

HOW CAN STOOKS BE HANDLED?

The Manitoba Department of Agriculture in the following discussion touches on a very timely topic affecting a large number of western farmers. Our readers are invited to send in their suggestions concerning the harvesting of the grain which is yet left in the stook.

There are fewer fields of unthreshed grain standing in the stook in Manitoba than in Saskatchewan and Alberta, but even in this province there are a large number of fields covered with snow clad stooks. In the great majority of cases the men whose crop is in this condition are least prepared to face the other spring work, to say nothing of having to handle the crop of last year. The question now is, what is the wisest course for them to follow? There are a few points upon which almost certain conclusions may be reached.

1. As the February and March sun melts the snow at present on and about the stooks, even those that are not now frozen solid to the ground will become filled with ice and freeze firmly to the earth.

2. If the heads are damp at the natural spring growing time the grain will sprout. Wheat will germinate at temperatures down almost to the freezing point.

3. During the time for spring work on the land, all possible energy should be and will be directed to cultivation and seeding, and those farmers who expect to employ threshing gangs to haul and thresh stooks at that season will be disappointed. The pressing shortage of farm help will make it imperative that practically all threshing be done either before the close of winter or after seeding is completed.

In this situation there now remains to the farmer with stooks in the field a choice of the following:

1. If his stooks are not frozen too solid, he may be able to loosen them out of the snow and haul them now by sleigh. To loosen them perhaps the best way would be to hitch a team to either end of a logging chain, straddle the stooks and, by using a short pike pole thrust into the bottom of the stooks, thus holding down the chain, tear the stook loose. It is understood that stooks are already frozen too solid in some parts of the province to loosen even in this way. Other methods of loosening stooks may be suggested by farmers. By hauling stooks from the fields now, plowing of these areas will be possible with the opening of spring. The sheaves might be dumped in a smaller area in the corner of the field and restocked with the opening of spring. In this way the grain might possibly be saved and threshed. Or the grain might be threshed during the winter and sent to the drying elevators.

2. Stooks may be permitted to stand until May, then hauled off the ground, leaving the land to plow or otherwise prepare for a very late sown crop. The chances of seeding even barley on such fields are very small indeed.

3. The stooks could be removed in May and the ground summerfallowed during 1916.

4. If the rows of stooks are straight in the field, the spaces between could be plowed and sown to grain; then the stooks removed in May and the remaining strips summerfallowed. On a 100 acre field one might thus obtain 50 acres of crop and 50 acres of alternated strips of summerfallow.

5. The clear strips—treated as above—might be sown as early as possible, and the later strips sown afterward for green feed. By using the binder only in the same direction as the plow and drill had gone, the driver could cut both classes of crop simultaneously and stook and haul them separately. This would involve a great deal of careful work, but would meet the crop and feed needs of some farmers.

6. The stooks could be burned and the whole field brought under the plow as soon as possible.

7. In a very few cases it may be possible to dry the stooks, haul the sheaves, thresh or stack them, and still plow and crop the ground in 1916. The chances of being able to do this seem very slight.

You Can't Beat BORBRIDGE Harness Prices Anywhere

QUALITY and SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

or MONEY BACK

If for any reason you are not fully satisfied with our harness, we want you to return it at our expense; and we will refund your money without any questions—that's a fair and square way of dealing. There is nothing cheap about BORBRIDGE leather goods, we use good leather of dependable weight and durable quality. Give us a trial—it will pay you to deal with us. These are special prices for a limited period only, so order from this advertisement.

UNBEATABLE VALUE IN HARNESS

With Borbridge's Artillery Steel Wire Cable Trace, Leather Covered as Cut

PREPAID
TO ANY
STATION
in
Manitoba,
Saskatchewan
and Alberta

28⁰⁰
WITHOUT
COLLARS



THE BORBRIDGE ARTILLERY CABLE TRACE

Is actually stronger and more durable and serviceable than ordinary leather. Well covered with leather—rust-proof and pliable. Stronger than the British Artillery Cable Trace. Unequaled for jerks, strains and continual hard usage.

H450—FARM TEAM HARNESS: Halter Bridles—One and one-fourth inch double and stitched, six ring style, with snap on throat latch; the rings and squares are steel; bit straps attached to rings on side with snaps; fitted with heavy japanned bits. Lines—One inch, twenty feet long, with snaps. Breaststraps—One and one-half inches, with snaps and slides. Martingales—One and one-half inches. Hames—Steel bolt, with ball tops. Hamestraps—One inch, twenty-two inches long. Traces—Borbridge's artillery trace, six feet six inches long, with six-link heel chains, made of steel wire cable; covered with harness leather; billets for bellybands, one and one-half inches. Backbands—Double and stitched, with four-inch shaped harness leather housings; fine English blue felt lined; one and one-quarter inch billets; japanned hooks and terrets. Bellybands—Folded, one and one-half inch buckles. Backstraps—Seven eighths inch, made with wide leather safe, sewn under trace carrier (no rivets used), and three-quarter inch folded crupper docks. Mountings—(Black) japanned.

H455—Farm Harness, as described. Per set, prepaid **\$28.00**

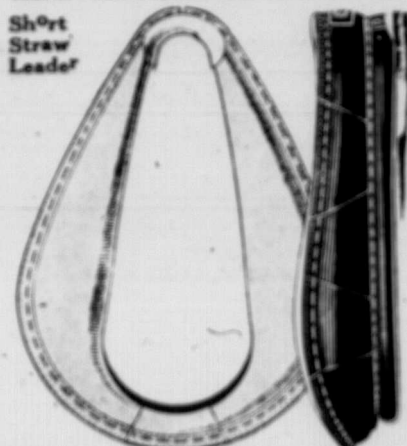
H454—Farm Harness, as above description and cut, with regular leather traces, six feet four inches long, with 15 inch, six link heel chains; two-rows stitching; three-ply leather, with ring connecting hamestraps to trace; one and one-half inch bellyband billets. Price, prepaid **\$32.00**

H456—Farm Team Harness, same as above description and cut, with one and one-half inch traces; as per **\$31.00**

H454, but with halter bridles. Prepaid **\$31.00**

These Four Team Harnesses are all fitted with "Surefast" snaps on lines and breast straps, also breaststrap slides and spreader chains. ALL PRICES ARE WITHOUT COLLARS. S.O. ORDERS PREPAID FOR \$1.00 EXTRA.

Short
Straw
Leader



Hand Laced
Rawhide



**H703—BORBRIDGE'S HAND-MADE
SHORT-STRAP COLLAR—**Black leather
back and rim, with russet leather face;
extra heavy body with reinforced throat;
wear pieces on back under terret ring and
draft. Heavy thong sewed, with double-row
stitching extra; sixteen-inch draft, and has
russet leather collar pad; throat reinforced
with long straw. Sizes 17 to 22. Be sure
and state size when ordering. **\$2.65**
Special price, each

H701—RAWHIDE HALTER—Horse size, as
cut, made from specially selected rawhide
leather, tanned in our own factory. Full
one and one-quarter inches wide; heavy
leather used throughout; one and one-
quarter inch Cleveland snap; Nubia finish;
rings and squares extra heavy steel. This
halter is hand laced with rawhide lace
leather, and will stand the severest strain
and give great service. **\$1.35**
Special Price

H702—COLT SIZE, RAWHIDE HALTER.
Same as H701, only with one in. **\$1.20**
leather. Special Price

THE BORBRIDGE CO.
S.H. BRANDON DEPT. 10. **CANADA**

We Want Your Order

If you do not happen to know of us, and of Borbridge Harness, have your bank manager look up our rating, or make any inquiries you deem fit; you will find that we are a reliable concern—a firm whose guarantee of "Satisfaction or money back" means exactly what it says.

MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY

If you are not in need of any of these bargains now, tell your neighbor about Borbridge's low prices—tell him to order from this advertisement.

COUPON

THE S. H. BORBRIDGE CO.,
Dept. 10, Brandon, Man.

Kindly send me free, post paid, your complete Catalogue of Harness—sold direct to farmers at mail-order prices.

Name

Address

When Writing to Advertisers Please mention The Guide