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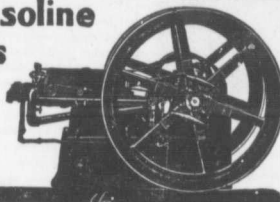
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### IHC Service Bureau

The purpose of this Bureau is to furnish farmers with information on better farming. If you have any worthy questions concerning soils, crops, pests, fertilizer, etc., write to the IHC Service Bureau, Chicago, and learn what our experts and others have found out concerning those subjects.

## FARM MANAGEMENT

### Fertilizers for Corn

How should fertilizers be applied to corn, broadcast or in hills? In what proportions should they be mixed?—P. A., Dundas Co., Ont.

While it is a common practice to apply fertilizers to corn in the hill, I could advise broadcasting them for the following reasons: The wider distribution of the fertilizers through the soil encourages a more extensive development of the root system, which results in the crop being able to draw its nourishment from a much wider area.

Fertilizers concentrated in the hill tend to restrict the root system, as the plant finds a readily available supply of plant food directly within its reach. The advantages of the wider root system are many: the plants stand more firmly in the soil, besides the fertilizers, which it absorbs, it secures greater supplies of available plant foods from the soil's original stock of these.

P. A. ought to obtain good results by using the following: 10 tons barn yard manure per acre, 120 lbs. nitrate of soda, 120 lbs. muriate of potash, 300 lbs. acid phosphate.

If no barn yard manure is used, then the following fertilizer mixture might be applied: 150 lbs. nitrate of soda, 140 lbs. muriate of potash, 400 lbs. acid phosphate per acre. If the corn is to follow a good clover sod the first prescription without the manure would probably suffice.—W. S.

### Cement for Wall

How much cement will it take for a wall one foot thick for a barn 50 by 30, with eight foot walls, with three doors four feet wide; how many cords of stone filling, and how many yards of gravel? Is one foot thick enough?—J. H. Peterboro Co., Ont.

A barn 50 by 30, with walls eight feet high and one foot thick, including footings, would require 48 yards of gravel and, if made in a proportion of one to seven, 48 barrels of cement. If J. H. has any field stones, they could be worked into the wall during construction. The quantity of stone that would be used could all depend upon the kind of gravel that was used, the finer the gravel the more stone that could be worked into it. With the uniform gravel one would be able to use five cords of stone. This would save the same quantity of gravel and about 4-1/2 barrels of cement to each cord of stone used.—H. Pocock Mgr., London Concrete Machinery Co.

### Roots or Corn, Which?

I have been following with interest the arguments put forward in Farm and Dairy for the silo and have just about decided to build one this summer. There is one point on which I am not clear. How does the dry matter, which I suppose is the only part worth considering in roots and corn, compare in value in the two?—A. L. Dundas Co., Ont.

Experiments to determine the feeding value of the dry matter in silage and mangels have been carried on at several experimental stations, and the results would indicate that while the dry matter in roots is more digestible than that in corn silage, dairy cows whose feed ratios consist largely of beets or silage, yield somewhat better returns for the dry matter in the silage. The difference in favor of the silage is not large, about three per cent on the average. When we consider the relative cost of dry matter in these two feeds, however, there is no doubt as to which is the most economical. The dry matter in silage can be produced for one-third the cost of producing the same feed in the roots.



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