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Young stock of both sexes. A number of sows old enough to breed, all sired by Imp. Dalmey Topman. Everything guaranteed as represented. J. H. SNELL, Hagersville, Ont., P.O. and Station.

Elmfield Yorkshires 50 pigs, 4 to 10 weeks old; pairs not akin. Bred from imp. and Canadian-bred sows. Also young sows due to farrow in June and July. Young stock never better. G. B. MUMA, Ayr, C. P. R.; Paris, G. T. R.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.
Miscellaneous.

PRESERVING INSECT COLLECTION.

In making a collection of insects, how would I preserve them in an open glass case?

YOUNG FARMER.

Ans.—I should advise your correspondent not to attempt to keep his insects in any kind of a case without a cover, otherwise dust, museum pests, or even mice will soon destroy the collection. If the case is covered and a moth ball fixed in one corner, the collection will usually keep all right. If, however, at any time he finds anything attacking them, a few drops of carbon bisulphide dropped into the case will kill the invaders. No fire must be allowed near when carbon bisulphide is for at least 24 hours, as the vapor, mixed with air, is inflammable.

L. CAESAR.

PEAR BLIGHT.

We have a number of pear trees, apparently dying, the branches dry up and the fruit withers and falls off. Would you kindly let us know, through your valuable paper, if we can do anything to save them.

J. V.

Ans.—Your trees are, no doubt, affected with pear blight, a bacterial disease for which there is no cure. By removing affected branches, being careful to cut some distance below the infection, and destroying the same by burning, the spread of the disease may be very materially checked. Pear trees should not be forced into rapid growth, as the soft, succulent tissues are most easily attacked. It is on this account that many pear-growers put down their orchards permanently to sod. Applications of lime, wood ashes, or potash fertilizers are often made. These are said to have a very marked effect in lessening injury of this pest.

PROTECTION OF PERENNIAL FLOWERS.

I planted out pansies last spring and they did well last summer. This spring, what was left of them, did very well up till about three weeks ago, when the leaves started to turn yellow, and now they are seemingly dead. I gave them plenty of water.

1. What happened them, being quite healthy at the beginning of the summer?

2. How shall I protect them through the winter, the snow lying light where they are?

3. How shall I protect daisies and forget-me-nots?

4. Got some peony slips three years ago. They grew and did well. They have been moved once since I got them. They don't get much rain. Can you tell why they don't flower?

M. G. E.

Ans.—1. Pansies seldom do well the second year from sowing. The extreme heat of summer is very trying to them. Pansies like a cool temperature, lots of moisture, and partial shade. It is best to have young plants every year. By sowing the seed at once (August 7th) you can have nice plants for early flowering next spring. Or seed can be sown early in spring for summer and fall flowering.

2. The best protection for pansies in the open garden is to throw a little coarse rubbish, such as old raspberry canes or maple boughs, or other similar kind of rubbish over them.

This should be thrown over them about the first week in November. On this throw light sprinkling of straw manure or leaves. The covering should be removed as soon as the frost is out of the ground in the spring. Remove the covering in dull, mild weather.

3. Daisies and forget-me-nots can be protected in the same way if necessary. Here at Guelph, we find they do quite as well with only the covering of snow and no other protection.

4. The peonies would probably have been better left undisturbed and not dug up, as they will grow for several years without transplanting. They like an open position and a rather rich clay loam soil suits them best. Peonies do not do well in a sandy soil.

Possibly having moved the plants mentioned so soon after planting has kept them from flowering. It takes two or three years for peonies to become established to flower. We often see small plants that start to flower.

BUCKTHORN, OR RIBGRASS.

Last spring I bought what I supposed was alfalfa seed, which I sowed about May 24th. Herewith is a sample of what grew. What is it? I fear it is some noxious weed.

J. M.

Ans.—The plant inclosed is what is popularly called buckhorn, or buckthorn. The proper common name is ribgrass. Scientific name, *Plantago lanceolata*, L. For a complete description see the bulletin on Farm Weeds of Canada, a copy of which may be found in your Public Library and Public School, and sent out by the Seed Branch, Department of Agriculture, Canada.

The seed of this plant is a very common weed-seed impurity in red clover seed, and its presence in a seed crop lessens the value of the clover seed according to the amount found in it. The best way to kill it is with the short rotation, clover, followed by a hoe crop, and then grain seeded down with seed free from ribgrass or other weed-seed impurities. Any time within a week or ten days after a field of clover is cut, these plants may be easily seen, and by going over the field in narrow strips these plants may be destroyed by hoeing or spudding out. In pulling the stems they often break off from the root, and as it is a perennial plant, it will grow more stems directly. Get it out by the roots to be safe. If the clover is not too heavy a crop, many plants may be removed yet so as not to contaminate the clover seed. Otherwise than being a bad weed-seed impurity, it is not considered to be very noxious, as stock relish it very well. Better off without it, however.

T. G. RAYNOR.

BLIGHT ON HOPS—PLANTS IDENTIFIED.

1. What is the cause of this blight which attacks the hop plants, and what is the best remedy? (Inclosed find affected leaf.) Have been spraying with lime and Paris green, but it does not seem to be a perfect cure.

2. Is there any prevention for this appearance on lettuce leaf? Rhubarb leaves were, last year, similarly affected.

3. What are the names of the plants marked 1, 2, 3?

J. F.

Ans.—From the fragment of hop leaf sent I judge that the trouble on your hops is due to a fungous disease. I should not expect lime and Paris green to have any effect whatever on this disease. Paris green and other arsenical poisons are used as a remedy against those insects which eat the foliage of plants, but are not a panacea against all the ills that plant life is heir to. The proper remedy for this blight would have been to spray the vines as soon as the disease made its appearance with the Bordeaux mixture, made by mixing 4 lbs. of fresh lime with 4 lbs. bluestone in 40 gallons of water.

The lettuce leaves show no injury which can be recognized as caused by insects or fungi. The two small leaves were crushed together, the small holes in them were probably made by a caterpillar. It is strange, though, how few insects eat lettuces, which, from their tenderness, it might be supposed would be very attractive to many kinds of caterpillars.

The three plants sent by you for names are as follows:

1. Fragrant Mayweed (*Matricaria discoidea*). This plant is common in the Maritime Provinces, and also from Winnipeg west to the Pacific coast. It is of small growth, and is an annual. It cannot be considered a bad weed. No. 2 is the common Groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*). This plant, which has been accidentally introduced from Europe, is common in all parts of the Maritime Provinces, and is gradually becoming commoner in other parts of Canada. It is an annual, but stands much hardship and thrives where many other plants succumb. It seeds heavily and the seeds are easily scattered by means of their silky down. It should be hoed out while young, before the new crop of seed is ripe. It flowers and seeds right up to winter. No. 3 is Willow-leaved Meadowsweet (*Spiraea salicifolia*). One of our most ornamental native flowering shrubs. It grows in damp spots throughout Canada.

J. FLETCHER.

Dominion Entomologist and Botanist.

The Secret of Strength

Do you sometimes wonder why you are not as strong as others and why you can't put through the day without a great loss of vitality? It is because you lack a full supply of electricity. Electricity is life itself. It is the foundation of muscular, nerve and mental energy. Lack of electricity is shown in weakness of any organ of the body, in Backache, Lumbago, Rheumatism, Nerve Weakness, Indigestion, Stomach, Kidney and Bowel Troubles. Why? Because the nerves control the organs and muscles, and electricity supplies to the nerves the power to control. Electricity is nerve food. When the supply is less than is necessary the nerves become weak and the organs perform their functions in an irregular manner.

The secret of strength, then, is plenty of electricity in the human body. Keep it full and every organ will do its duty; pain and weakness will disappear. The nourishment that we get out of our food is electricity. The digestive juices of the stomach produce this force by a chemical action upon the food. This electricity is forced through the nerves to every muscle and tissue of the body, to repair the waste caused by mental and physical exertion. When the waste is greater than the repair, your stomach cannot supply the necessary amount of electrical nourishment, and a debility of the organs is the result. Then, can't you see that the only way to restore your strength is to restore electricity where it is needed?

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