WHAT IS THE ANSWER

QUESTIONS ANSWERED BY MEMBERS OF THE NORTH DAKOTA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE FACULTY.

Q.—How should bottles and dishes that have had milk in them be washed?

Ans.—Minna Stonner, Head Home Economics Department.

First, rinse in cold water to remove the milk because hot water coagulates the albuminous particles in the milk and if suds water is put in them it causes the water to become thick and roapy and it does not cleanse the surfase thoroughly. After rinsing in cold water they should be thoroughly washed in hot soda or borax water or hot suds, then rinsed and dried with a clean tea-towel. In dairies, after rinsing with cold water, the bottles are washed in hot water, then put into a steamer to sterilize.

Q.—What can be fed a hog to make up for the lack of mineral matter in corn?

Ans.—E. J. Thompson, Assistant Professor, Animal Husbandry.

At the experiment station, we find little trouble among our pigs allowed to roam over fresh clean fields as to a lack of mineral matter, but we know that the pigs ought to have more mineral matter than they can obtain from the soil and feed, so we try to keep a cinder bank for them to run to and help themselves. The amount they will consume is surprising.

When a hog lot becomes well trampled down many times pigs show their lack of mineral matter in many ways. This we avoid occasionally, in lots of this kind, by keeping a small trough in front of them divided up into compartments which are filled with air-slaked lime, bone meal, ground rock, phosphates and salt. However, the hogs should be used to salt in their feed before it is placed in quantity in the mineral matter trough. If not used to salt the pigs will consume enough in a few hours to cause their deaths.

Q.—How can a boy secure seed corn for taking part in the corn contest?

Ans.—G. W. Randlett, Director, College Extension.

By applying to the county superintendent of schools.

Q.—What green food is most satisfactory for poultry in winter?

Ans.—O. W. Dynes, Head of Poultry Investigations.

The easiest green feed to procure is lawn clippings or cut clover or alfalfa. Sprouted oats is now being used extensively, particularly for early hatched chicks.

Q.—What is the origin of Polled Angus?

Ans.—W. B. Richards, Professor of Animal Husbandry.

[illegible] ed Angus is a term [illegible] y many in referring [illegible] Angus breed of cat[illegible] ed because they are polled or hornless, and the combination of the two words, polled and Angus, tends to answer as a descriptive name. Angus is the name of a section in Scotland where the breed was originally reared. Aberdeen also refers to a section of Scotland where they were raised. The term Aberdeen Angus is the correct name [illegible] breed.

WEEDS ARE EASILY KILLED

Common Purslane or Pussley Found in Gardens is Quite Difficult of Eradication.

(By L. R. WALDRON, Superintendent of Dickinson Substation.)

Every one is familiar with the common purslane or pussley found growing in gardens. This is a fleshy prostrate plant and when full grown is very difficult to kill. Even when dug up and "thrown on its back" it will continue to blossom and ripen seeds nearly as well as in its normal state. When the weed is very young circumstances are different. When the weed is one-half inch high, 90 per cent. of them can be destroyed by hand raking on a sunny day. Only a short exposure to the hot sun kills them. In another week less than 50 per cent. of them would be killed by such treatment. In three weeks' time raking the purslane would injure it scarcely at all. As it is with the purslane so it is with all weeds. They are easily killed when very young. It is for this reason that harrowing wheat or other grain just before and just after it is up is so valuable in killing the weeds. Their roots are small and have not yet secured a foothold in the ground and any slight disturbance of the ground loosens them and they die and die quickly. Because the young weeds are inconspicuous in appearance, they escape the eye of many persons, but these young weeds grow with fearful rapidity. The leaf surface of yellow mustard may nearly double itself in 24 hours and during that time the root sinks deeper into the soil, the plants become firmly anchored and difficult to eradicate. Young weed seedlings are also easily killed by covering. If a seedling having only two seed leaves be covered with dirt, the chances are much against its ever appearing above ground again. Grass seedlings are more difficult to kill in this manner, but a large number die when covered.

HOW ROTATION IS PLANNED

In Order That System May Be Permanent Is Is Necessary to Maintain Fertility of Soil.

(By R. C. DONEGHUE, Professor of Agronomy, North Dakota Agricultural College.)

The planning of a complete rotation for any farm consists of the placing of the crops which give the greatest net income for the region in question in such sequence in the cropping system that the largest net income for the farm will be obtained. In order that the system may be permanent, it is necessary that some provision be made to maintain the fertility of the soil for future productiveness. In planning a rotation the following principles should be kept in mind: First, cultivated crops, like corn and potatoes, clean the land of weeds, conserve soil water and improve the physical condition of the soil. Second, the legume crops, like clover and alfalfa, keep down weeds, build up the organic matter in the soil and add nitrogen to it. Third, grass crops, like timothy and brome grass, keep down weeds and build up the organic matter in the soil, but add no important element of plant food. Fourth, wheat and barley are relatively weak feeding crops and should be placed in the most favorable place in the rotation. They allow the accumulation of certain weeds and allow the soil to get into poor physical condition. Fifth, oats are ranker feeders than either barley or wheat, and do not demand as favorable development of poor physical conditions in the soil. Sixth, flax is a weak feeder and demands a good place in the rotation. As a rule it does best on sod and when given this place in the rotation does not seem to injure the land for small grain production. When seeded on old land on which a rotation has not been followed it fails to improve the land for wheat production. It should not be seeded twice in succession on the same land, and when it is grown a period of seven or eight years should intervene before it is seeded again. Seventh, clover does best when seeded wiht a nurse crop in the more humid portions of the state. Barley or wheat make very good nurse crops. Eighth, alfalfa does best when seeded without a nurse crop on land that grew a cultivated crop the previous year. Ninth, potatoes do best when planted on clover or alfalfa sod. Tenth, manure gives the best results when applied to pasture land that is included in the rotation. The next best place is to plow it under for corn. In either case the conditions are more favorable for decay than they would be if the manure were plowed under for small grains. Eleventh, the rotation should be so planned that the seeding and harvest of the various crops will come in such order that as few crops as possible will demand attention at the same time. Twelfth, the rotation should be so arranged that the income from the farm will be uniform each year. Thirteenth, the rotation should be so arranged that there will be economy in fencing and in the cultivation of the various fields. Fourteenth, the rotation should be such that there will be sufficient feed for the various classes of live stock kept on the farm. Fifteenth, every rotation should contain a cultivated crop, a legume or grass crop, and not more than three or four small grain crops. In live stock farming less than this number should be grown.

ALFALFA HAS MANY VIRTUES

Will Do as Well as Any Perennial Forage Crop in Dry Year—is Drouth Resistant.

(By L. R. WALDRON, Superintendent Sub-Station, Dickinson, N. D.)

This is a legume that is worthy our attention in this brief article. Alfalfa has many of the virtues of clover and in some points, surpasses that plant. Like clover, it is an enricher of the soil.

Alfalfa has been discussed so extensively in these pages that it need not occupy much of my space.

When given proper cultural treatment, it indicates a high quality of drouth-resistance and associated with this resistance to dry conditions, one is struck with the way the plant responds during a wet year.

It will do as well as any perennial forage crop in a dry year and will do much better than any such crop in a wet year. The problem of getting alfalfa successfully through our winters is no longer a serious one as we have strains which are very resistant to cold. The farmers of the Dakota Empire should not fail to appreciate the fact that their soils are already prepared for alfalfa, in the way of sweetness and drainage. This is a much different condition than obtains over much of the humid lands of the east. And, too, it should not be forgotten that alfalfa is perhaps the only plant of the legumes or of the small grasses that can be grown in cultivated rows in a profitable way.

Now with the cold and drouth resistance of alfalfa, associated with its high cropping powers, we have a very satisfactory hay plant, remarkable alike for its richness, palatability and digestibility.

GOOD TIME TO PLANT CORN

Much Better to Take Chances on Spring Frosts Than Those in Fall—Rate of Planting.

(By O. O. CHURCHILL, North Dakota Agricultural College.)

The corn should be planted early as possible without danger of the seed decaying. It is much better to take chances on spring frosts than on fall frosts. The depth should be from two to three inches. The rate of planting will depend entirely upon the method. Thick planting always gives a larger yield of fodder than thin planting. The yield of ears also increases with the thickness of planting up to five kernels per hill. (For full particulars see North Dakota Bulletin No. 76).

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Continuation of the Grand Spring Opening Sale

Owing to the recent cold, unseasonable weather, many have not yet had an opportunity of attending our GRAND Spring Opening Sale and we have decided to continue it for Saturday and the following week. We have been getting in new merchandise every day too, so we will be able to show many exquisite new models that could not be seen early in the season

Here is Your Chance

Will you buy a new SPRING SUIT or COAT at about 60 CENTS ON THE DOLLAR?

Where the crowds are largest, there you will find the biggest bargains, and the crowds are always the largest at the Branch

We offer more bargain lots for Saturday and the following week than any other store. Below you will find but a few of the bargains. We have many more that we can't mention for lack of space

$20.00 suit $13.45
$20.00 coat $13.95
$10.00 dress $6.95
$1.50 lingerie waist ... 95c
$5.00 silk waist $2.95
$5.00 and 6.00 hats ... $3.95
$7.50 dresses $5.19

Some Specials for Saturday and Monday only

10c handkerchief 3c
$1.00 American Lady corset 79c
Hairnets, two for 1c
One lot of corsets, $1.00 and 1.50 values 39c
Silk skeins, each 1c
One lot silk gloves, white, black and gray, short and long, 35c to 75c values pair 9c

$2.00 Kimonas, brand new, just received 95c

$3.00 to 5.00 handbags $1.48

$5.00 to 10.00 handbags $2.95

Hosiery and Underwear Bargains

25c and 35c hose 9c
50c hose 18c

Women's Knit Union Suits

$1.50 value 95c
$2.00 value $1.19

Women's Gauze Vests and Pants

25c and 35c value 14c
50c and 75c value 39c

$4.50 silk petticoats, all colors, brand new, just received $2.95
$1.98 black petticoats 89c
$1.00 black petticoats 49c

SATURDAY and MONDAY SPECIALS

Mesh bags, very neat, white kid lined, $6.00 to 7.00 value $3.48
$2.00 house dresses 95c
$2.50 to 3.00 house dresses $1.29
35c corset covers 19c
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