which is being distributed without charge by the Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto, to those interested in this branch of fruit-growing.

The relationship between the sour and sweet varieties of cherries is thoroughly discussed, it being pointed out that the latter are much more tender in bud, and consequently are less generally grown, the number of sweet cherry trees being less than ten per cent. of the total. Fall planting of the young cherry trees is recommended, and at distances not less than 18 x 18 feet for sour, and 24 x 24 feet for sweet varieties. In the matter of pruning, low-headed trees with rather open centers are advocated. Low-lying, undrained land should be avoided in planting a cherry orchard, as the trees do not thrive with "wet feet."

Methods of picking, packing and marketing the fruit are fully described, with illustrations of the most desirable packages. The most suitable varieties to plant, cost of production, insect enemies, diseases, etc., are given in detail. Three leading cherry-growers also contribute articles based upon their individual experience, which is not the least valuable feature of the bulletin.

Apiary Demonstrations,
1915.

Great interest has been shown in the apiary demonstrations conducted throughout the Province under the direction of Morley Pettit, Provincial Apiarist. The attendance at the fifty-five meetings held during the season of 1914 averaged 34, while in 1912 the average was 25. Unexcelled opportunities are offered those present to have their difficulties in beekeeping explained, and the demonstrator, having the apiary and the equipment at his disposal, is able to illustrate his remarks to great advantage.

The meetings are held in the apiaries. Hives are opened and the working of the colony displayed. Attention is directed to the different kinds of cells, the various stages of the brood, the queen is pointed out, and suggestions made on the activities of the colony. Foul brood, swarming, wintering and re-queening are also discussed, and the time is very profitably spent, both for the beginner and the experienced beekeeper.

The use of models of a wintering case for wintering four colonies outdoors will be an interesting addition to the meetings to be held this season. Already arrangements are under way for two demonstrations in each county. The date and place of meeting will be announced in the papers, and on cards sent to the beekeepers. From present indications these meetings will be more widely attended and of greater value to the beekeepers than ever before.

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