

Control Of Club Root Is Subject Of Intensive Study

Can Be Combated With Use of Corrosive Sublimate.

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Club root is one of the most troublesome and destructive diseases with which the grower of turnips, cabbages and related crops has to contend. It is characterized by the formation of irregular swellings on the infected roots. In severe cases these swellings enlarge to such an extent that the whole root system becomes a club-like mass. When the disease destroys the fibrous roots it decreases the capacity of the plant to absorb water. As a result many plants wilt on hot days or during periods of low soil moisture, and, on account of the reduced root system, they remain stunted or die. The disease is caused by a minute organism which is capable of persisting for many years in the soil. In consequence, land which is heavily infested with club root should not be used for the growing of turnips, cabbages and related crops for at least seven years.

One of the most successful methods of controlling the disease is to use resistant varieties. Certain strains of Bangholm, particularly the Nappan and Herning, and the Wilhelmsburger variety have shown a high degree of resistance to club root on certain soils. Little resistance to the disease has been found, however, among common varieties of

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AGRICULTURE

Canadian Poultry Has Been Improved By Good Breeding

Previous to 1910 Birds Were Bred as Dual-Purpose.

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

Up to 1910 poultry in Canada was bred as a dual purpose stock, that is, for the production of eggs and meat, no particularly intensive effort had been made to develop either feature. The use of trap-nests became more general about 1910, and a serious effort was made to breed poultry for the maximum possible egg production. Many birds that otherwise would have been culled under the old system of breeding were thus used as breeders selected on the basis of egg production alone, and the general result in many cases has been deep-bodied, slab-sided birds with very prominent keel bones.

The carcasses of such birds, no matter how they are finished for market, states the "Improved Market Type in Poultry Breeding Stock" bulletin just issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, do not present a pleasing appearance, although the actual amount of meat may be practically the same as found on birds with more rounded breasts. Lately, however, the examination of a large number of birds coming

RECORDS ARE FALLING FAST



So many records are being made by Canadian cows these days that it is hard to keep track of them. Here is Springbank Snow Countess, sixteen-year-old Canadian Holstein cow, which recently lost her title of world's champion lifetime butter-fat producer to the American Holstein, La Vertex Quantity, has just come through with a record of 18,991 pounds of milk and 822 pounds of fat to regain her crown by a considerable margin. Bred and owned by T. R. Dent, Woodstock, Ontario, she has produced for him in ten lactations 9,062 pounds of fat from 207,050 pounds of milk.

from strains with high egg records has shown that this type is not the only one that produces a large number of eggs. A reasonable number of birds with good records produce carcasses with a suitable market appearance and, furthermore, such birds are inclined to carry with them a degree of stamina and vigor not found in the less rugged types. The need for improvement in

the market qualities of poultry, the subject matter represents the trend of development during recent years as a suggested guide to inspectors and flock owners. While emphasis has been placed on body type, breeders should bear in mind that proper feeding and environmental conditions are necessary to ensure the finish and softness of flesh required in the higher grades of market poultry.

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Carcass Grading Of Hogs Improves Market Standard

Still Room For Improvement, However, Figures Show.

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

While it is true that there has been a marked improvement in recent years in the quality of hogs sent to the markets throughout Canada, the fact remains the standard of quality could be substantially improved as the following figures disclose: In 1934 out of a total of 3,025,161 hogs marketed only 576,951 or 19.1 per cent. were selects; 42.5 per cent. were bacon and 38.4 per cent. were butchers or lower grades. A considerable number of the selects were found unsatisfactory for export owing to bruises, soft or oily carcasses and other defects. The marketing of low quality hogs and of those bruised, soft, oily or diseased means a substantial loss to farmers.

One of the most effective ways to bring about the desired improvement in the quality of hogs offered on the markets is by grading the hogs after they have been killed, known as rail or carcass grading. Every country except Canada exporting bacon to the British market, has adopted this modern system of grading. Apart altogether from the fact that hogs can be graded more efficiently after they are killed, carcass grading discloses other points that have an effect on the industry. For example, every year there is a heavy loss incurred as a result of carcasses that are wholly or partially condemned by the veterinary inspectors of the Health of Animals Branch, Dominion Department of Agriculture, due to infection or disease. By the carcass system of grading, infected or diseased hogs, and those with soft carcasses or other defects can be segregated and traced back to the point of origin.

The Livestock Branch, Dominion Department of Agriculture is convinced that this improved system of grading is a decided contribution to the improvement of the hog industry. All packing plants in Eastern Canada are now accepting hogs for carcass grading. While it was only introduced in the Maritime Provinces in May, 1935, it has become generally accepted, for in November, 1935, 93 per cent. of all hogs sold to packing plants were graded on the rail. In Ontario approximately 100,000 hogs have been graded in 1935 by this system. Any farmer who prefers to market his hogs graded after they are killed merely has to instruct his shipper, drover or trucker accordingly.

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