

THE GOOD JUDGE HEARS STATEMENTS OF FACT BETWEEN STRANGERS.

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THAT'S BECAUSE THEY TAKE A BIG CHEW, AS THEY DID OF ORDINARY TOBACCO. W-B IS QUALITY TOBACCO.

THEY'RE BOTH RIGHT ANY MAN CAN PROVE IT WITH A SMALL CHEW.



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Farm and Garden

FIGHTING QUACK GRASS.

Great Persistence is Required in Getting Rid of the Pest.

[Prepared by Wisconsin station.]
There is no sleight of hand way of getting rid of quack grass.

A Douglas county farmer who has had successful experience along this line was right when he wrote, "Any one who starts out to exterminate quack grass must begin with the understanding that his undertaking will exact of him an unlimited amount of grit, determination, back ache and elbow grease."

The method to be used depends, among other things, upon the nature of the field and upon how thick the weed is growing. On small areas of not over two or three rods square it is perhaps most easily and effectively killed by smothering. Tar paper or some like material has been used with good results.

To make smothering successful, according to A. L. Stone, state weed inspector, the material must be extended well over the edges of the patch. Success depends almost entirely on shutting out all the light from all the weeds. If they do not get the light the plants cannot grow and will soon die.

On large areas smothering is hardly practicable. An acre or a whole field overgrown with quack grass is a more



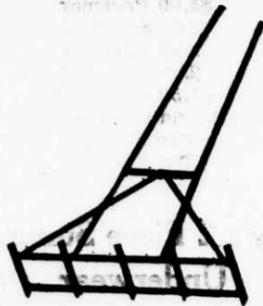
QUACK GRASS.

serious proposition, and yet it can be just as surely managed as the small patch if only thorough enough methods are employed. Great persistence is required in keeping right after the pest until it is gone for good.

To rid large fields of quack grass two things are essential—first, the ready prevention of all green leaf growth; second, bringing the roots out of the ground by some means easier and quicker than hand digging. Summer fallowing is regarded by many as the best way to accomplish this.

Some have smothered the weeds by means of a thick heavy growth of some crop like hemp, rye or clover. As a rule, however, when quack grass has once taken full possession of a field no other crop, no matter how thickly sown, can be relied upon to control or eradicate it.

A Handy Garden Marker.
A handy garden marker can be made of the scrap material found on nearly every farm; and it will prove a time saver during the planting time season and more efficient than using two stakes and a long cord for every row that must be marked. The marking pieces should be placed at distances apart depending on the width of the



rows. Twelve or fifteen inches will usually be the best distance, which will make the marker either four feet or six feet in width.

An old pair of buggy thills will be satisfactory handles if they can be obtained, or strong, slender branches from trees will do fully as well if they are straight and six or eight feet in length. If the soil has been finely pulverized in readiness for the garden seed this marker will make straight lines by simply pulling it over the soil. If the ground is not smooth and rather stony it will be necessary to weight down the marker, and this can be done by placing stones in a sack and tying them to the frame.—Michigan Farmer.

Making the Little Farm Pay

By C. C. BOWSFIELD

Poultry owners are in a quandary over the expense of feeding their flocks. Farmers in many cases believe that grain is too high for the profitable raising of ducks and chickens. Many practical owners claim that unless they adopt an economical system of feeding the high market value of grain will force them out of the poultry industry.

So far as duck raising is concerned, it never could be profitable without a study of economical feeding and marketing. The best way to get rid of heavy grain bills is to dispose of the ducks at the age of about two months, when they should weigh three to four pounds. The cost of feeding is the lightest up to this age that it ever can be in raising these fowls. Very little grain is required. Young ducks need a sloppy ration, mainly of wheat bran and middlings, in which may be stirred a small proportion of stale bread or crackers. Young fowls are also fond of skim milk with a small portion of bread or boiled potato. With this kind



THE YOUNG DUCKS ARE PROFITABLE.

of management and the use of an acre or two of clover or alfalfa for range and forage ducks will return a satisfactory rate of profit.

It is folly for those who have to buy grain to raise large flocks of ducks to maturity. As the birds attain their growth they require heavy feeding, and there is little profit in them. This is not the only point to be considered. Ducks at two months bring the highest price per pound that they ever bring, and this meat is produced at the lowest cost. Therefore I can state in a few sentences that for the average poultry owner the only way to succeed with ducks is to sell them when they are somewhere around three pounds, or four pounds at the highest. See that the feed consumed up to this time is along the line indicated. For instance, there is not much expense in supplying skim milk and stale bread or crackers, and these are among the most valuable foods for them. A thin mash of bran and middlings, in which may be placed some boiled potato or turnip and staled bread, is also one of the cheapest rations. Skim milk can be used here also. Clabbered milk and cottage cheese will also afford a maximum amount of nourishment at a minimum cost.

Owners who can secure malt can make up a cheap ration with that for a basis. Nearly every family can supply culled potatoes and vegetable tops, and it is also possible to buy from bakeries and restaurants a great deal of wholesome food that has become stale. This is a suggestive outline of feeding and can be varied. A low grade of flour is sometimes available in place of the other mill supplies. If cornmeal and beef scraps can be mixed with this a good ration is secured. Either skim milk or water will do for the moistening. The proportion should be one pound of low grade flour, one of cornmeal, four of bran and one of beef scrap. It will do no harm to add a little boiled potato or turnip to this. Keep within these lines, and the expense will never reach more than 20 or 30 per cent of the market value of the fowl.

Those who made a success last season had been prudent enough to recast their business according to this plan. The marketing of young ducks is also of vital importance. It is foolish for an owner to raise fowls unless he can get profit out of them, so careful inquiry among experts who are supplying the Chicago market show that it is best to sell the birds when they are about two months old, after they have been raised on the kind of diet here described. A duck at two months ought to bring 60 to 75 cents, and the cost of feeding up to this age need not be above 10 or 15 cents. In contrast to this high rate of profit is the unfortunate experience of many who keep their ducks to maturity, feeding high priced grain for three or four months. This is about the same as throwing money into the fire. Only those farmers who have considerable cheap grain and vegetable waste and who raise their own meat can afford to keep ducks beyond eight or ten weeks. The cause of many failures will be understood by those who study the suggestions in this article.

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I know a man who hunts for snakes, and kills them for their grease. He says 'twill cure rheumatic aches and make your anguish cease. The doctors say that serpent oil no sort of virtue owns; it will not cure the pains that coil around your joints and bones. But this old gun who kills the snakes has never had a doubt; he says all other cures are fakes, when reptile oil's about. He is so everlasting sure that what he says is true, that even skeptics buy his "cure" to see what it will do. And so it keeps him toiling hard, the keen demand to meet, and he has bought with bullsnake lard a home on Easy Street. If you believe in what you sell, have faith in what you say, in that same avenue you'll dwell, upon a future day. If one is not supremely sure that what he has for sale makes all competitors look poor, his eloquence will fail. A man can sell me setting hens, or swarm of humble bees, or double-action fountain pens, or cures for housemaids' knees, if he's convinced that what he sells beats everything around; that sort of salesman's wearing bells wherever he is found.

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