

Conservation

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Pasture for Hogs Reduces Cost of Pork

Production Costs Should be More Carefully Studied by Farmers

High prices for farm produce do not always mean large profits. Cost of production plays a very important part in determining the net profit a farmer makes on what he has to sell. This is a matter that should receive more attention than is being given to it. Manufacturers of articles that the farmer has to buy study the question of cost of production very carefully. The farmer is a manufacturer of the things the other fellow has to buy, and while he does little in the way of setting the prices for his products, he could and should do more toward lessening production cost.

Take, as an example, the production of pork. Economical production of pork depends largely upon the consumption of cheaply grown feed. In the summer time hogs should be put on pasture. The pasture should be managed that the forage produced will be clean, tender, and palatable. The idea that anything, no matter how dirty, is good enough for hog feed is erroneous. While the hog will eat some dirty food, he will eat more and thrive better if he is given clean food and clean water. Such crops as alfalfa, clover, rape or peas and oats make good hog pasture. The pasture should not be overgrazed. It is best to divide the pasture lot into two or three equal areas and allow the hogs to remain in each a week or ten days. This will allow the first pastured areas to recuperate before the hogs are turned into it again.

Some grain also should be fed when hogs are on pasture. Opinions differ regarding the quantity that should be fed. A medium ration would be from two to three per cent of the live weight of the hog. No fixed rule can be laid down regarding this. The pasture should be tender and clean, and enough grain should be fed to keep the hogs shapely and in thrifty, growing condition at all times.

—F. C. Nunnick.

Until we get a Director of Housing and Town Planning for each province we shall not be able to get much effective work done.—Thomas Adams before the Tenth Annual Meeting of Commission of Conservation.

Thirty thousand fur seals will be destroyed at St. Paul Islands, Behring Sea, this spring. Every part of the seals will be utilized.



WHAT ONE SIGNBOARD CONCEALS

A rear view of a signboard that stands within a hundred yards of the general post office, the municipal centre and one of the largest hotels in a leading Canadian city. It screens a confused pile of inflammable rubbish, mixed with decaying vegetable matter and other waste products. The civic authorities are said to have permitted the existence of this dangerous and disease producing condition more or less continuously for several years. What are the sanitary inspectors doing?

Cut No. 185

Disposal of Slash is Prime Essential

Means Must be Found for Offsetting the Abnormal Cost of Disposing of "the Garbage of the Forests"

A recent discussion of logging costs in national forests in the United States refers to the question of brush disposal. In California, for example, it is the general practice to require operators to pile and burn all brush resulting from the felled timber and snags. The work of piling is often subcontracted at rates ranging from 17 cents to 25 cents per thousand feet of timber cut. Records of brush-piling work done directly under the supervision of the company show that the cost ranges from 11 cents to 26 cents per thousand feet of timber cut. Brush burning is usually done by the operator at a cost of from 2 cents to 5 cents per thousand feet of the timber cut, with an average of possibly 4 cents per thousand. There has recently been a sharp advance in labour costs. A fair

present average, therefore, for piling and burning is 30 cents per thousand feet.

Corresponding costs in eastern Canada would of course be higher, due to the smaller size of the timber, with consequent larger amount of brush per unit of timber cut. However, the importance of brush disposal from the standpoint of decreasing damage to the forest, due to fire, insect and fungi, is so great that the problem calls imperatively for solution at an early date.

Under the auspices of the Woodlands Section of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, experiments are to be made on a number of operations this year to determine the feasibility and cost of reducing the menace by systematic burning of the logging slash, under safe conditions. Logging slash is the garbage of the forest, and its disposal is as essential to the health of the forest as is the disposal of city garbage to the health of the community of human beings.

—C. L.

Now is the Time to Wage War on Flies

A Pair of Flies Born Now Breed Millions by August. No Filth, No Flies, Less Disease

Certain authorities are predicting more than usual trouble with flies during the coming summer, owing largely to the comparatively mild winter. Whether or not the theory is correct, no chances should be taken. The common housefly is one of man's most dangerous enemies. As a means of spreading a number of serious diseases such as typhoid fever, dysentery and tuberculosis the fly plays a sinister role. Its ability to reproduce itself is amazing, the descendants of a single pair numbering millions in a season under ordinary favourable conditions. Such conditions exist where rubbish, filth and manure are left unprotected so that flies may lay their eggs therein. Consequently, the first principle in exterminating the pests is rigid cleanliness and then more cleanliness. The fly avoids cleanly conditions as men avoid the plague. Dirt and disorder are its natural habitat. It is of prime importance that every individual and every community should see that the winter's accumulation of dirt and rubbish should be carefully collected and destroyed. Manure should be so handled, either in fly-proof pits, or bins with maggot traps, as to prevent flies breeding. It is important also that garbage be carefully gathered and disposed of, for it too provides sanctuary for flies.

In addition to combating them in their breeding places, flies should be killed by any and every means available, especially early in the season.

Further, it is essential that food products be kept properly screened from flies. Civic authorities should insist on shopkeepers so protecting their wares and endeavour by every possible mean to have householders take like precautions. The time to begin is now. Far more can be accomplished in the springtime with less expenditure of effort than at any other season of the year.—A. D.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The National Fire Protection Association, with headquarters at Boston, Mass., will hold its Twenty-Third Annual Meeting at the Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, Canada, on May 6th, 7th and 8th. A strong Canadian committee, under the Chairmanship of Mr. John B. Laidlaw of Toronto is co-operating with the Association and it is expected that the meeting will be of great value in furthering means for checking Canada's criminal fire waste.

Goitre, Its Incidence, Course, Causation, Prophylaxis and Treatment is the subject of a report prepared by Dr. Francis J. Shepherd for the Commission of Conservation. It has been published in pamphlet form. Copies of this report may be obtained on making application to the Commission of Conservation.