

RIDDING GARDEN OF RODENT FOES

Four-Footed Pests Work Mainly at Night or in Subterranean Storage Places.

LIST OF FUR-COATED FOES

Brown Rat and Mouse Are Most Destructive—Little Animals Not Always Found in One Place or Under Similar Conditions.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Of all the pests with which gardeners have to contend, the fur-coated ones are often the most baffling. Weeds can be kept down by cultivation. Destructive insects usually work by daylight. There is little doubt as to where they are or what they are doing. Four-footed pests, on the other hand, work mainly at night or underground, are wary and agile, and, in consequence, are particularly difficult to apprehend. Unless the man with the hoe is familiar with the signs and habits of the destructive quadrupeds, he wonders what became of the seeds he planted.

Among the native American animals which invade gardens are raccoons, woodchucks, ground squirrels, prairie dogs, rabbits, rats, mice, moles, and pocket gophers. To this list specialists of the United States department of agriculture add a few emigrants from the old world, notably the brown rat and the house mouse, the two most destructive animal pests in the world. Fortunately, these rascals are not all found in one place or under the same conditions.

May Kill Woodchucks in Burrows.

The woodchuck or ground-hog devours a wide variety of garden products; it is especially fond of bean vines. It may be caught in a steel trap set at the entrance of its den. When in a burrow it may be killed there by an ounce and a half of carbon disulphid absorbed in cotton



The Mole Is Just One of the Rodents the Gardener Must Keep Out.

waste, or by an ounce of blasting powder in a bottle exploded by means of a fuse, all entrances to the burrow being closed in either case before the gases are liberated.

In the Mississippi valley and to the westward there are prairie dogs and many kinds of ground squirrels destructive to seeds, fruits and green vegetation. They may be caught in steel traps set at the entrance to their burrows or where their runways lead through a fence.

Raccoons destroy corn in the roasting ear stage and have a curiously artistic habit of removing the edible part of a melon through a hole in the rind the size of a silver dollar. They may be caught in steel traps carefully covered and baited with meat or fish, or may be hunted with dogs at night. Rabbits attack bean vines, many vegetables, berry bushes, and the bark of young fruit trees. They may be kept out of a garden by a fence built of 1 1/2-inch poultry netting, extending 2 inches below the surface of the ground and 2 feet above it.

Moles eat but little vegetable food, but they are disliked in gardens because their burrows often follow the drills in which young vegetables are growing, causing the roots to wither and die. Worse than this is the fact that their tunnels are thoroughfares for mice which destroy seeds, potatoes, sweet potatoes and other vegetables. Moles are caught in traps especially designed for the purpose. Their skins are valuable as fur, and find a ready sale.

Mice Favored by Trash.

Native rats and mice are outdoor animals at all seasons. Many house rats and mice join them in summer. All of them feed on seeds and several of them destroy bulbs, tubers, root crops and young trees. They may be caught in traps baited with nut meats or rolled oats. Those making runways may be caught in an unbaited trap set so they will touch the pan in passing. A useful poison for rats and mice may be prepared by mixing a quart of moist oatmeal with one-sixteenth of an ounce of powdered strychnine alkaloid.

Pocket gophers maintain an elaborate system of tunnels in the earth, which they are continually extending. They are voracious feeders and store quantities of potatoes, roots and seeds for winter use. They may be caught by opening the end of a burrow where soil has been thrown out and setting in it a gopher trap. They can be poisoned by placing in their burrows small pieces of fresh sweet potato or parsnip coated with powdered strychnine alkaloid, the proportion being one-eighth of an ounce of strychnine to four quarts of the bait.

Farmers' Bulletin 670, "Field Mice as Farm and Orchard Pests;" 707, "Cottontail Rabbits in Relation to Trees and Farm Crops;" and 932, "Rodent Pests on the Farm," contain full directions for combating these animals.

TALL FESCUE GRASS HAS ITS ADVANTAGES

Produces More Feed Than the Common Meadow Variety.

Only Apparent Objection to It Is That It Does Not Produce Seed Abundantly—Good Plan to Sow After Wheat or Oats.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Tall fescue, an upright, perennial grass, has advantages over the more commonly grown meadow fescue, which it resembles closely. Tests with the two grasses conducted by the United States department of agriculture indicate that the tall fescue produces more feed and is in general more hardy or robust. It does not appear to be susceptible to attacks of oat smut, which frequently damages the seed crop of the meadow fescue in Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri. While somewhat coarser it appears to be equally palatable and nutritious. Apparently the only objection to it is that it does not produce seed as abundantly as the meadow fescue, and the principal reason why it is not more generally grown is the high price of the seed. Because the seed is scarce and expensive it is frequently poor in quality, which is accountable for the difficulty experienced by some growers in getting a good stand.

Tall fescue has the undesirable habit of ripening its seed very unevenly, and this fault, with the fact that it sends up few seed-producing stems, makes the yield light. Fields in northeastern Kansas which ordinarily yield 12 to 18 bushels of meadow fescue seed produce only three to seven bushels an acre of tall fescue. Tests at Pullman, Wash., indicate that in eastern Washington seed can be produced more successfully than in eastern Kansas. Planted in rows 18 inches apart and cultivated, yields as high as 24 bushels an acre have been obtained.

In eastern Kansas and Missouri fall seeding of tall fescue seems to give the best results, but in sections where the winters are more severe, and where there is considerable freezing and thawing, causing the ground to heave badly, spring seeding is preferable. It is a good practice to sow on ground that has been previously in wheat or oats and which has been plowed in July or early August. Tall fescue is also sown successfully in fall wheat or rye. Seed may be sown either broadcast or with a press drill, the latter method giving the best results. When a drill is used it is well to sow one-half of the seed each way, so as to cover the ground more evenly. A perfect stand is sometimes secured with about fifteen pounds of seed an acre, but 20 to 25 pounds are recommended under most conditions.

When the meadow is intended primarily as a hay crop the grass is cut with a mower just as it is coming into bloom. The processes of curing and stacking are similar to those for timothy and other hay grasses. In harvesting the seed crop the grass must be cut as soon as it begins to take on a yellowish color, otherwise considerable seed will be lost through shattering. It is cut with a grain binder and placed in small shocks to cure, and the thrashing ordinarily is done directly from the shocks in the field. An ordinary grain separator can be used for thrashing by cutting off most of the blast from the fan. Special screens are of value, but are not necessary, as a wheat riddle does fairly satisfactory work.

POTATO BIN IS VENTILATING

Material Required Includes Four Strong Sticks, a Discarded Frame and Gunny Sack.

To make this bin four sticks of fire wood, or other similar material are required for supports, and a discarded picture frame and a gunny sack. The sack is taken apart to form



Gunny Sack Supported on a Frame Mounted on Posts for a Simple Ventilating Potato Bin.

one thickness and tacked to the frame. The texture of the material is sufficiently open to allow plenty of good ventilation. If no picture frame is at hand make a frame of 2 by 4-in. stock.—Edward R. Smith, in Popular Science Monthly.

KEEP SHARP WATCH FOR CATS

Poultryman Must Keep Up Fight Against Furred and Feathered Chicken Thieves.

Look out for hawks, foxes, cats and other marauders at this season. You will need to wage war all the time against the furred and feathered chicken thieves. Foxes and hawks are particularly plenty and bold in some sections. The hawk, especially the little bullet hawk, will do away with a lot of little chicks.

FARM POULTRY

USE LABOR-SAVING METHODS

Expensive Equipment Rarely Pays Even on Large Poultry Farms—Some Practical Devices.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Labor-saving methods can be utilized to better advantage on commercial poultry farms by careful planning of the arrangement of the buildings and by installing simple labor-saving devices. An expensive labor-saving equipment rarely pays even on large poultry farms.

Some of the practical devices are large dry-mash hoppers in which all the mash is fed, the piping of water to be convenient to each house, and in a long house the installing of a simple trolley system to carry the feed and to be utilized in cleaning the house. If several houses are used they should be arranged to save steps. Sufficient yard space should be allowed to keep the ground in good condition. It is a serious mistake to allow only a very small amount of yard space and thereby overstock the land and produce soil contamination.

A practical and comparatively inexpensive equipment consists of one or more long houses containing from 500 to 1,000 hens arranged with double yards and kept only for the production of market eggs. The yards should be from 100 to 150 feet deep and should be plowed and sowed frequently to quick-growing crops to keep the land fresh. Such a house can be fitted with two large yards, one on each side, which reduces the expenses of partitions in the yards and also greatly facilitates labor and cultivating the



Barred Plymouth Rocks on Government Farm at Beltsville.

yards. Considerable green feed can be grown incidentally in keeping these yards fresh and in good condition.

The use of mammoth incubators materially cuts down the labor necessary in hatching large numbers of chickens, and a brooding system of stove brooding houses, or a small hot-water pipe system makes an economical brooding equipment and one which can be conducted successfully with a minimum amount of labor. The breeding stock under these conditions should be kept in colony houses scattered over a considerable area, and if possible allowed free range, using their eggs for hatching during the breeding season and keeping from 50 to 100 hens in each house.

On the average general farm the poultry does not receive sufficient care to produce the best results, but by better arrangement of buildings and better methods the same amount of poultry could be kept with the labor now being used and better results obtained, while in many cases the size of the flocks could be increased and greater profits realized for the labor required.

On commercial poultry farms careful planning of equipment will greatly reduce labor, but a very intensive system is detrimental to profitable results with poultry. The danger is often too great intensification, which while temporarily reducing labor does not provide conditions under which poultry can be reproduced successfully with good results.

Use of Poultry Tonics.

The use of poultry tonics to reduce the cost of egg production does not seem to be successful.

Table Scraps for Chickens.

There is a certain amount of table scraps and kitchen waste which has feeding value, but which if not fed finds its way into the garbage pail in every household, no matter how economical the housewife.

Poultry is the only class of domestic animals which is suitable for converting this waste material, right where it is produced in the city, into wholesome and nutritious food in the form of eggs and poultry meat.

Buy a Farm Now.

Because land is cheaper than it will ever be again. The U. S. Railroad Administration is prepared to furnish free information to home-seekers regarding farming opportunities. We have nothing to sell; no money to lend; only information to give. Write me fully with reference to your needs. Name the state you want to learn about. J. L. Edwards, Manager, Agricultural Section, U. S. Railroad Administration, Room 70, Washington, D. C.—adv.

The mere fact that a man doesn't call you a liar is no reason that he doesn't think you are one.

Cuticura for Pimply Faces.
To remove pimples and blackheads smear them with Cuticura Ointment. Wash off in five minutes with Cuticura Soap and hot water. Once clear keep your skin clear by using them for daily toilet purposes. Don't fail to include Cuticura Talcum.—Adv.

Silence is more eloquent than words.—Carlyle.

KIDNEYS WEAKENING? BETTER LOOK OUT!

Kidney and bladder troubles don't disappear of themselves. They grow upon you, slowly but steadily, undermining your health with deadly certainty, until you fall a victim to incurable disease.

Stop your troubles while there is time. Don't wait until little pains become big aches. Don't trifle with disease. To avoid future suffering begin treatment with GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules now. Take three or four every day until you feel that you are entirely free from pain.

This well-known preparation has been one of the national remedies of Holland for centuries. In 1896 the govern-

ment of the Netherlands granted a special charter authorizing its sale. The good housewife of Holland would almost as soon be without food as without her "Real Dutch Drops," as she quaintly calls GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules. Their use restores strength and is responsible in a great measure for the sturdy, robust health of the Hollanders.

To not delay. Go to your druggist and insist on his supplying you with a box of GOLD MEDAL Haarlem Oil Capsules. Take them as directed, and if you are not satisfied with results your druggist will gladly refund your money. Look for the name GOLD MEDAL on the box and accept no other. In sealed boxes, three sizes.

Frank.
"What are you selling bananas for today?"
"To make a living."

Daily Thought.
How many worthy men have we seen survive their own reputations.—Montaigne.

Middle Aged Women

Are Here Told the Best Remedy for Their Troubles.

Fremont, O.—"I was passing through the critical period of life, being forty-six years of age and had all the symptoms incident to that change—heat flashes, nervousness, and was in a general run down condition, so it was hard for me to do my work. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound was recommended to me as the best remedy for my troubles, which it surely proved to be. I feel better and stronger in every way since taking it, and the annoying symptoms have disappeared."—Mrs. M. Gomez, 923 Napoleon St., Fremont, Ohio.

North Haven, Conn.—"Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound restored my health after everything else had failed when passing through change of life. There is nothing like it to overcome the trying symptoms."—Mrs. Florence Isella, Box 197, North Haven, Conn.



In Such Cases

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

has the greatest record for the greatest good

LYDIA E. PINKHAM MEDICINE CO. LYNN, MASS.

THIS HEAD WORTH \$10,000

London Doctors Eager to Examine Brain of Man Known as Human Encyclopedia.

Of course you have heard of Datas, the human encyclopedia—the man who can memorize and reel off dates quicker than the fire of a machine gun; the man on whose head the doctors have placed a price of £2,000?

"But I am not anxious to sell it yet for dissection," Datas told a writer for London Tit-Bits the other day. "It is worth more to me than £2,000."

Datas has lately been devouring war facts and had just added a couple of thousand in two and a half hours to his repertoire when we met. "For an outlay of twopenny," he said, "I bought a little book on a bookstall, called 'Two Thousand Facts About the War.' I bought it and read the list through in two and a half hours and then knew it by heart."

There is no doubt about it. I tested Datas with the book in my hand, and no matter what question I asked him—dates of battles, air raids, names of ships sunk, famous generals' careers—he answered them without hesitation, says the writer.

Datas has had many amusing and curious experiences, but the most extraordinary was the friendly dinner he shared with John Lee, the Babbarombe murderer, and the late James Barry, the executioner who tried to hang

Lee three times but failed. "Berry, after ceasing to be an executioner, set up at Bradford as a phrenologist and character reader," said Datas. His card bore the words: "Heads examined." He examined a good many heads in his time."

Dressed to Kill in "Shell-Cloth."
Shell-cloth is the name of a new fabric being manufactured in England. The stuff is a fine serge and an essential part of projectiles.

And now that the war is over the stuff is going into the making of clothes instead of shells, says the Philadelphia North American. It ought to make "staggeringly" good-looking clothes, don't you think? One woman might say quite truly to another: "Oh, my dear, she was dressed to kill, all in shellcloth."

Or, on the other hand, what clever opportunity for the feminine cut to say that her dear enemy has "shocking taste in the matter of clothes!"

Boy's Bill of Fare.

George Bailey, answering the inquiry, "What is good for a boy to eat?" says:

"At this time of the year, according to the theories extant in North Carolina in 1870, a boy should have daily plenty of green fruit, pine rosin, young cucumbers, raw new potatoes, green blackberries, doughnuts, branch water and two hours in the swimming hole."

—Atlanta Constitution.

Kill All Flies!

THEY SPREAD DISEASE
Fly-killer, DABBY, KILLER, kills all flies, mosquitos, house flies, etc. Kills all flies, mosquitos, house flies, etc. Kills all flies, mosquitos, house flies, etc.



Cuticura Soap
Ideal for the Complexion

NOVA SCOTIA CHERRIES.
The province of Nova Scotia raises exceedingly large and luscious black cherries.

FRECKLES

Now Is the Time to Get Rid of These Ugly Spots

There's no longer the slightest need of feeling ashamed of your freckles, as Othine—double strength—is guaranteed to remove these bothersome spots.

Simply get an ounce of Othine—double strength—from your druggist, and apply a little of it night and morning and you should soon see that even the worst freckles have begun to disappear, while the lighter ones have vanished entirely. It is seldom that more than one ounce is needed to completely clear the skin and give a beautiful clear complexion.

Be sure to ask for Double Strength Othine, as this is the only one guaranteed of money back if it fails to remove freckles.—Adv.

And lots of men make fools of themselves by doing the fool things they are invited to do.

INDIGESTION

Caused by Acid-Stomach

Millions of people—in fact about 8 out of 10—suffer more or less from indigestion, acute or chronic. Nearly every case is caused by Acid-Stomach.

There are other stomach disorders which also are sure signs of Acid-Stomach—belching, heartburn, bloating after eating, food repeating, sour, gassy stomach. There are many ailments which while they do not cause much distress in the stomach itself, are, nevertheless, traceable to an acid-stomach. Among these are nervousness, biliousness, cirrhosis of the liver, rheumatism, impoverished blood, weakness, insomnia, melancholia and a long train of physical and mental miseries that keep the victims in miserable health year after year.

The right thing to do is to attack these ailments at their source—get rid of the acid-stomach. A wonderful modern remedy called EATONIC now makes it easy to do this.

One of hundreds of thousands of grateful users of EATONIC writes: "I have been troubled with indigestion for about nine years and have spent quite a sum for medicine, but without relief. After using EATONIC for a few days the gas and pain in my bowels disappeared. EATONIC is just the remedy I needed."

We have thousands of letters telling of these marvelous benefits. Try EATONIC and you, too, will be just as enthusiastic in its praise.

Your druggist has EATONIC. Get a big 60c box from him today. He will refund your money if you are not satisfied.

EATONIC

(FOR YOUR ACID-STOMACH)

Economy to Both Health and Purse

follow a change from coffee to the American table drink—

POSTUM CEREAL

A rich, full-bodied beverage—boiled full fifteen minutes after boiling begins. Pure and free from the nerve impairing drug, caffeine.

Two sizes, usually sold at 15c and 25c.

At Grocers Everywhere!