

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ERADICATING WEEDS.

To the Editor of FARMING:

Will you kindly give directions for eradicating ox-eye daisy and purslane; also what is the best material to use on tile joints that are being laid between rows of apple trees where the soil contains small rootlets. I cannot purchase collars and have been advised to use tea lead.

D. H. LEAVENS.

Belleville, Ont., Feb. 24, 1899.

Answered by Wm. Rennie, Farm Superintendent Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

To eradicate ox-eye daisy and other weeds, plow shallow in the month of August and harrow the land thoroughly and at intervals during the fall cultivate the land as the weeds appear, harrowing after each cultivating. Use a cultivator with wide joints that will over-lap sufficiently to cut off every weed.

To prevent rootlets of trees getting into the tiles and choking the drains, cover the joints with cement. Mix in the proportion of one of cement to six of coarse sand.

GRASS ON LOW LANDS: A POULTRY HOUSE.

To the Editor of FARMING:

I have a large block building of which I intend to make the lower part into a hog-pen. Would it be advisable to make the upper part into a hen-house?

What would be the best kind of grass seed to sow on low lands? If you cannot give me the information, probably some one can through the columns of your paper.

Yours, etc.,

HARMON SHAVER.

Morewood, Feb. 22nd, 1899.

Answered by Dr. Fletcher, Entomologist, Central Experimental Station, Ottawa

In reply to the question by Mr. Harmon Shaver as to what would be the best kind of seed to sow on low lands, I would suggest the following: If this land is not too wet for timothy, I would sow timothy 10 pounds, red top 2 pounds, and alsike clover 4 pounds. If too wet for timothy the only grasses which could be grown satisfactorily would be red top at the rate of 10 pounds to the acre, with 4 pounds of alsike. There are two native grasses of which, however, unfortunately, the seed cannot be bought, which ought to be known and much more widely-cultivated by Canadian farmers who have low, wet lands. These are (1) the canary reed grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), a tall, rather coarse, but very succulent grass, with wide leaves, which may frequently be found growing in swampy places, in brooks, and on river banks in nearly every part of Canada. This grass springs up vigorously early in the spring, giving a heavy crop of green, leafy stems, which in the experimental

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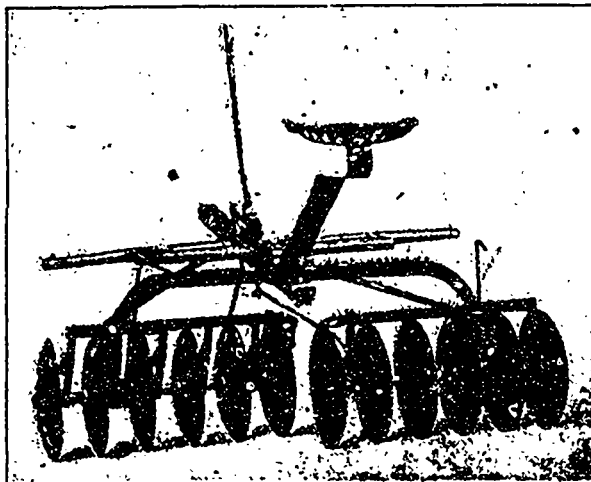
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