

a foot or more above, removing all of the rough portions of the bark, and killing all

mitted to find lodgment; the trunk of the tree should then be protected with a mound made of coarse sand or fine gravel packing.

to be cut off at the ground level, the gravel reaching two inches, according to the size and condition of the tree; it should be high enough to keep the roots from freezing, and small enough in diameter to keep dry several inches on the top. It is very rare that the roots of a tree are killed by frost, and in contact with dry earth; if they do, it is still more rare for them to hatch. The number of earth should be permitted to remain up to the roots, and the gravel when it has been taken away and the trees examined, to remove any borers that may have been overwintered. If the trees are not killed, new ones if any chance to have hatched; but if the work has been properly done, ultimately the trees will be able to stand and escape the enemy. Many writers recommend wood ashes, but repeated trials have proved that they are not effective. The trees should be protected with ashes, or with a good frost-protectant with gravel. The cost is so trifling that every one can afford to try it.—*Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment Station.*

Some Seasonable Hints.

[*A Young Farmer.] (in the Boston Herald.)

Keep cattle out of the meadows in the spring, and do not allow them to graze on moving land under certain conditions and to a certain extent, and some good farmers have advised spring feeding of land that is intended for mowing. And I do not know as I ever saw a farmer who would defend the practice, or who would not be willing to let a neighbor say: "the hay is about used up and we want to place it out." And yet, utterly condemned by the farmers of the country, and for miles through any part of the country, between the middle of April and the middle of May, the meadows are grazed by thousands of herds of cattle in meadow land, often when the ground is so soft as to allow the cattle to push it up to the destruction of the grass. I have seen a machine, a mowing machine or a machine which will try to cut it by and by, in some cases it happens because the cattle have been so used to it, and in some cases the fences have been fixed up, but that is no excuse. The cattle have no business in the pasture at this season of the year, and they have no business there at any season until

horses are so built as to keep them there. It is getting close to pasture when there is not good grass to be had, and the horse is as unwise as allowing them to cut up the mowing land. It spoils their appetite for the hay, and does not furnish an abundant substitute for it.

Keep the cattle in barn and yard until the grass in some parts of the pastures is enough to eat. When the cattle are so hungry that they come to you and feed as they can get a good bite, give them plenty of hay the night before and also that morning before you let them out. If you find them so hungry, allowing them turned out when hungry.

Too sudden a change from all hay to all grass will sometimes prove a little dangerous to the cattle. If you find them so hungry that you let them out too long the first day, but take them out too early, so that they may find before night that they are not so hungry, and then allow them to go out long enough to get some grass. (You should, of course, have the best of your best hay saved for this very occasion.)

The way will make the change in the character of the food more gradual. It is a very natural change at the best, and especially so, if you have not been feeding any roots (like turnips) to the cattle. If you have, the cows have the "horn- and "sores," or are liable, if dropping their calves soon after the change, to be affected by "milk fever." Also, if you have fed them any "tattle" in the barn, as you ought to through the winter, do not allow them to be too long exposed to the cold air, but get them out in the morning and in early in the afternoon. If you have wintered them on the lee side of the straw stack, or in a shed, and have not fed them any "tattle" all winter, you need not be so particular.

Those which have lived through the winter are probably much better off than those more ill treated. If you have wintered them in a shed, they will not kill them, or they may kill them by what they have endured that they are not worth while to try to favor them now.

It is not a good idea to let the cows very well attend to now, while you are waiting for the ground to dry off for plowing and planting. This is an examination of sink drains and of the water in them. If the water is broken through them anywhere so that their contents are leaking away into localities where they are not wanted, it is not like very well to see the wash water in the kitchen sink running along upon the surface of the ground, often percolating the air with a disagreeable odor, and making the whole, than that of a slaughter house. But better so than a underground drain which discharges at almost every point but its outlet, and which is not so easily cleaned out for its whole length with its deposits of filth.

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uses through a New England village or an isolated farm home in our neighborhood, we take a look at the mystery of the early corn.

A kindred job is the cleaning out of the cellar, getting out all decayed or decay-making vegetables. The mystery of the early corn is to be late in almost all cellars, the letting in plenty of fresh air and as much sunlight as may be possible, and the use of a little plaster or lime to keep the air dry. The early corn is the victim of impunity either in earth, wood or air with its roots in the cellar.

EARLY CORN.—A correspondent of *Vick's* Magazine gives the following directions for bringing corn to maturity early in the season, adding that he picked corn last year in the middle of sixty days from time of planting:

"Let the condition of the soil and manures be such as you can command, and, aside from the soil, the manures, and the care of watering the ground thoroughly, thin the stalks to three or four—three is best if you would have the corn early. The corn should be planted. Pluck out unmercifully every sucker and non-bearing stalk; that process alone will hasten your corn to maturity ten days, as I have come from the experience of many years. This year a top-dressing at the hill, when the corn was well up—a compost of one part of manure to three of soil—will hasten the corn a measure, which, I think, has been a great advantage." Those who wish early corn should be careful not to plant too early, for the early variety, but they should obtain it from the

as far North as possible. Seed corn raised in Canada and taken South will come to perfection one, two or three weeks earlier than the ripened on the spot. The reason is that the seed raised in the North has adapted itself to a short season. This is true, in a measure, of all seeds.

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