

Facts Concerning Manure Spreaders

W. H. Taylor, Brant Co., Ont.

All farm machinery saves labor. The manure spreader does this and more. It increases the value of the manure over hand spreading. It saves at least one half of the time required to draw it out and scatter it by hand. If you drop the manure in piles or heaps and spread it at a more convenient season, then the spreader will save about three-fourths of your time, to say nothing about the loss of manure by leaching and burning in the field.

Aside from its value as a labor saver is the economy of manure that can be made through its use. Manure carelessly spread in lumps here and there will not do half as much good as when finely and evenly spread over all the ground. It is considered that five loads of manure spread with the spreader will go farther and do more good than double that amount spread by hand.

REMOVES A DRUDGE.

The spreader removes one of the greatest drudges on the farm. There is no heavier or more disagreeable farm work than the hauling and spreading of manure. Experiment stations have demonstrated that a small amount of manure, spread often, will bring better results than larger amounts spread less frequently. It is almost impossible to spread a small quantity of manure per acre by hand. With the spreader one can regulate the spreading and apply a given number of loads per acre. Pull a lever as you drive and you can increase the quantity on a poor spot or knoll, or decrease it when you drive into a hollow where the washings of the hill have already increased the fertility of that soil.

We all know that when the soil is finely pulverized by a disc harrow or by other means that it produces larger crops than when left with many lumps and clods. The beater at the rear of the spreader revolving so rapidly, not wholly unlike the cylinder of a threshing machine, makes the coarsest manure very fine. Besides, it distributes it so uniformly that practically every square foot of soil receives its share of the fertilizer. When thus spread judiciously every particle of manure may be assimilated by the crop. The roots of a growing crop ramify in the soil in every direction. For best results they require their food well distributed and finely and evenly mixed through the soil.

Another beneficial effect of manure must not be overlooked. It is important to put a little manure over



A Machine that Gladdens the Heart of the Hired Man and Makes Profits for its Owner

The illustration shows the manure spreader at work on the Macdonald College, Que., farm. The advantage of the manure spreader are well summed up in the adjoining article by Mr. Taylor, who makes use of it on his 120 acre farm in Brant Co., Ont.

the machinery. The spreader permits of top dressing new seeded meadows or wheat. The first start in plant life is very important. Top dressing, as accomplished by the spreader, gives the clover and wheat a good start. Any straw and lumps in the manure are torn to pieces so that they are not raked up with the hay to its great damage. Coarse manure could not be used as a top dressing without the aid of the spreader.

All crops have their first start near the surface. How often are we compelled to plow down (with difficulty) coarse straw manure with its fertilizing elements out of reach of the young plant, in order to get rid of the manure because of its having been poorly spread by hand. This is surely a loss. One writer has it figured out and says 400 loads of manure spread with the spreader will give a profit of \$100 over that spread by hand and then you haven't suffered loss and gorged your land by over feeding.

OTHER MARKED ADVANTAGES.

A spreader not only spreads manure finely and evenly but does it quickly and easily. A man rests while the horses do the spreading and having rested he will load more quickly. It is far nicer to merely drive and watch it spread a 50 bush. load in two or three minutes than to spread the load at the end of a heavy fork. The spreader

halves the labor and doubles the value of the manure. The more a farmer uses the spreader the better he will like it, and instead of loathing the sight of a manure pile he will value it for its plant food. He will study to protect it by erecting sheds, or plan a short rotation and draw it direct to the field. He will put in cement floors to save the liquid manure with the solid. He will feed more protein foods, thereby making the manure richer in nitrogen, which when wisely applied with the spreader will restore wornout land to its original productivity and enable him to grow larger crops at some profit. The spreader will save your strength by letting the horses do the work, which they can do better than you.

The manure spreader should be sheltered, kept well oiled when used, and when stored away, the

spokes should be cleaned to prevent rust. With ordinary care the manure spreader should do good service and last for 25 years.

How Long Does a Binder Last?

Barlow Cumberland, Durham Co., Ont.

One day a visitor driving through the country in one of our front townships, turned into the homestead of a well-to-do farmer. In the living room of the tidy house the good wife was busy at her sewing machine, which whirled and hummed like a busy bee. After some pleasant greetings she resumed her work, for there is little time to spare from the many household duties and the making of clothes for her children. "I'd like to show you my new binder," said the host. A pleasant smile passed over the wife's face as she added, "Yes, John's got a new one. It's a beauty." So the two men sallied forth. They went across the barn yard where the chickens were picking their living on the pile of manure thrown out at the sides of the stable doors and then around the barn to the back, next to the fields.

THE NEW BINDER

There lay the new binder in all its glory of scarlet paint and fancy trimmings, the pole lying on the ground just as it had been dropped when the horses were unhitched, its wheels clogged with mud and the working parts filled with oily dust and ends of stubble, just as when it had been brought in from its work.

Its new devices were dilated upon by the enraptured owner. Its superiorities were pointed out and its capacity for clean and speedy work told as earnestly as might have done justice to the agricultural implement salesman who had recently sold it.

"What do you think of it?" asked the farmer. There was pride and satisfaction in his tone as he looked at his visitor for the expected reply. After a few moments waiting and keeping his eyes down on the machine, the visitor somewhat inconsistently said, "That's a nice sewing machine your wife has." "You bet it is," was the decisive reply. "Does she keep it clean?" was the next question. "Of course she does. It cost me \$50, and if she didn't, I'd soon see she did, and besides it wouldn't work well if she didn't."

Raising his head the visitor quietly said, "Don't you think that you ought to keep your binder clean? Do you think it is fair to the wife or to the machine?" There was a minute's pause during which the farmer, with his hands thrust deep into his breeches pockets, looked back and fro from machine to man and then spoke out in a vigorous tone, "By gum, you're right. I never looked at it that way before."



A Long Tried and Still Popular Method of Loading Hay

The hay loader has quite replaced this method of making and loading hay on many of our larger farms. The colling system and hard pitching have stood the test of years, however, and still have their place, especially on smaller farms, where labor-saving is not the all-important factor. Photo taken especially for Farm and Dairy, on J. R. Hutchison's farm, Thunder Bay District, New Ont.

all the land and thus get its bacterial effect as well as the benefit from the plant food that it contains. Such distribution is made possible by the spreader, for after it has spread the manure, cultivation can be carried on without clog-