

'Early Lambs Show Early Profits' Is Advertising Theme

Special Promotion Campaign
By Canadian Lamb
Committee.

By Press and Publicity Division,
Department of Agriculture,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Under the sponsorship of the Canadian Lamb Committee, a special promotion campaign designed to stress the merits of lamb as food throughout Canada is now being actively carried out.

Through several channels, Canadians are being made acquainted with the fact that an abundance of high quality lamb is now on the market; that lamb is not a seasonal dish, but is available the year around; that all parts of lamb are tender and delicious; that lamb can be served in a variety of ways; that it contains the essential food elements in a high degree, and that it combines well with other foods.

During March and April fresh killed, feed-lot lamb is featured on all Canadian markets and is rapidly becoming more popular as a Canadian meat. As a result, the consumption of lamb is steadily increasing, the stocks of lamb in storage as at March 1, 1936, being 3,620,546 pounds, a decrease of 1,835,660 pounds as on March 1, 1935. Under these circumstances, the prospects are that supplies of feed-lot and storage lamb will be practically exhausted by the end of May, 1936. This will leave the way clear for the supply of early lamb and it is expected there will be a stronger demand for baby lamb this year, so that farmers who are able to market lambs in the spring and early summer months should realize remunerative prices.

The raising of early lambs is being recommended by the committee. Ewes lambing in February and March must be housed in comfortable quarters. Like dairy cows they require foods for milk production. Clover and alfalfa hay with oats, bran and a little oilcake keep the ewes healthy and maintain the milk flow until the ewes are turned to grass. The cost of raising early lambs is a little higher than ordinary, but for farmers who are successful in producing good quality lambs, well-finished and of correct weights, the higher price to be obtained will more than offset any extra cost.

BARLEY EXPORTS

Canada is the leading barley exporting country in the British Empire and Roumania the chief exporter in foreign countries. The exports from both countries in the world trade have declined in recent years, Argentina being the only one country showing consistent increased exports during the period under review (1931-1934).

EXPORTS TO AFRICA

Wheat, flour, and farm implements are among the leading Canadian exports to French Africa. The area of French possessions in Africa nearly equals that of the Dominion of Canada. The population is over 32,000,000 of which more than 1,000,000 are of European origin.

GUERNSEY IMPORTS

The improvement of Guernsey cattle is being studied at the Dominion Experimental Farm at Nappan, Nova Scotia. The objective is to develop a more fixed type with higher production, without sacrificing quality.

FEEDING EXPERIMENT

A winter feeding experiment with pigs at the Dominion Experimental Station at Scott, Saskatchewan, showed that the absence of Vitamin D in sunlight can be remedied by adding an ounce per day per pig of cod liver oil or of pilchard oil to the ration.

AGRICULTURE

Too Many Weed Seeds In Barley Grown in the West

Eastern Feeders Will Not Use This Grain on That Account.

Feed grades of western barley are considerably penalized in feeding value and in popularity with Eastern Canadian feeders because of the quantities of weed seeds and other extraneous material they contain, said Prof. E. W. Crampton, professor of Animal Nutrition, Macdonald College, Que., in an address he gave at the recent meeting of the National Barley Committee. Weeds in grain, he stated, can be removed comparatively easily by modern machinery.

Until some marked improvement is brought about in feeding grades of barley by way of reduction in the amounts of adulterants it is questionable said Prof. Crampton, if Western Canadian barley will be widely used in Eastern Canada.

Other representatives of the Eastern Provinces who were at the meeting spoke critically concerning the large weed-seed content of barley grown in the Prairie Provinces.

J. E. McRostie, an official of one of the leading Canadian milling companies, which handles large quantities of feed for livestock, stated that a one pound sample taken recently from a carload of No. 4 C. W. western barley shipped to Ontario contained more than 7,000 weed seeds.

In the report of the special committee of the Dominion Department of Agriculture concerning the marketing of feed barley, W. R. White, chief of the Feed Division, Dominion Seed Branch, stated that numerous criticisms, chiefly from those professionally engaged in promoting agriculture in Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Provinces were voiced against the presence of fine weed seeds in Western feed grain. It was represented that such weed seeds created a menace, which, to be overcome, necessitated either recleaning before grinding with a plate grinder or such complete pulverization as to be unduly costly as well as undesirable from a feed standpoint.

Lew Hutchison, of Duhamel Alberta, a farmer and a member of the Alberta Wheat Pool, said it was evident from the criticisms of the too great prevalence of weed seeds in western barley that the solution lies in better farming and in cleaning grain on the farm.

In 1935 over 77 per cent. of the total crop of barley produced in Canada was grown in the three Prairie Provinces.

COST OF HORSE LABOR

The Percheron horses at the Dominion Experimental Station at Ste. Anne de la Pocatiere, P.Q., besides being used for breeding purposes, have been employed in experimental work, especially to establish the cost of horse labor and the feed cost for raising colts.

FRUIT EXPORTS

The principal canned fruit product exported from Canada to the British Isles consists of pears. In 1935 236,000 cases of canned pears were exported to Britain, an increase of 15,000 cases on the 1934 exports.

CREAMERY BUTTER

The amount of creamery butter produced in Canada during January and February, 1936, was 17,239,110 pounds, an increase of 15.1 per cent. compared with 15,659,919 pounds produced in January and February, 1935.

Origin of the Various Nitrogen Fertilizers

THE nitrogen fertilizer materials used in Canada in order of tonnage are sulphate of ammonia, nitrate of soda, cyanamid, dried blood, calcium nitrate, ammonium nitrate, urea. Of these, sulphate of ammonia, cyanamid, and dried blood are manufactured in Canada on a large scale. The others are imported. Nitrate of soda now comes mainly from Chile and the United States, the Chilean product being natural and the American synthetic, that is, made from the nitrogen of the air. Calcium nitrate is mostly Norwegian production and the ammonium nitrate comes mainly from Great Britain. Nitrochalk is a form of ammonium nitrate.

These nitrogen materials all leave residues in the soil which may be acid or alkaline in reaction, and this fact is gradually becoming of a greater interest to fertilizer users. Fertilizers leaving alkaline residue include nitrate of soda, cyanamid and calcium nitrate, while the residue from the sulphate of ammonia, ammonium nitrate and urea have an acid tendency.

Some Hints On The Proper Methods Of Safe Home Canning

All Jars, Lids, Etc., Must Be Absolutely Clean.

By M. L. HEENY,
Central Experimental Farm,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Safe canning of fruits and vegetables requires care in every step of the process. Jars, lids and all utensils must be absolutely clean.

It is not necessary to have a special canning outfit for home use, although one may be purchased if it is desired. The ordinary wash boiler with a wire or slatted rack may be used, or any kettle with a tight fitting cover. The rack or false bottom must be at least three quarters of an inch from the bottom of the sterilizer and should be slatted to allow the water to circulate around the jars. For processing, fill the sterilizer with warm water at least two inches above the tops of the jars. The length of time required varies with the food being canned. This type of canner is used for general canning experiments conducted by the Division of Horticulture, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

The steam pressure cooker is especially recommended for canning vegetables and meats as it gives a higher temperature than is possible in a hot water bath.

Oven cannings is recommended for fruits and tomatoes. A well insulated, heat controlled oven is best for this method of canning. The temperature should be kept at from 250 degrees F. to 275 degrees F. without top heat. The filled jars are placed in a shallow pan of water and the time allowed should be about one-third more than in the hot water bath.

A jar for use in canning should have a smooth rim and well fitting cover to furnish a perfect seal. Test each jar before using it. Half fill with water, adjust the rubber and cover, seal and invert, to test for leaks. The spring tops should snap into place. Ring tops should not be

Preparation For Supplies Of Seed Is Now Under Way

Quantity, Then Quality, Are Points To Be Considered.

By Press and Publicity Division,
Department of Agriculture,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Another springtime has come and another seeding season when farmers naturally become seed-minded.

The first thought of a farmer should perhaps be given to an estimate of the quantity of seed likely to be required for the area to be seeded. In this connection sufficient seed should be provided so that the rate of seeding of grasses and clovers especially, be generous. The next consideration should be given to the quality of the seed to be used. This consists of the selection of suitable varieties and seed of a high and known grade whether purchased or home-grown, thoroughly cleaned to remove weed seeds, inert material and light-bodied or undeveloped seed or kernels. Good seed should not only give a high percentage of germination, but should also possess the necessary reserve of plant food to sustain the seedlings against adverse conditions by being plump and well filled.

Experimentalists and plant breeders are emphasizing strongly the matter of adaptation of varieties to sections of the country rather than to the country as a whole. Selection of variety, therefore, calls for more special attention than may be generally supposed. Suitability of variety should be determined by date of maturity, yield and market value. Efficient cleaning contributes in a large measure towards the good quality of seed. This may be accomplished by using a properly equipped and operated hand fanning mill. If this is not available a central seed cleaning plant should be employed. Assisted by government subvention in many instances, such cleaning plants have been established at different points.

The treatment for disease should receive serious consideration, particularly with regard to smut infections. Heavy loss is sustained each year through seed-borne diseases which could be largely obviated by proper treatment of the seed before sowing. Information concerning the several treatments may be obtained by application to an Agricultural Representative, an Agricultural College or to any Dominion Experimental Farm or Station.

used if they become cracked or corroded.

Jar rubbers are a very important part of canning equipment. Buy fresh rubbers each season. Never use old ones. Twelve rubber rings are cheaper than a jar of fruit or vegetables.

In choosing foods to can, remember that there is no magic in a jar which will improve the contents stored in it. Food comes out pretty much as it goes in. Fine luscious fruit, perfect vegetables, and tender plump fowls retain their quality after canning.

FLEECE WOOL PREPARATION

Considerable improvement has been effected in Canada in the preparation of fleece wool since 1913 when public attention was first directed to the means of quality improvement and the manner of preparation for market. At present all commercial wool in Canada is sold in the grease, and the fleeces rolled and tied intact as they are shorn.

THIS WEEK!

\$3.00 Value Special

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KIT**

Everything for a Home
Facial Treatment for
only

\$1.49

WASSONS BU-T-BAR

9 Sydney Street

A Big Demand For Certified Seed Potatoes Every Year

High Quality Comes From Special Care.

By JOHN TUCKER,
Central Experimental Farm,
Ottawa, Ontario.

With the increasing prevalence and number of diseases of potatoes and the greater risk in purchasing seed about which nothing is known by the purchaser, has come the realization that the production of high class seed requires special care. A very satisfactory System of seed potato certification has been developed in Canada by the Division of Botany, Central Experimental Farms Branch, and is based upon two field inspections of the growing crop, and of the tubers after harvest. Only seed potatoes which meet the standard for certification are eligible for sale as Certified Seed, and official tags are supplied for every package of such seed. Therefore, if the Government tag is not on the package, the potatoes are table stock only and seed prices should not be paid. There are two grades only of seed potatoes, "Certified Extra No. 1" and "Certified Small Sized 1½-3 ounces." If the tags do not specify either of these grades, the potatoes are not seed potatoes.

These is definite need of field inspections for seed potatoes as certain virus diseases are not observable in the tubers and can only be identified in the growing plants. Obviously only low yields can be expected from diseased plants. It is a big mistake to conclude that good seed potatoes can be selected by tuber appearance alone.

There are no regulations in effect which prevent anyone from using any kind of potatoes for seed purposes, and some of the stores are selling table potatoes in their seed departments, but it is the purchaser's privilege, if he pays more than regular table stock prices, to demand the official tag, otherwise he may get only table stock.

Well over a million bushels of certified seed potatoes have been sold annually for the past nine years. The bulk of the seed produced is exported. The best potato growers in other countries appear to appreciate the value of good seed and in spite of plentiful local supplies will pay the additional freight and tariff charges to secure Canadian Certified Seed potatoes. Growers are advised to secure their supplies immediately as seed stocks are getting very low. Lists of growers having seed for sale are obtainable, free, from the Dominion Botanist, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.