

A Short Course In Agriculture Ends At Fredericton

Vincent Daigle and Ludger Bellefleur Are Prize Winners.

Thirty-two diplomas were presented to successful students at the closing of the 11th annual Agricultural Short Course School at the Dominion Experimental Station, Fredericton, on December 7 by Hon. Lewis Smith, Minister of Agriculture.

Vincent Daigle, of Baker Brook, Ludger, Bellefleur, of Bellefleur, Madawaska County, were the prize winners at this year's short course.

This school, which has been in operation now for the last 11 years was said to have been the most successful yet held by the Department of Agriculture. Hon. Mr. Smith in delivering the main address at the closing exercises referred to the benefit of the short course schools and pointed out that some of the most progressive farmers in New Brunswick today were those who had gone through the school in former years. He spoke, too, of the remarkable growth of such organizations as the calf clubs and swine clubs within the province and referred to the bright spots in the agricultural situation in New Brunswick today, as compared to a year ago.

Other speakers at the closing were J. K. King, Deputy Minister of Agriculture; W. W. Hubbard, of Fredericton, superintendent of the Experimental Station in Fredericton during the pioneer days of the government farm, and from 1908 to 1912 Deputy Minister of Agriculture; and Edouard Rice, vice-president of the New Brunswick Farmers and Dairymen's Association, who spoke in French.

The prize of the New Brunswick Swine Breeders Association, won by V. Daigle, was presented by J. M. F. MacKenzie, while the Poultry Producers of New Brunswick prize was presented to Ludger Bellefleur by F. L. Wood, poultry superintendent of the province.

There was a tie for the New Brunswick Junior Farmers' Association prize, Ludger Bellefleur and Walter G. Adams being awarded a joint prize in this contest. Walter G. Adams, also won the New Brunswick Sheep Breeders' prize, which was presented by Stanley Wood, livestock superintendent of the province.

Another feature of the closing was a duet by L. Bellefleur and Alfred Laforge, two of the students. The complete list of students awarded diplomas follows: Leopold Cyr, St. Francis; Narcisse Devout, Clair; Camille Oullet, Baker Lake; Vincent Daigle, Baker Brook; Aril Cyr, St. Hilaire; Archie Picard, Edmundston; Denis Oullet, St. Joseph; Roland Grondin, St. Jacques; Albert Cyr, St. Basile; Enoile Ringuette, Green River; Edouard Martin, Ste Anne; Melquis Violette; Siegas; Ludgar Bellefleur, Bellefleur; Alfred Laforge, St. Andre, Madawaska County. Paul Theriault, Caraquet, Celestin Blanchard, Caraquet, Gloucester County. Jude Robichaud, Angelo Daigle, St. Charles, Kent County. Joseph LeBlanc, Henri LeBlanc, Memramcook, Westmorland County. Ralph H. Estey, Millville, J. Kelso Robinson, R.R.1, Fredericton; Angus Beveridge, R.R.1, Fredericton; Alvah Good, Fredericton, York County. Donald M. Simonds, Centreville; Harold MacDonald, Centreville; Walter Adams, Glassville, Carleton County. Philip K. Bamford, West Saint John, Saint John County. Sydney Bridges, Sheffield, Sunbury County; Edward Elder, Hampstead; Edward Mackenzie, Welsford, Queens County; Charles M. Miller, Andover, Victoria County.

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AGRICULTURE

Canadian Grains Will Produce Good Quality Bacon Hog

Ideal as Basal Mixture For Swine of All Ages.

By E. B. FRASER,
Ottawa, Ontario
(Experimental Farms Note)

In the Canadian grown grains the swine feeder has an ideal basal mixture for swine of all ages. The three common feeds, oats, barley and wheat can be varied in their proportion to suit the needs of the pigs at various ages and under different conditions. When correctly proportioned and a protein supplement included, these grains have been proven practically the equal of similar mixtures containing corn. Further, the quality and type of the barley-fed hogs is considered much superior to those finished on corn.

Experiments have been carried on at a number of Dominion experimental farms on the relative feeding values of corn and the Canadian grown grains. The results from several farms have been compiled and studied by the Animal Husbandry Division of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. They reveal that corn and barley when fed in mixtures to growing and fattening swine are practically equal in feeding value.

As a typical example, an experiment was conducted at the Nappan Experimental Farm on the feeding value of corn versus barley for growing and fattening hogs. The pigs were fed under both inside and outside conditions and were given an addition of green feed to their rations. The barley fed lots averaged slightly higher in average daily gains and would thus be ready for market somewhat sooner. The barley lots gained 1.22 pounds per pig per day, while the corn lots gained 1.16 pounds per pig daily. The barley and corn evaluated in the meal mixtures at the same cost. The barley lots cost \$7.67 per cwt. gain while the corn lots cost \$7.78 per cwt. gain. It is obvious that the differences in both daily gains and cost per cwt. gain were almost negligible. However, the results show that barley and corn when combined with other grains have practically the same feeding value for growing and fattening swine.

Results of experiments at other institutions on the feeding of barley and corn as single grains have shown corn to have a slightly higher feeding value. However, under Canadian conditions where there are generally oats and sometimes mill feeds available to supplement barley feeding, barley will prove the equal of corn pound for pound.

In another experiment carried out at the Nappan Experimental Farm on corn versus barley for hogs, it was found that the barley lot was much superior in bacon type to the corn fed lot. It is a common observation that barley when properly supplemented with other grains and protein feeds, produces an excellent bacon carcass which generally contains a firmer fat than corn-fed hogs.

With the variety of home-grown feeds available, which in combination with other grains produce excellent results, there is an opportunity for the Canadian swine feeder to do his part in furthering the bacon trade. The results in bacon hogs can be a credit to him and to the bacon industry, and the profits will be no less and likely much more through the feeding of our Canadian grown feeds.

CHARLOTTE COUNTY LEADS IN BLOOD TESTED POULTRY STOCK

Blood Tests Conducted During Last Six Years By New Brunswick Dept. of Agriculture Are Reviewed.

Charlotte County at present has more than one-quarter of the blood tested poultry stock in New Brunswick and has made the most rapid advancement in the production of poultry breeding stock.

This information together with a complete report on the activity of the Department of Agriculture in connection with the poultry blood testing in the province is given today in a statement issued by Hon. Lewis Smith, Minister of Agriculture. The statement follows a detailed report of the work presented by F. Leslie Wood, poultry superintendent.

York County leads the province in the number of flocks tested but takes second place to Charlotte in the number of tested birds. Kings and Westmorland follow in third and fourth positions and the work of testing has been extended to every county in the province.

The testing has just been completed and shows that 151 flocks have been tested in the province, and this makes a total of 21,254 birds. The work is a part of a provincial breeding policy which requires the testing to be done annually except where a flock has had two consecutive negative or clean tests. In such a case the flock is exempted from testing for one year if the management has been such as to prevent infection from outside sources. Thus while the number of tests made in 1933 is slightly below the figures of last year this is accounted for by the fact that a larger number of flocks were exempted because of having been free of reactors for a two year period. Of the birds tested 381 or 1.79 per cent. were reactors or carriers of the disease. While this is a slightly higher percentage than in the 1932 test the increase was caused almost wholly by a few flocks, tested this year for the first time, that carried a high percentage of reactors.

Figures for the six years' work follow:

Year	No. of Flocks	No. of Birds	Per Cent. Reactors
1926	99	10,679	14.44
1929	156	15,860	8.83
1930	213	22,338	8.73
1931	193	24,023	3.11
1932	161	22,118	1.20
1933	151	21,254	1.79

Concurrent with the taking of blood samples has been a general culling of the flocks handled which increases their general excellence. The tested flocks are to be mated with specially selected pedigreed cockerels for supplying approved hatcheries with eggs. Where reactors were found the flock owners have been advised what course to follow in ridding their flocks of the disease.

In the matter of breeds Barred Plymouth Rocks predominate by an overwhelming majority among the birds tested, there being 119 flocks and 17,904 birds. White Leghorns claim second place with 18 flocks and 2,932 birds. These two breeds only have commercial significance in the province. Other breeds tested in small numbers were White Wyandotts, Rhode Island Reds, White Plymouth Rocks, Australorps, Jersey White Giants, and White Minorcas.

This is the sixth consecutive year the Poultry Division of the Department of Agriculture has conducted a campaign of poultry blood testing for the eradication of pullorum or, as the disease was formerly known, bacillary white diarrhoea. The disease is harmful in that it causes heavy mor-

tality in young chicks and turkeys and lowered production in mature birds. The mature infected birds rarely show symptoms but are the carriers of the organism from one generation to the next. It is the only known disease of poultry that is transmitted through the egg to the developing chick. A percentage of the chicks from a hen carrying the organism are infected when hatched. Mortality among such birds is very high and the first day or two it spreads rapidly to other chicks in the flock. Mortality continues for about a three week period and infected chicks that recover may appear stunted for a time but eventually develop with the appearance of normal birds. It is such birds that act as carriers of the disease. It will thus be seen that there is a definite cycle of infection. Any means of breaking this cycle will help in the control of the disease and the best method of breaking the cycle known is the detection of carriers by what is technically known as the microscopic agglutination test and their subsequent removal from the flock. A similar test is used by physicians in detecting typhoid fever and by veterinarians in testing cattle for contagious abortion.

The part played by the Poultry Division in pullorum control consists in the taking of blood samples from pure bred flocks whose owners have made application for testing and in sending them to a laboratory where the actual test is made.

McIntosh Apple Has A Wide Sale In Empire Markets

Grown To Perfection in New Brunswick Orchards.

By L. C. YOUNG,
Fredericton, N. B.
(Experimental Farms Note)

Of the many varieties of dessert apples produced in various parts of the British Empire, the McIntosh is undoubtedly one of the finest, and in fact, considered by many, the best. New Brunswick orchardists are indeed fortunate in being able to produce this apple to perfection, and they have not been slow in recognizing the possibilities of this variety. At the present time, approximately one-fifth of the total commercial apple production of this province is McIntosh, and this proportion will be increased during the next few years, as there are many young trees just coming into bearing.

Although the orchardists have recognized the possibilities of these McIntosh, and have taken the utmost pains in their growing and packing methods with the result that an exceptionally high class article is being placed on the market, the consumers of the province are not as well acquainted with this variety as they should be. A marketing experiment, in which McIntosh apples were placed on the market in cellophane-covered containers, holding one dozen apples each, proved conclusively that this variety possesses such individual merit as to enable it to command a premium over the other varieties. All that is necessary is for the consumer to become personally familiar with the variety, which is in season from the first of November until the last of February, and considerably longer if kept in cold storage, and the marketing problem, in connection with New Brunswick McIntosh will be solved.



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