

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.
Miscellaneous.

ENGINEER'S LICENSE.

1. Where should I apply to obtain a steam engineer's license in Ontario?
2. Would an Ontario license permit a person to run an engine in Saskatchewan?

Ans.—1. Address the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Toronto.
2. No.

SPICED BEEF.

I would like to know how to spice a round of beef. D. W. G.

Ans.—Make a brine of salt and cold water strong enough to bear up a potato. Add a pinch of saltpetre, using it quite sparingly, as two ounces is enough for a barrel of beef. Boil this brine down to reduce, say three pailfuls to two pailfuls, adding allspice, cloves, etc., to the brine. When cold, lay the beef in the liquid, turning it occasionally for two or three weeks.

SALT-MOLASSES-FISTULA.

1. What value is old plaster as a fertilizer?
2. Is salt of any use to keep long straw from lodging, and when is the best time to apply, and how much?
3. How does molasses, at 35c. per gallon, compare with oil cake at present prices, to feed to stock?
4. How much per day would you feed to small calves, seven-months-old colts, and small pigs?
5. What is the best remedy for a fistula?
6. Is sulphur, sprinkled in the hair of cattle, recommended to kill lice?

Ans.—1. There are no experiments which enable one to directly answer this question. However, on account of the lime contained in old plaster, it may have a considerable benefit upon acid soils and those deficient in lime; its influence would be most felt by clovers and allied crops.
2. Salt contains none of the three elements of plant food in which soils are liable to become deficient. Sometimes it has a beneficial effect in promoting the decomposition of potash, lime and magnesia compounds already present in the soil. It is also believed to increase the solvent action of water upon phosphates and silicates, all of which might indicate an indirect influence in strengthening straw. One would have to experiment with his own soil to make certain of any beneficial effect. It may be applied at seeding time, at the rate of 200 lbs. per acre.
3 and 4. Molasses is a carbonaceous food, and cannot replace oil cake, which is a nitrogenous concentrate, serving an entirely different function in the ration, consequently one cannot properly compare the values of these two classes of feedstuffs. Molasses is an appetizer; also has a proper place in a ration as a source of energy, heat and fat. It has a laxative effect. In feeding any class of young stock, it would not be advisable to feed more than, approximately, half a pint per day, and that amount should not be given at the beginning. Feed a very little at first, mixing it with the grain ration, and study the effects upon the animal as you increase the amount. Mature animals might consume a quart per day. It is also mixed with water and sprinkled on the chopped straw or hay, or on the neat roughage. Unless young stock is being fitted for show, its economy is doubtful.
5. If no pus has collected yet, blistering in the ordinary way so frequently described in this paper, will remove the swelling, but if pus has formed, free lancing is necessary, all sinuses being located and opened their entire length. The wound needs to be kept clean, and dressed three times daily with a good antiseptic, such as a five-per-cent. solution of carbolic acid. If the case is at all advanced, it is best to call in your veterinarian.
6. Some use sulphur in that way to kill lice. The most advantageous insecticide which we know for cattle, consists of one part hellebore or insect powder, mixed with three or four parts cement, which is dusted along the backs of the cattle.

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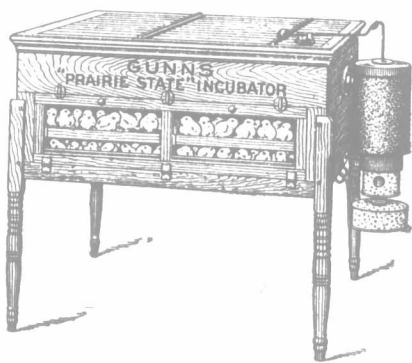
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