

AGRICULTURE

Greater Need Now To Use Good Seed

IT IS BAD ECONOMY TO SAVE
MONEY ON THE LOWER
GRADES OF SEED

Shortage of labour is now one of the great problems facing farmers consequently it is necessary to cut down the amount of work involved in producing satisfactory crops. Under the circumstances there is grave danger of weeds increasing to such an extent that they may become a more serious problem on cultivated land than ever before, says W. H. Wright, Chief of Laboratory Services, Plant Production Division, Dominion Department of Agriculture.

The production of all crops is largely a battle with weeds. As weeds compete with crops for water, light and the mineral nutrients found in the soil the argument that a few more weeds cannot make any difference to the resulting crop shows a lack of knowledge of the competition which the crops have to meet in weed and infested fields.

Many farmers are inclined to accept such common weeds as lamb's quarters and pigweed as a matter of course rather than consider them to be serious weeds. If the quantity of water required to produce one pound of lamb's quarters in dried form is compared with the amount necessary to produce an equal quantity of oats it will be found that lamb's quarters make far more demand on the soil moisture than the oat plant. Oats require 597 pounds of water to make one pound of dry matter, while lamb's quarters require 891 pounds.

Many weeds require and use more than double as much nitrogen, phosphoric acid, potash, as a well developed oat plant.

Weeds increase the cost of labour and equipment, and greatly advance the cost of preparing crop products for either animal or human consumption.

Weeds in cereals not only lower the value of the grain but are hard on machinery and result in the use of more binder twine than is required to harvest clean crops. They also harbour insect pest and fungus diseases, to say nothing of reducing land values.

Due to labour and other shortages as a result of the war farmers may not be able to give the proper attention to the cultivation of their land to control weeds, but they can be sure that they do not aggravate the situation by sowing seed containing

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Hard Water Is Great Soap Waster Makes Laundering Jobs Laborious

Hard water is one of the difficulties that beset households in many parts of Canada and too often nothing is done about it.

As well as making washing and cleaning a laborious business, to say nothing of its effect on skin and hair, hard water is a soap waster requiring often as much as, 3 times the quantity required for use in soft water.

Chemicals seldom completely soften water but are considered the most practical aids for general use by the Laundry Division, National Research Council. The extent of softening depends on such factors as the character of the water supply, the chemicals used, the application of heat and time of standing.

The chemicals most commonly used and sold under trade names are carbonates, phosphates and silicates of sodium. Washing soda is probably the least expensive to use, according to laundry officials, although trisodium phosphate is the basis for many special brands. Since any excessive use of water-softening chemicals may weaken certain fabrics, a test of the amount needed in a particular district is recommended. Repetition of the test from time to time is suggested since the degree of hardness of a local

water supply is modified by heavy spring rains and melting snow.

The amount of water softener to be used may be determined roughly as follows:

Measure this amount of water (number of gallons in the washing machine, or the number of quarts in a small tub or hand basin) and add the chosen water softener in the proportion of one-half teaspoonful for each gallon. Stir thoroughly. If any appreciable amount of scum or cloudiness appears, let it settle for five minutes. Remove any scum that forms, then dip out a pint of water and add one-quarter teaspoonful of soap. Shake well. If this produces a good lasting lather, the water is soft. If it only produces more scum and cloudiness add more water softener in the same proportion, (one half teaspoonful for each gallon), remove the scum, and repeat the test. Repeat this until the water is really soft. This may take some time at the beginning, but once it is learned how much softener is required, it can be written down for future reference. It is important that the softener be thoroughly dissolved, and any scum removed before soap is added.

Bolting hard, water convenient only for treating small quantities, will help when the hardness is of a "temporary" nature, but does not completely remove the hardness present. In this process the insoluble compound first forms a cloudiness in the water and then on standing, settles to the bottom of the vessel. The

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Cheese No Longer Plays A Minor Role Its Stars Frequently In Main Dishes

The origin of cheese as a food is lost in the mists of antiquity but its value has never been better appreciated than it is today.

No longer does cheese play a minor role in our menus as an accompaniment to apple pie, it now stars as well in main dishes with increasing frequency. Cheese combines so well with such a variety of foods that there need be no "sameness" in cheese dishes to make their appearance become monotonous. Contrary to popular belief cheese is not difficult to digest providing it is not over-cooked at too high a temperature.

Cheese contains, in concentrated form, most of the food value of milk. It is high in proteins as are meats and cheese dishes may replace meat occasionally at the main meal of the day.

Most people like cheese dishes and these tested recipes from Canada's Kitchens in the Consumer Section of the Dominion Department of Agriculture are pretty sure to become family favorites.

Cheese Puff
1-inch slices stale bread
1-2 pound cheese, sliced
2-4 teaspoon salt
2-3 cups milk
4 eggs
Pepper and paprika
Trim crusts from bread and arrange slices in alternate layers with cheese is greased baking dish. Beat eggs slightly, add milk and seasoning and pour over the bread. Cover and keep in the ice box until ready to bake. Set in a pan of hot water and bake in a moderate oven, 350

Dairy Industry and Food Production

DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION OF
FLUID MILK INCREASED BY
ABOUT 10 PER CENT

It is generally known that cheese is required from Canada by the United Kingdom in large quantities, but the fact that the distribution of all dairy products throughout Canada has increased to a market degree in recent years is not so well known, said W. C. Cameron, Associate Chief Dairy Products, Dominion Department of Agriculture, in an address at the annual meeting of the Dairy Farmers of Canada, held recently at Calgary, Alberta. It has been calculated that the milk fat used in the manufacture of cheese and butter in Canada during 1942 exceeded that so used in the previous year by approximately six per cent. It is further estimated that the domestic consumption of fluid milk has increased by about 10 per cent during 1942 as compared with 1941. The domestic distribution of concentrated milk products, both whole-milk products, has increased in a marked degree. Ice cream, has been in greater demand, and if its sale had not been restricted by Order of the Dairy Products Board to the amount sold during 1941, it too, would have shown very great increases.

What dairy products the United Kingdom may require of Canada in 1943 is not yet known, but assuming it will be about the same as during 1942, it has been calculated that in order to meet estimated requirements from all sources during 1943, Canada must produce at least 18,500 million pounds of milk, that is, 1,012 million, or 5-8 per cent, more than was produced during 1942. It is anticipated that increases in production will be required for all products during 1943 as compared with 1942, except in the case of condensed milk and possibly cheese. It is believed that butter production should be greater by approximately 40,000,000 pounds, or 15 per cent. Evaporated milk should be increased to the extent of 8,447,000 pounds, and powdered milk to 4,700,000 pounds.

In urging dairymen to increase production, those who had the responsibility of estimating requirements of food products were not unmindful of the many and serious problems to be overcome before the desired objectives could be met. There was the problem of securing not only experienced labour but help of any kind. There was the difficulty in purchasing equipment, or even re-equipments of the dairy industry during the past year had been admirable in spite of these problems.

N.Z. PLANT MAKES GRENADES



LIEUTENANT-GENERAL E. PUTTICK, commanding officer of New Zealand's armed forces, right, sees how munitions are produced in the Ford plant at Lower Hutt, near Wellington. Production men explain to the General and Hon. G. D. Sullivan, New Zealand war cabinet minister, second from left, how mass production of hand grenades is accomplished. Part of the Ford of Canada Empire-wide organization, Ford plants in New Zealand, Australia, South Africa and India all contribute to the tremendous output and great variety of munitions produced by the Company.

Don't Have Idle Apiary Equipment

(EXPERIMENTAL FARMS NEWS)

Because of certain restrictions placed upon the manufacture of apiary equipment that which is already in the possession of the beekeepers should be regarded as valuable, says C. B. Gooderham, Dominion Apiarist, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

The present demand for honey and wax has created a greater interest in beekeeping and will likely require that all available supplies now in the hands of the producers be put to work this coming summer. So far it has been comparatively easy to get new supplies, and because of this it is quite possible that in many apiaries there is old and discarded equipment which, with a little repair work could be made to function for a few more seasons and thus release new material for more important war purposes. Every beekeeper is urged to check over his entire stock of supplies this winter and to put every several producers might also help to

thing possible into workable condition. If a surplus exists either fill it with bees and make it work or release it to those who can. Advertising in the various bee journals or farm press should quickly produce a purchaser.

It is possible that considerable, little used, equipment has been packed away and forgotten but which may be urgently needed next summer. Those owning or knowing of any such supply are urged to do their utmost to get it into the hands of active producers.

Supplies made largely or solely of metal will be the most difficult to obtain. So it is more important that metal appliances be restructured and made to work to their utmost capacity. This is especially true of extractors, tanks, smokers, etc. Co-operation whereby one machine could serve several producers might also help to

Outlines Program Meat Production

CATTLE MARKETING IN 1942
SHOULD EXCEED LAST YEAR
BY 100,000 HEADS

To supply Canadian meat requirements in 1943, live stock marketing will be needed on a scale never before attained. This is true despite the fact that meat production has been stepped up rapidly each year since the outbreak of the war, says R. S. Hamer, Director, Production Service, Dominion Department of Agriculture. For example, total production of meat in 1942 showed an increase of nearly 50 per cent over the average tonnage produced during the five-year period 1936-40. But even this immense quantity of meat would not supply more than 85 per cent of the tonnage which will be required in 1943.

In the meat production program agreed to at the Dominion-Provincial agricultural conference recently held in Ottawa, attention was naturally focused on hogs. The objective of 8,000,000 hogs marketed through commercial channels in 1943 is a formidable one. It calls for an increase of 25 per cent over last year's marketing. Unless this number of hogs come forward difficulty will be found in filling the present United Kingdom bacon contract on time and in the meantime the civilian population will have to continue to refrain from satisfying their appetite for bacon, ham and other pork products.

In the case of other meat products, supplies this year are expected more nearly to balance requirements. This will depend on the degree to which the objectives in hog marketing is reached. To any extent that Canada

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solve the problem should an actual shortage develop.

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