

Seasonable Pointers For Farmers

Taking Care of Chicks While On the Range

Largest Mortality Occurs in Brooder Stage, But Subsequent Care Important—Shade Is Essential During Warm Weather.

The care of the chicks while in the brooder stage is most important, for at that time the largest mortality occurs, yet the subsequent care of the chicks stage has very much to do with the success or failure of the birds later.

Plenty of Heat.
Do not cut down the heat too soon until the chicks are well feathered, and even after that, if the weather is cold and changeable they will require a certain amount of heat, whether they are raised naturally or artificially.

The hen will probably leave the chicks to themselves by the time they are feathered, sometimes even before, and it is well to have the chicks housed in a fairly comfortable coop or colony house, so that when the hen leaves them they will be quite comfortable and can get along without her.

Artificially Raised Chicks.
The same care as to heat and comfortable rearing quarters should be given to the chicks that are hatched and raised artificially and sometimes even more care is necessary. The removal of the heat, when nights are still cold, often results in the chicks becoming chilled, crowding into a corner and a number of them being smothered. Those that survive are more or less stunted because of the chill.

It is never advisable to rear chickens in the same yards or upon the same soil that the old hens have used. Give them new soil that is sweet and free from disease germs. Such a place as a cultivated orchard, potato patch, root or corn field, or, in fact, any place where there is a growing crop of such a nature that they cannot destroy it will be an ideal spot for the chicks.

During the warmer months shade is very important. This can be provided by the growing crop, orchard shrubs or even the raising of the house and in some cases, along with this, artificial shade made from boughs or cotton screens is an advantage.

Feeding.
The feeding of a flock of chicks during the growing season should not be laborious. Though plenty of feed is required it may be given in such a way that the minimum amount of labor is entailed. For this purpose, hopper feeding is very much to be recommended. A home-made hopper, in which mixed grains and mash, can be placed and to which the chicks can have access at all times, insures plenty of feed for the chicks with very little labor on the part of the attendant. If the chicks are late, and it is necessary to hurry them in order to get their growth in line with the time for the fall, a moist mash fed once a day will help

them, and milk before them at all times is a decided advantage.

In feeding and caring for the growing chicks it should be borne in mind that the chief aim is to have matured pullets so that they will commence to lay before the winter season comes on. The feeder should keep this in mind and feed the birds accordingly. Early chicks may be fed so that they will mature too

early for best all-round production, and though this is an exception, still it is well to keep in mind that the pullet that starts laying the latter part of October or the first of November is usually the pullet that gives the best yearly production and certainly yields a better revenue than the pullet that does not start laying until after the season of high prices for eggs is over. C. E. Ford, Dominion Poultry Husbandman.

Using the Cultivator To Secure Good Crops

Surface Tillage by Shallow Cultivation Is Best in Area Occupied by Growing Plants—Field of Potatoes Increased by Proper Methods.

The cultivation of crops requires reasonable care. There is seldom gain from deep cultivation after the crop has been planted. Such cultivation is necessary in preparing the soil for all hood crops, but if not done then later cultivation will not make up for the neglect. Summer cultivation should be shallow, sufficient to destroy weeds and produce a fine surface mulch one to two inches deep.

It may be possible and is then advisable, to narrow the cultivator and cultivate deeply the space between the rows not occupied by growing roots. It should be remembered, however, that these roots penetrate the soil towards the center of the row very rapidly and frequent observations are necessary to determine whether the feeding roots are being disturbed or destroyed by cultivation, as so very often happens. The soil should be turned over in order to get their growth in line with the time for the fall, a moist mash fed once a day will help

the most plant food is being liberated, as a result of which roots will be found in this soil area in greater abundance than anywhere else.

Depth Pruning.
Although there seems to be no good reason for using care in selection of soil, the practice remains to be seen, but that it will be considerably less than last year is a certainty. In regard to potatoes, replanting will have to be done in many cases, as for tomatoes, practically the whole of the early plants were completely ruined. This is of course, a serious loss, but on the other hand, the smaller quantity of bush fruits available.

In regard to apples, the question is not so serious, for there is not the least doubt that last year's crop in Ontario

Frosts Have Affected Fruits and Vegetables

Local Growers Maintain That the Yield of Small Fruits Will Be Cut in Two—Cabbage & Root Maggot Also Causing Apprehension in Some Quarters

As the pessimists foretold, the early advent of warm weather and spring-like conditions has not yet been to the advantage of the vegetable and fruit crops in this part of the country. The frosts of the first few days of the week have had a disastrous effect on tomato and other vegetable plants, which the genial weather had tempted to start growing to set out earlier than usual. Potatoes have received quite a setback, while beans, asparagus and other small vegetables have suffered to a large extent.

But perhaps it is to the fruit-growers that the frost following the mild conditions has caused the most serious consequences, and from local indications it is expected that the berry crop will be cut in half by the recent frosts.

One local grower declares that on strawberries alone his loss will be in the neighborhood of \$1,500. Plums, early cherries, grapes and apples are also seriously affected, owing to the fact that the inclement conditions caught them at a most critical stage. How far the foregoing circumstances will affect the aggregate fruit and vegetable yield this season remains to be seen, but that it will be considerably less than last year is a certainty.

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was much larger than could be handled with profit. One aspect of the case is the matter of containers. The price of these has been steadily mounting for the past few years, and has become a serious problem with the fruit farmer, and doubtless, in anticipation of an average yield, the manufacturers have made fairly extensive preparations, but if the circumstances that the crop has been practically cut in half by the recent frosts have a tendency to create an increased demand for barrels and baskets, and a consequent lowering of the price, it may to a certain extent act as an offset to the smaller returns of the growers.

But not through cold alone is the weather which has lately prevailed likely to influence the return to the vegetable growers this year. The continuous spell of dry weather has encouraged the attacks of the cabbage root maggot and other insect pests, which have arrived at the destructive stage earlier than usual owing to the summer-like conditions of a few weeks ago. These maggots also attack radishes and other roots, and unless rain comes soon their depredations will continue.

Prof. Present, of the vegetable specialists' section of the Ontario department of agriculture, was in London last week and has been going around the district, with the object of reporting on how far the ravages of these pests will affect the crop. Mr. Present had also been investigating how far the weather conditions have favored the onion grub, which is another pest that has been very much increased in its numbers by means of an ideal one for the fruit and vegetable farmer, and it is to be hoped that conditions will improve as the season advances.

Trade in Dairy Products Between U. S. and Canada

United States Sent Out More Butter and Cheese Than Was Brought In—Canada Imported More Cheese Than Was Exported.

In 1919 the United States reached its peak in the export of butter, the amount going abroad that year being 33,739,969 pounds, of which 20,575,760 pounds came to Canada. In 1917 our neighbors exported 66,956,012 pounds of cheese, that year being their busiest in that commodity. Of this amount 460,089 pounds came to Canada. Our best export year in these products was 1920, where the quantity of butter imported by the United States, we supplied 10,692,311 pounds, and of 15,993,725 pounds of cheese imported by that country, we furnished 6,921,401 pounds. Last year was very exceptional for, in the first twenty years of the century our imports from the United States of butter amounted in all to 12,554,553 pounds and our exports to 5,384,981 pounds, and of cheese to 12,607,143 pounds in imports and 4,961,915 pounds in exports.

Interesting Comparisons.
Reverting to the year the world war broke out, namely 1914, we find that the United States imported 7,600,699 pounds of butter, of which we only supplied 500,623 pounds, and 55,477,041 pounds of cheese, of which 1,346,128 pounds came from this country, or less than one-fortieth. Taking the years 1910 to 1918, official figures issued both from Ottawa and Washington show that Canada imported practically 60 per cent more butter from the United States than she sent to that country. The greatest disparity, however, was in cheese, as in those years we imported from the United States no less than 10,314,524 pounds,

while we only supplied to that country 2,743,653 pounds. In the last six years the United States has exported 245,196,425 pounds of cheese against 21,570,257 pounds in the previous six years and imported 108,655,646 pounds against 287,205,591 pounds. In the same period, that is in the last six years, Canada exported to the United States 6,724,939 pounds of cheese and imported from there 3,124,493 pounds, and in the previous six years exported to the United States 2,372,447 pounds and imported from that country 2,335,905 pounds. Thus in each case we imported more than we exported. Of butter in the last half dozen years Canada exported to the United States 16,277,598 pounds, and imported from that country 7,136,639 pounds. In the previous six years we exported to the United States 2,734,490 pounds and imported from there 3,121,412 pounds.

United States Trade.
That the trade of the United States in dairy products exceeds greatly in exports is proven by the fact that for the last four years the average value in exports has been \$97,111,557, while the imports from all countries have only averaged \$15,902,570, or less than one-sixth. The manufacture of condensed milk increased enormously in the United States during the war. The demand having since fallen off, it is evident that there must either be a lessening in the production of milk or the surplus must be used for the making of butter and cheese—Dominion Department of Agriculture, May 11, 1921.

may also be perforated. The dead larva or pupa will be stretched out along the lower wall of the cell. It will be dark brown in color and strikingly viscid, so that if a splint of wood is thrust into the dead larva, and then slowly withdrawn, the decaying mass will rope out in a fine thread to one or more inches in length. The dead larva dries up and forms a dark colored scale extending along the lower wall of the cell. These scales are difficult to remove without breaking the cell wall. A disagreeable odor is always present with the disease.

European Foul Brood.
European foul brood may be recognized by the fact that the larva usually dies before it is capped over. Affected larvae change from white to light yellow in color and assume unnatural positions in the cell. Later the color changes to grey or brown and the larvae sink down and form a greyish-looking mass in the bottom of the cell. Some of the larvae retain the curled up position and gradually dry up and form greyish-brown scales that have a segmented appearance. In some cases a slight viscidness may be present, but the dead mass does not stretch out as in American foul brood. The threads are lumpy and rubber-like in consistency. Scales formed by the dead larvae drying up are easily removed from the cells, therefore very few scales may be present. A putrefactive odor is sometimes present.

Larvae dead of sacbrood will be found in both capped and uncapped cells. The position of the larvae will be lengthwise in the cells, with the anterior end turned towards the upper wall of the cell. The color may vary from light brown to almost black. After death the body wall becomes toughened, so that the larvae may be easily removed intact.

BROOD DISEASE BAD FOR BEES

Recognition of American and European Foul Brood First Step in Control.

[Experimental Farms Note.] Identification is the first step in the control and eradication of the brood diseases of bees. A wrong diagnosis, especially where American foul brood is concerned, may result in spreading instead of controlling the disease.

There are three diseases affecting the brood of bees and usually the main characters are sufficient to determine which disease is present. To be able to detect any unnatural condition in the brood, it is necessary to know the appearance of healthy brood.

The healthy larva, up to the time it is capped over, lies curled up in the base of the cell and is of a shining, pearly white color. As soon as it is capped over it assumes a lengthwise position in the cell preparatory to transformation to pupa. Cappings over healthy brood are uniform in convexity and color, the latter, however, may vary from yellow to dark brown, according to the age of the comb.

American Foul Brood.
Brood affected with American foul brood usually dies after it is sealed over. The cappings covering dead brood are darker and more concave than those covering healthy brood. These cappings

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After removal from the cell the dead larva looks like a small closed sac. The scales are black in color and are easily removed by the bees; therefore, scales may not be present. There is no ropiness or odor with sacbrood.—C. B. Gooderham, Apiarist.

WILL MAKE A REPORT.

Kincardine, May 20.—N. V. De Laporte.

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MACKENZIE RIVER OIL LIMITED

For years Geologists have reported the unmistakable indications of a great wealth of oil in the Mackenzie River basin. The Oil, according to geologists, is oozing from fissures in the cliffs, seeping through the ground, and standing in pools. Near Fort Norman the oil structure extends for 40 miles on one side and 60 miles on the other side of the river. The oil is reported to be the highest grade crude ever found in the world, testing 38 Gravity Baume, rich in light products. It is stated that it can be piped in a temperature of 70 degrees below zero.

Just before the close of navigation, and too late for further development work in 1920, the Imperial Oil Company brought in a well estimated at from 1,500 to 2,000 barrels, at a depth of about 800 feet, within 45 miles of Fort Norman.

1921 OPERATIONS

In 1921 the first attempt on a large scale to develop the resources of the Mackenzie River oil field will be made. The Mackenzie River Oil Limited has acquired leases, under the old regulations, of 3,840 acres or 6 square miles in this rich field. With the opening of navigation it is intended to commence extensive drilling operations on this property. An expedition will also be fitted out, for the purpose of securing additional oil leases from the Government.

ORGANIZATION AND EQUIPMENT

For the drilling operations, three complete rigs have been ordered, and should be on the ground about July 1st. Experienced drillers have been engaged to work under the direction of Mr. Frank H. Stover, one of Canada's best-known oil-drilling experts. From the locations already in evidence, and as oil is found at a depth of 800-1,000 feet, it is expected that each crew will bring in several wells during the season.

The exploration work will be personally directed by a man who knows the North country thoroughly—Mr. Frank E. Davison—assisted by a competent geologist and engineer. Mr. Davison first went over this ground in 1898, and for over twenty years has been engaged in work in the Yukon and Alaska. In view of the probable wealth of the country and the experience of the men

engaged, the expedition should acquire many more acres of valuable oil and mineral lands in 1921. Twenty or more trained men have been engaged for this development work by the Mackenzie River Oil Limited.

TRANSPORTATION AND SUPPLIES

The Company has made full provision for the carrying in of rigs and supplies, and transportation company operating boats on the waterways, and trucks, tractors and motor cars at the portage will take in all the freight required for this Company's operations.

PEACE RIVER OIL HOLDINGS

Mackenzie River Oil Limited, in addition to the 3,840 acres at Fort Norman, have 10,000 acres of oil leases in the Peace River District. Geologists claim that oil will be found at from 1,800 to 2,500 feet in these fields, so that some of the wells should soon reach the oil strata. In this case the Company's holdings will become extremely valuable.

OFFER

To finance the purchase of drilling rigs, supplies, cost of expedition and development work, the Company now offers the first one hundred thousand Treasury Shares at \$5.00 per share (par value \$10.00 per share, fully paid and non-assessable) and not subject to call. The entire proceeds of the sale of stock are to be used only in the development and exploration work outlined above.

These shares offer a speculation in oil that must appeal to businessmen.

It is a venture in what is known to be in a most promising field. It is being supported by well-known men of means and business experience, who will carry on the Company's operations in a good business way. This is a Canadian Company, the management and organization is sound.

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PROSPECTUS

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Mackenzie River Oil, Limited, 59 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont. Gentlemen:

Kindly furnish me with additional information regarding Mackenzie River Oil, and the development of the Fort Norman Oil Fields.

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SPRING WORK

AMONG FLOWERS

Looking After the Roses and Sowing the First Seeds Now in Season.

No doubt most gardens have been cleaned up by this time, even though nothing has yet been sown in many parts of Canada.

The covering is often left on roses too long in the spring, with the result that a disease of the stem sets in and the plants are badly injured. It is desirable to get the stems of roses dry as soon as possible; hence, even if the covering is not removed altogether it should, at least, be loosened up, so that air will get through, and in our experience, it is better to uncover very early rather than to leave it until late.

Among the first seeds to sow in the garden are those of the sweet pea, and the sooner they are sown now the better, many having planted them this year early in April. The object of planting early is to insure the roots getting down before the cooler subsoil before the hot weather sets in, as the sweet pea needs a cool soil for best results. Instead of sowing in a trench as is often recommended, sow seeds on the level from one to two inches deep, and firm the soil so that seed will get sufficient moisture.

Among other hardy plants, the seed of which can be sown very early in the open are Sweet Alyssum, Candytuft, Cosmos, Summer Cypress, and many others. Snapdragons, Pinks, Phlox, Drummondii, Lobelia, Gaillardia, Forget-Me-Not, Pansy, and Cornflower.

Sowing Too Deeply.
The mistake is often made of sowing seeds too deeply. None of the above seeds should be sown more than half an inch deep, and for most of them one-quarter inch is often too much. If seed is sown too deeply the young shoots will not reach the surface, and the seedlings are often injured or killed.

Although the above-mentioned plants are among the hardiest, it will be time almost immediately to sow any other seeds as danger of frost after the seedling has up will soon be over and the ground will have warmed up soon. Warm soil is just as important for some seeds as prevention of injury from frost, as certain seeds will not germinate in cold soil, and if it is moist they will rot instead.

There is often a temptation to put plants which have been growing in the house outside as soon as there are a few fine, warm days. While it will not hurt to set the pots out on such days, if they are taken in at night, the plants should not be set in the open ground until the last week of May or early in June. Too often plants which have been nursed all winter are killed or badly injured by spring frosts outside. The geranium is a very popular flower, and too often considerable money is spent for plants for a bed only to have them badly injured, if not destroyed, by hard frost. In most parts of Canada the last week of May or even the first week of June is the best time to set out bedding plants that are liable to be injured by frost.—W. T. Macoun, Dominion Horticulturist.

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