

APRIL 27, 1911

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.
Miscellaneous.

ALFALFA AS PASTURE.

Does alfalfa make good pasture for (a) horses and spring colts; (b) cows or young calves; (c) pigs? L. E. E.

Ans.—It makes excellent pasture for all these classes of stock, though a certain degree of ordinary precaution should be observed to see that ruminants do not bloat when pastured upon it. The grazing of horses or sheep is hard on the stand. In fact, the pasturing of any class of stock is hard on it, unless the field is one particularly well adapted to the crop.

QUANTITY MATERIAL FOR
WALL.

How many cubic yards of gravel, and how many barrels of cement would it require to build a cellar wall the perimeter of which would be 150 feet, height 7 feet, by 12 inches thick, and 40 feet of cross-walls, 7 feet high by 10 inches thick? Stone fillers to be used in the construction. A SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—The amount of material required for above-mentioned walls, supposing that one-fourth of space would be occupied by stone fillers, would be about 41 cubic yards of gravel, and 35 barrels of cement, mixed 1 to 8.

DOCKING HACKNEYS.

Why do all cuts of Hackney horses show them docked? All I ever saw, unless half-bred, were docked. The docking will prevent me from ever owning a pure-bred one, if all pure-bred ones are docked. D. B. S.

Ans.—Docking is supposed to set off the appearance of a carriage-bred horse. Opinions may differ as to whether or not it does so, though most men would probably vote in the affirmative. For our part, we do not like the idea of removing a horse's fly protection. There is no reason why you could not raise pure-bred Hackneys without docking them, though you might find difficulty in making sales.

PROPAGATING SWEET BRIER.

Kindly give instructions for starting hedge of sweet brier. Will berries of last season grow, and by what treatment? AMATEUR.

Ans.—Probably the best way of starting a sweet-brier hedge is to grow from seed. There are difficulties in the way of securing germination of rose seeds, but they can be overcome, and, in the end, the plants are cheaply produced, and good. The seeds of sweet brier (*Rosa Rubiginosa*) should be gathered in autumn, and at once stratified with moist sand or allowed to ferment in tubs, with a little water, and kept in a fairly warm place. When well rotted, they can be easily rubbed and washed clean, and should be planted at once, either in carefully-prepared and well-manured beds, out of doors, or in flats in a cool greenhouse. Sweet brier seeds, planted out of doors in November, 1911, may be expected to germinate in the spring of 1913. Seed sown out of doors should be mulched with pine needles, or other litter, two inches deep. Frequent examinations should be made in spring, and the covering at once removed when the seedlings appear. If they do not appear, let the mulch remain to keep down weeds and retain moisture in the seedbed. Pans, or flats, in which seed has been planted, should be kept at least 18 months before discarding, with the soil always moist.

When started, the young seedlings make most satisfactory growth, and can generally be transplanted into nursery rows when one year old. When two years old, they are fit for permanent planting. Other varieties of roses, such as *R. capina*, *R. multiflora*, *R. ferruginea* and *R. rugosa*, may also be reproduced economically from seeds.

R. W. Walker, Utica, Ont., near Port Perry, G. T. R., and Myrtle, C. P. R., breeder of Shorthorn cattle, in ordering a change in his advertisement, writes: "I have sold the two cows named in my last advertisement." A few very choice bull calves, from heavy-milking and high-testing dams, are offered in the new advertisement.

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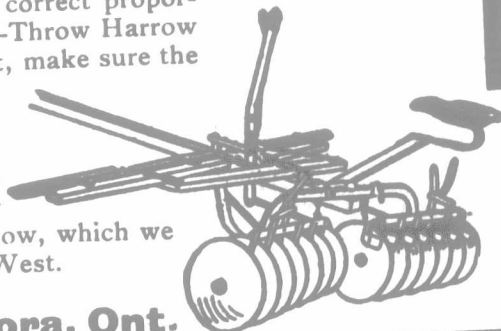
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