

Practical Farming

Helpful Facts Gathered from Reliable Sources
Of Interest to Montana Farmers :: :: ::

(NOTE) If you have any idea to offer to the other readers or wish anything to appear in these columns kindly send it in.

WORK TEAMS AND WEATHER.

"If it rains for several days you do not stay in the house or in bed all the time, do you?"
"Certainly not; you have work to do. But if you had to stay in it would be bad for you."
"It's just the same with the work teams. They need exercise in order to begin, when the weather clears, properly rested."
"A pasture is the best place for them if it is not actually raining, and exercise in box stalls or under a covered shed in the barnyard will be almost as good. Let them stretch their legs."—Farm and Fireside.

OREGON FARMERS TO FILL GAP

Ancient Custom of Growing Tares (Vetch) For Seed to Be Renewed.
[Prepared by Oregon Agricultural college.]
Vetch growing is carried on in several parts of the United States, especially in the southern portions, but little of the crops is ever harvested for

seed, in consequence of which most seed is purchased in the open markets for the southern use. Most of the purchased seed is grown in northwestern Europe, Germany and Russia being the principal producers. Exportation from these sources has been cut off almost entirely, and in case the war does not end in time for the fall shipments it is predicted that there will be a great shortage of vetch seed for the southern plantings.
Oregon farmers will try to bridge this big gap between supply and demand by growing larger crops of vetch this season and harvesting most of it for seed. The practice hitherto has been merely to grow seed for home use and partly to supply the demand for seed from southern California. But now that the European supply is likely to be cut off for one year or more and the Panama canal has been opened to traffic seed growing will become more of an industry with farmers of western Oregon.

Flies and Germs.

The number of germs on a single fly may range from 550 to 6,000,000. Scientific tests have shown that the average for 414 flies was about 1,250,000 on each.

POISON FOR WEEDS.

An Arsenic Spray Used With Success in Hawaii.

Officials of the department of agriculture are greatly interested in reports received from Hawaii to the effect that one of the big sugar companies has adopted as a regular field practice the system of destroying weeds by use of an arsenic poison spray instead of by hoeing.

Experts who have conducted experiments on Hawaii sugar lands estimate that by the spraying method a saving can be made in labor of \$15 to \$30 per acre per annum.

The latest developments along this line in Hawaii are discussed in a letter received from Professor H. P. Agee, director of the experiment station staff of the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' association. Before going to Hawaii Professor Agee co-operated with the department in experiments on Louisiana sugar land.

The value of this method in Hawaii is very great because of the fact that, like most tropical regions, the islands are subject to torrential rains. The less the surface of sugar and other lands is disturbed by cultivation the less chance there is that heavy rains will wash off the top soil or immediately beat it into compact form.

A few years ago the department of agriculture issued a bulletin dealing with the weed factor in the cultivation of corn, following a series of experiments extending over several years, which apparently established the principle that it is the removal of the weeds rather than the cultivation proper that contributes most of the production of the corn crop. A series of 125 experiments were conducted, covering many states. On some plots the most approved methods of cultivation were employed, while on other plots there was no cultivation whatever, the weeds being eliminated by surface scraping with a hoe.

A general average of all these experiments showed that the plots that were simply weeded produced 95.1 per cent as much fodder and 90.108 per cent as much grain as those that were subjected to the most approved methods of cultivation.

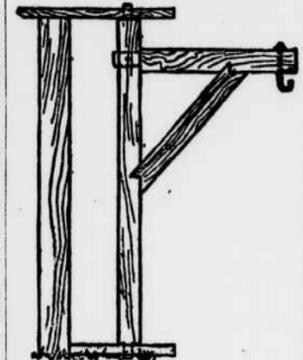
The arsenic spray method will be given a trial on corn land in Louisiana this year by experts of the office of farm management in co-operation with local authorities with a view to determining whether it is not available for use in that region, where climatic conditions to some extent approach those in Hawaii.

In Hawaii the spray is applied to the weeds with great care, since if it touches the leaves on the cane they are immediately destroyed. When carefully applied, however, either by a hand spray or by a spray consisting of an oil barrel attached to a stone sled especially constructed for the purpose and pulled by one mule there is no danger to the cane.

Frequently it is necessary to follow the sled spray with a hand spray in order to kill the few weeds that are not reached. The results of the spraying method have been so satisfactory that experiments are being connected with a view to improving the somewhat crude implements now in use.

To Swing a Beef.

Swinging a heavy steer to dress him is not child's play. By using the accompanying device, which is easily made, it can be done fairly well and without the usual straining and lifting. Make the rack as high as you think



will be needed, taking into consideration the size of the animal to be handled.

The end of a strong rope around the cross bar at the top of the hanger. Use an ordinary gambrel stick through the legs, as shown in the illustration. Take a short stick that will have room to pass clear of the stick and the steer's carcass. Turning this short stick will pull the beef as high as you want him. Then take another short stick that will come down far enough to lock the first one, and place it as shown in the figure.

The Apple Tree Borer.

Among the pests with which the orchard planter has to contend perhaps the flat headed apple tree borer is the worst, says the Farm and Fireside. The female deposits the eggs at the beginning of hot weather on the bark of young fruit trees near the ground. Most of the damage is done during the summer months. The later broods remain in the trees all winter and emerge the following spring. The borer completes its life round in one year. The eggs are about as large as the head of a pin and are covered by a hard shell. When first hatched the larva can hardly be seen with the naked eye.

But in spite of its small size it begins at once to injure the tree. Burrowing into the bark, it tunnels its way entirely around the sapwood of the tree, thus girdling and finally killing it.

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COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

At 10 o'clock a. m. June 7th, 1915, the board of County Commissioners of Valley County, Montana, met pursuant to law, Peter A. West, Carl J. Anderson and C. W. Baylor, and the Clerk present.

Minutes of the last regular meeting was read and approved.

On motion H. H. Beebe is hereby appointed constable for Porcupine township at Opheim.

On motion Harry Ratchford is hereby appointed constable for Hinsdale township.

The following bills against Valley County were audited and acted upon as noted:

R. D. Shoemaker, steno. work for county attorney, allowed	17.70
Johanna C. Lind, for teachers' examination work, allowed	27.00
Sam Grossman, auto hire, allowed	27.50
W. F. Shannon and wife, witnesses in insanity trial, allowed	6.00
D. Watson, deputy Health Officer expense, allowed	108.25
Henry Landre, under sheriff's expenses, allowed	170.60
C. W. Powell, sheriff's expense allowed	86.00
C. W. Powell, sheriff's expense allowed	80.50
F. M. Pierce, grappling hooks for sheriff, allowed	4.00
W. A. Baynham, constable fees allowed	11.40
First National Bank, rent and light, allowed	166.80
Moore Telephone Co., phone rentals, allowed	41.00
E. A. Adams, auto hire for commissioners, allowed	5.60
T. L. Cockriel, Health Officer expenses, allowed	117.56
C. W. Powell, board of prisoners, allowed	132.00
John Teal, deputy sheriff's expense, allowed	33.00
C. W. Powell, sheriff's expense allowed	85.70
C. W. Powell, sheriff's expense allowed	164.45
C. J. Carr, deputy assessor's expenses, allowed	80.00
A. H. Whitbread, drayage and express, allowed	23.36
W. B. Shoemaker, stamps and telegrams, allowed	55.09
B. H. Cottrell, assessor's expenses, allowed	47.00
Charles A. Farmer, constable fees, allowed	16.00
T. M. Patten, office and traveling expenses, allowed	41.35
Chas. E. Peterson & Co., typewriter stand allowed	11.00
Chas. E. Peterson, coroner fees allowed	5.00
E. F. Jacobs, deputy assessor's expenses, allowed	42.37
Clarence Hall, deputy sheriff's expenses, allowed	114.20
F. W. Seeley, deputy assessor's expenses, allowed	50.00
Wm. Dickman, deputy sheriff's expenses, allowed	32.30
Elmer Johnson, repairs in jail and hydrant, allowed	41.35
Dr. D. F. Miller, posting saloon notices, allowed	3.00
C. O. Tegnell, mileage, allowed	11.97
Hinsdale Auto Co., auto hire allowed	4.50
Bussette-Stork Co., election supplies, allowed	19.25
Sam Ellsworth, assigned Blake Gage, painting at jail, allowed	53.50
P. E. Kent, work at Jail, allowed	18.60
H. J. Landre, sheriff's office expenses, allowed	36.47
Ezra N. Hill, defending prisoner, allowed	50.00
T. J. Hocking, supplies and stationary, allowed	231.98
T. J. Hocking, typewriter and supplies, allowed	110.00
T. J. Hocking, Commissioners' Proceedings, allowed	39.99
T. J. Hocking, supplies and stationary, allowed	46.18
T. J. Hocking, supplies and	

stationary, allowed	69.80
T. J. Hocking, supplies and stationary, allowed	116.87
Keuffel & Esser, supplies for county surveyor, allowed	1.25
McKee Printing Co., supplies for county surveyor, allowed	1.25
McKee Printing Co., supplies for county surveyor, disallowed	5.25
C. O. Tegnell, mileage, allowed	4.62
Valley County Fair, 1915 appropriation, allowed	500.00
City of Glasgow, balance on special improvement tax, allowed	10.00
Eugene Dietzen Co., county surveyor supplies, allowed	2.99
R. D. Harden, assigned D. L. Blankenship J. P. fees, allowed	10.00
Hinsdale Tribune, publication allowed	5.00
Jos. A. Whetstone, publication allowed	10.00
Mann & Skare, publication, allowed	10.08
R. D. Harden, constable fees allowed	5.20
H. T. Ratchford, slaughtered horses, allowed	80.00
L. A. Turner, slaughtered horses, allowed	100.00
Eugene Dietzen Co., county surveyor supplies, allowed	10.17
Eugene Dietzen Co., county surveyor supplies, allowed	.85
E. A. Edberg, meals for jurors allowed	56.35
On motion at 12 o'clock the Board took a recess until 2 o'clock p. m.	
Peter A. West, Chairman.	
W. B. Shoemaker, Clerk.	
At 2 o'clock p. m., June 7th, 1915, the Board of County Commissioners	

of Valley County, Montana, met pursuant to morning adjournment. All members and the Clerk present. The time having arrived for the opening of bids for the Behner-Mooney Grade, the following bids were filed with the Clerk and Recorder: Booth & Walker, \$0.249 per yard. J. L. Lytle, \$0.219 per cubic yard. J. J. Snelson, \$0.200 per cubic yard. On motion the board hereby accepts bid of J. J. Snelson. The Clerk is instructed to notify said J. J. Snelson and have him furnish bond. County Surveyor is instructed to make contract cover force account work as laid out by Commissioners. The Clerk is requested to return certified cheques of unsuccessful bidders:

At 5 o'clock p. m., the board adjourned until 10 o'clock a. m., June 8th, 1915.
Peter A. West, Chairman.
W. B. Shoemaker, Clerk.

At 10 o'clock a. m., June 8th, 1915, the Board of County Commissioners, of Valley County, Montana, met pursuant to adjournment of the 7th inst. All members and the Clerk present.

The following bills against Valley County were audited and acted upon as noted:
L. P. Evans, J. P. fees, allowed \$156.80
City of Glasgow, light and water allowed 32.77
T. H. Jerrow, constable fees, allowed 3.00
Alene McGregor, office and traveling expenses, allowed 47.57
Frank J. Ward, deputy assessor's expenses, allowed 44.60
Frank N. Utter, stamps for Judge, allowed 5.00
F. D. Alvord, supplies, allowed 13.15
(Continued on page 9.)

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