

BORDEAUX STOPS LATE TUBER ROT

Destructive Disease of Potatoes Can Be Controlled by Thorough Spraying.

SELLING VALUE IS LOWERED

All Regions Are Subject to Ailment When Moist, Cool Weather Prevails During Growing Season—Sections Affected.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The destructive late blight of potatoes, which, in addition to attacking the tops, causes a rot of the tubers, can be controlled by spraying with bordeaux mixture. Department Circular 220, Late-Blight Tubers of the Potato, by George K. K. Link and F. C. Meir, recently issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, describes the disease and means of



Spraying Potato Vines in Field with Bordeaux Mixture.

combating it. The rot decreases the selling value of potatoes and often leads to their complete decay in field, in transit, or in storage.

Changes Into Decayed Mass.

In the early stages of the disease the tubers are marked with brownish or purplish spots which later become shrunken, darker colored, and finally purplish black. In advanced stages the tuber sometimes changes into a wrinkled, decayed mass. This rot fungus opens the way for bacteria and other fungi that work more rapidly.

All potato-growing regions are subject to the disease when very moist, cool weather prevails during the growing season. It occurs frequently in severe form in the New England states, adjacent Canada, and the Puget Sound district, and less frequently, though often in severe form, in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, in the mountain districts of the eastern and western states, and in Florida on the early crop.

Insure Control in Field.

Since the tuber rot impairs germination, the chances of securing a good stand are greatly increased by planting only disease-free seed, but the only method to insure control in the field is by spraying with bordeaux mixture (5 pounds of copper sulphate, 5 pounds of stone lime, 50 gallons of water). To get good results the plants should be sprayed thoroughly and frequently, so that they will at all times be covered with a thin film of spray mixture.

It is not advisable to dig a field while the soil is wet, but at times it may be necessary to do so in order to save a part of the crop, though the chances of losing much of it are great. If tubers in transit or storage are kept dry and at temperatures between 35 degrees and 40 degrees F, the disease will develop little or not at all.

Copies of the circular may be had free by writing to the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

WAY TO CONTROL COCKLEBUR

First Essential Is to Prevent Weed From Maturing Seed—Shading Crops Also Helps.

The first essential in cocklebur control is to prevent the weed from maturing seed. If the infested field is in corn, the cultivation must be careful, killing all the plants possible with the cultivator and finishing the others by hand or with the hoe.

Thick-growing, shading crops help to control the weed. Such crops as Sudan grass, sorghum and even soy beans and clover will reduce the burs. A badly infested field or part of a field can be mowed and burned. Fence rows and other waste places should be watched for stray plants which will mature seeds unless attended to.

RAT-KILLING IS PROFITABLE

Work May Be Done on Rainy Days When Farm Hands Are Not Laboring in the Fields.

Rat-killing is very profitable work when it rains and the hands are not in the fields. By getting boys, men and dogs in line it is sometimes possible to destroy a number of rats. The rodents may be dug out of holes, straw stacks scattered, rubbish piles removed and war waged against the fleeing rats. Then after many are killed, follow up with other measures, such as traps, poisoning, etc.

FOREIGN MATERIALS LOWER WHEAT VALUE

May Become Mixed With Grain at Different Times.

Amount of Dockage Present at Time of Inspection and Grading is Factor of Considerable Importance to Farmer.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The foreign material usually found in wheat may become mixed with the wheat while growing, or with the grain at the time of thrashing, or in the elevator or other place of storage during the various processes of handling or marketing. The presence of foreign material in wheat at the time of thrashing may be the result of impure seed, or of certain weather conditions that are unfavorable to the growth of wheat plants but favorable to the growth of weeds.

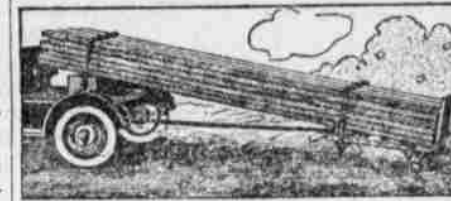
The United States Department of Agriculture, in its work of grading wheat, has found that where the seed is carefully selected, cleaned, and treated before sowing, and where care is exercised in cultivation and crop rotation, together with careful thrashing and cleaning, there ordinarily is very little foreign material present when the crop is marketed. The foreign material in wheat may seriously affect its value in that it often increases the cost of milling and injures the baking quality of flour. This factor is considered in inspecting and grading wheat. The amount of dockage present has a bearing upon its commercial value. When present in large amounts, it is a factor of considerable importance.

Farmers' Bulletin 1118, Dockage Under the Federal Wheat Grades, contains a detailed description of how foreign materials affect the grade of wheat. Copies of the bulletin may be had upon request from the division of publications, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

SMALL CAR HAULED LUMBER

Where No Wagon or Truck of Necessary Length Was Available Light Auto Does Trick.

A load of 20-ft. lumber was to be removed, and no wagon or truck of the necessary length was available. The illustration shows how the job



How a Light Automobile and a Hand Truck Were Made to Do the Work of a Long Wagon in Holding a Load of Lumber.

was done with a light automobile and a hand truck borrowed from a grocery. The rope from the rear axle of the car to the hand truck pulled the load, while the rope around the rear end of the lumber held the truck off the ground.—Edwin L. Camp, Huntington Park, Calif., in Popular Mechanics Magazine.

HENS NEED ANIMAL PROTEIN

Fowl Must Have Meat of Some Kind to Produce Eggs, No Matter How Much Vegetable Given.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Those who have not learned by experience are apt to conclude, using the "pigs is pigs" reasoning, that protein is protein whether it grows inside a hide or upon a plant. But not all proteins are alike and they do not produce like results when taken into the hen's body. In a general way, animal proteins and vegetable proteins are alike in that both are nitrogenous, but when the hen begins to make them into eggs she finds there are important differences that cannot be overcome. But she must have animal proteins in some amount, no matter how much of the other kind is available. High vegetable-protein feeds can replace some of the meat feed to advantage, but not more than one-fourth to one-half of it.

Tests made by the United States Department of Agriculture show that of the high vegetable-protein feeds cottonseed meal is the best for egg production. Peanutmeal comes next, followed by soy-bean meal and velvet-bean meal. In making up a mash not more than one-tenth of it should be cottonseed meal, as the use of more cuts down the egg yield materially and may affect the quality of the eggs, producing spots and blotches on the yolks which make them look bad. Other vegetable-protein feeds that may be used to advantage are gluten and linseed meal.

ALFALFA USED FOR PASTURE

Care Should Be Taken Not to Graze When Tender Shoots Are First Appearing.

Alfalfa should not be grazed when only the young tender shoots are first appearing, for the crowns are liable to be permanently injured and the alfalfa killed. It should never during the season be pastured down very close and will do better if permitted to grow enough so that at least one cutting may be taken each season.

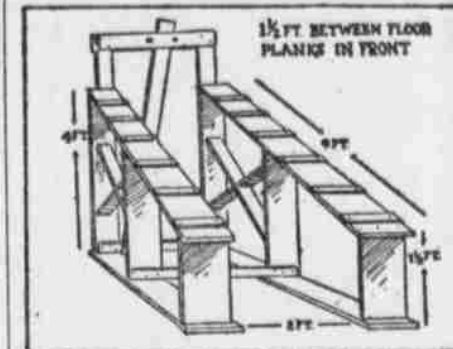
DAIRY FACTS

SERVICEABLE BREEDING RACK

Useful Device When Bull Becomes Heavy Is Not Difficult to Build—Must Be Braced.

A bull that is a good individual and that has excellent breeding back of him should be kept in service at least until his daughters come in milk. If he transmits his breeding to his daughters he should be kept in service until he is no longer useful. To follow this plan it is necessary to exchange bulls with other breeders and in most cases it will be necessary to use a breeding rack after the bull becomes too heavy. It is too often the case that the breeding value of a good bull is not discovered until he is dead.

A very serviceable breeding rack can be made as follows: Take two planks 2 by 12 by 9 feet long and place them on a level foundation for the floor of the breeding rack. These planks should be placed one and one-



Durable Breeding Rack for Bull.

half feet apart in the front part of the rack and two feet in the rear, inside measurements. Each side of the breeding rack has three posts made of the same material as the floor which are four feet high in front and one and one-half feet in the rear. The posts are nailed to the floor and a plank 2 by 12 by 9 feet long is nailed on the top of the posts. Two-inch strips are nailed across the top of the breeding rack at intervals of ten inches to prevent the bull from slipping.

The breeding rack must be well braced with 2 by 4's as indicated in the diagram. Four pieces 1 by 6 are nailed across the front end to prevent it from spreading. A 2 by 4 is nailed across the floor plank just back of the middle posts. A stanchion is placed in the front end of the breeding rack which is so constructed that it can be moved backward or forward.—The Prairie Farmer.

TESTS DETECT REMADE MILK

Necessary That Some Method Be Devised That Natural Product Be Distinguished.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The increased use of remade milk and cream—that is, milk and cream made from powdered or condensed milk and sweet-cream butter—has made necessary some method by which they may be distinguished from the natural products. Such a test has been devised by chemists of the United States Department of Agriculture, and it is now possible to detect as little as 10 per cent of remade milk in a mixture with natural pasteurized milk. If milk powder has been used in making the mixture, the amount that can be detected will depend on the degree of heat used in its manufacture.

The test for both milk and cream is based upon the color produced when the washed curd made from them is dissolved in sodium hydroxide. When this curd solution has stood for several hours a characteristic yellow color develops in the samples taken from remade milk and cream or mixtures containing them; samples of the natural products or only slight mixtures do not show it.

Remade milk and cream are wholesome foods if made properly from good, natural milk, but should be sold for what they are, and this test makes it possible for food officials to determine whether or not the consumer is being deceived.

TAKE RIGHT CARE OF CREAM

During Hot Weather It Should Receive More Attention—Cool Soon as Possible.

During hot weather cream must receive better care on the average farm. As soon after separating as possible, cool the cream by setting the can in cold water. Never mix the fresh warm cream with the cream from previous separation until cooled as low as possible. Do not keep cream too long at the farm. Send it to the creamery or take it to the cream station at least twice a week, and three times a week when the weather gets hot. Poor, stale cream will not make good butter. If the creamery cannot make good butter the average price of cream will be lower than if good butter can be made.

Bacteria Furnish Nitrogen.

Sweet clover, like most legumes, depends largely for its nitrogen on the work of bacteria that live in nodules on the roots of the plant. While it is not always necessary to inoculate the seed with this bacteria it is always advisable.

Tomato Wilt Carried.

Tomato wilt is carried in the plants and the disease is very often scattered by this means; therefore care should be taken where plants come from.

"JAZZ" BANDS HAVE A RIVAL

McGinnis Brothers of Gladewater, Tex., Have "Bullfrog Quartette."

DISCOVERED AT CAMP

Boys Teach Amphibians to Sing—Neighbors Gather Nightly to Hear Unusual Concert—Dive into Baptismal Waters at Church.

Gladewater, Tex.—The "bullfrog quartette" of the McGinnis brothers of this city is the very latest sensation in musical circles. So popular has the "frog quartette" become that no musical entertainment or church service is complete without a couple of contributions by the erstwhile denizens of the Sandy Creek marshes.

John and Joe McGinnis, twenty and eighteen-year-old singers of note, spend a good deal of their time in the woods camping. Several weeks ago the boys noticed that there were four frogs in the creek which stuck pretty close together and that their voices were easily distinguishable. They lay awake at night listening to these frogs. The boys started singing "Carry Me Back to Ol' Virginny" one evening. They sang a couple of times just to while away the time.

They were astonished an hour later when they heard the bullfrogs croaking away on the same tune, picking it up little at a time.

The next night the boys sang the same song three or four times, at intervals of an hour, with the bullfrog quartette practicing on it between times. This continued for four nights, when the bullfrogs could actually "carry the tune" to the melody.

The boys went home and told the story. Six of the most representative men in Gladewater accompanied them to the creek for a "bullfrog concert." There, arranged on a log in proper musical order, were the four massive bullfrogs, singing "Carry Me Back to Ol' Virginny," just about as well as any quartette. The voices of the tenor frog, the bass frog, the baritone frog and the second tenor frog stood out clearly.

The McGinnis brothers decided to capture the frogs. They had no trouble. They stayed for the night and when they interrupted the frog concert by singing "Old Black Joe," the four bullfrogs hopped off the log and came to where the boys were. In an hour's time they were piping along on strains of "Old Black Joe" with the McGinnis brothers. They were brought home, and since then they have been in intense training from an artificial pond in the back yard at the McGinnis home. The "bullfrog quartette" now sings four times, and the neighbors gather in nightly to hear them.

When the McGinnis brothers take the bullfrogs out for entertainments each is placed on a pedestal.

Last Sunday when the "bullfrog quartette" was the feature of the



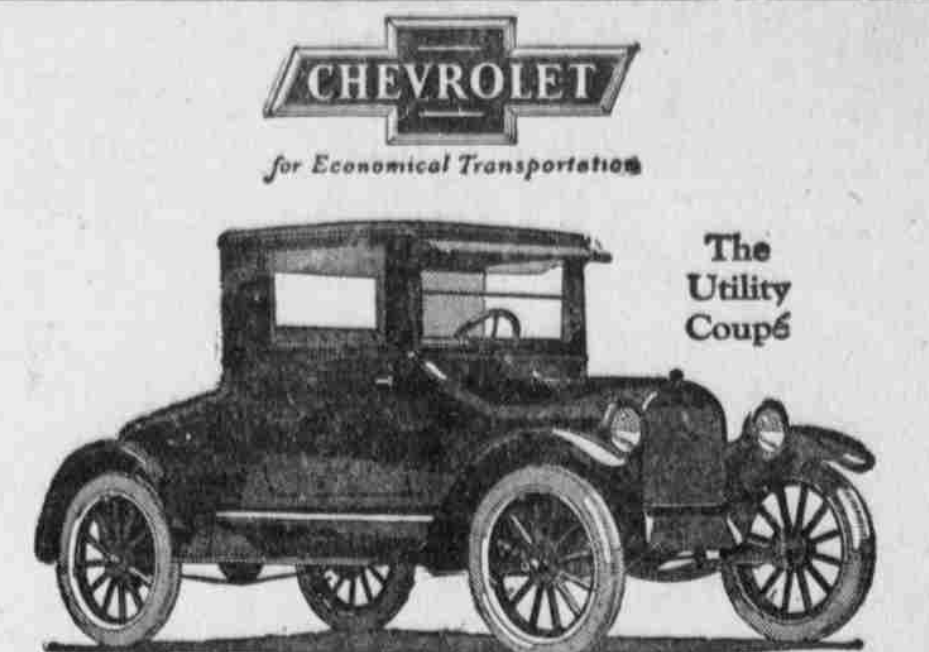
"Carry Me Back to Ol' Virginny."

singing at the Baptist church the bright & belled, intelligent-looking croakers were arranged along the railing of the baptismal. When they completed rendering "Carry Me Back to Ol' Virginny" and responded to an encore with "Old Black Joe" they dived into the baptismal waters and no amount of persuasion could get them out.

The McGinnis brothers are training a second set of frogs for a quartette. A joint concert will probably be held at the church within a month.

Syndicate Buys 150,000 Acres.

Los Angeles, Cal.—An English syndicate, headed by the duke of Argyll, has bought the Button Willow ranch, comprising 150,000 acres, in the San Joaquin valley of California, for a consideration of \$12,000,000, according to advices received here. The ranch was part of the Miller & Lux holdings. It is the intention of the purchasers to subdivide and put the property on the market.



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