

FARM TOPICS

GRASSES, LEGUMES
USED AS ENSILAGE

Can Be Kept in Condition by
Adding Molasses.

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With molasses as a preservative, any green crop that will make hay can be stored in a silo without any appreciable loss of feed value.

Corn silage contains substances that act as a preservative, but legumes and grasses do not have enough sugar to ferment properly. By adding molasses to legumes and grasses, the material can be kept in good condition.

The crop can be cut at any stage of maturity and in any kind of weather. However, greater feeding value is obtained if the crop is cut as early in the season as possible without injuring the stand. Cereal crops should be cut when the grain is in the milk stage.

Start cutting early in the morning. If the crop is wet with dew or rain, so much the better. The crop should be put in the silo within a few hours after cutting.

If the crop must remain in the field more than a few hours on a dry day, water should be added as it is blown into the silo.

Around 40 to 45 pounds of molasses should be added to each ton of cereal and grass crops, while 75 to 80 pounds should be added to a ton of legume silage.

The molasses can be added from an elevated barrel by allowing the proper amount to flow through a spigot onto the green material as it is fed into the cutter.

Egg Producers, Handlers Can Stop Summer Losses

Producers and handlers of eggs are losing hundreds of dollars every week of warm weather from highly perishable fertile eggs, according to O. C. Ufford, extension poultryman for Colorado State college, Fort Collins.

Suggestions for preventing this loss are outlined as follows: Roosters should be marketed or confined during the summer so that infertile eggs may be produced.

Provide one nest for each four hens. Gather eggs more than once a day. Cool eggs before packing them in cases.

Eggs may be cooled and water evaporation from the eggs may be prevented by keeping them in the cellar or by keeping a damp sack over the case.

Molasses as often as possible during warm weather, preferably about every three or four days.

Keep clean straw in nests. Handlers of eggs will find it more profitable to keep eggs stored in a cool place until they are sold.

Mowing Weeds Aids Grass

Mowing weeds and removing brush and other tall vegetation encourages the spread of more beneficial grasses, clover, and lespedeza, eliminates the competition for moisture and plant food, and results in a turf more resistant to soil erosion, the Soil Conservation Service has found. In the past 2 years mowing has been extended over more than 100,000 previously unmowed acres of grassland on Soil Conservation Service erosion control areas. Fairly high mowing—from 4 to 6 inches when weeds are about in full bloom—is recommended.

Marketing Milk

Three major adjustments in milk transportation and production practices would save farmers thousands of dollars annually, according to agricultural economists of the University of Illinois. More dollars in the pockets of producers and better service to consumers could be brought about by rearrangement of hauling routes so as to reduce mileage and increase load volume, by marketing more milk through country plants and by narrowing the seasonal variation in milk production.

Protein Feeds for Cattle

High protein feeds have given faster gains, better finish, and lower costs in cattle fattening than rations with less protein, according to observations made by the University of Illinois. Linsed meal, soybean oil meal and cottonseed meal are the protein feeds generally used. It is profitable to give one pound of one of these feeds to each seven to ten pounds of corn, depending upon the age of the cattle and the kind of roughage.

Saving Poultry From Heat

Good ventilation in the poultry flock is the best way to prevent heat prostration. The north side of the house should be opened to allow free circulation of the air. Windows or doors on the east or west side of the building should be opened to allow free air movement. If there is a room ventilator it should be opened because this too increases air movements. Insulation of the roof, of course, helps materially to reduce the temperature in the room.

Egyptian Pyramids Are Built of Stone, Brick

There are in all 70 of the Egyptian pyramids. Seven of these are at Gizeh, five at Abusir, eleven at Sak-kara, five at Dashur and the remainder scattered throughout the country. Some are built of stone and others of brick.

The principal ones, including the great pyramid of Cheops, are at Gizeh. The great pyramid was erected as a mausoleum for Khufu or Cheops, of the fourth Egyptian dynasty, who reigned about 3800 B. C. It is constructed of stone, transported, for the most part, over a causeway eight miles long, extending from the quarries to the site. It is said that the construction of this causeway alone occupied 100,000 men ten years.

Twenty years more were consumed in building the pyramid itself, which is 450 feet 9 inches in height, and 746 feet square at the base, and is estimated to contain 6,800,000 tons of stone. The four sides exactly face the four cardinal points. This is the case with all the pyramids, notes a writer in the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The interior contains what are called the king's chamber and the queen's chamber, in which the sarcophagi and the bodies of the sovereigns were found, and numerous small chambers.

Various theories have been advanced as to the religious and astronomical uses intended in the construction of the great pyramid and several of the lesser ones. While for the most part conjectural, these explanations of the monuments have brought into being a very extensive literature.

Old Village in England Does Not Know Real Name

Lymminster, Sussex, one of the oldest villages in England, does not know its real name, observes Pearson's London Weekly.

Its history goes back to the year 901, when King Alfred the Great bequeathed the village to his nephew. It was then known as Lul-lyngminster. Ever since then, different names for it have continually cropped up, and things became so confused that the villagers met and decided on the present name, though there is still much doubt as to whether they have chosen correctly.

Lymminster, like most villages, has its pond, but it is a very special pond. Tradition declares that it once sheltered a fierce dragon, and some villagers firmly believe that the pond is bottomless. Many a tale is told in Lymminster of people who have been drowned in it, and the bodies have never been recovered. Geologists, however, think that there is an underwater tunnel at the bed of the pond, and a submerged current sucks down anything that sinks below the surface.

Inscription on Watt's Statue

The inscription on James Watt's statue in Westminster abbey is as follows: "Not to Perpetuate a Name Which Must Endure While the Peaceful Arts Flourish but to Show That Mankind Have Learnt to Honour Those Who Best Deserve Their Gratitude the King His Ministers and Many of the Nobles and Commoners of the Realm Raised this Monument to James Watt Who Directing the Force of an Original Genius Early Exercised in Philosophical Research To The Improvement of the Steam Engine Enlarged the Resources of His Country Increased the Power of Man and Rose To an Eminent Place Among the Most Illustrious Followers of Science and the Real Benefactors of the World Born at Greenock MDCXXXVI Died at Heathfield in Staffordshire MDCCCXIX."

Bird Builds Dance Hall

Australia has no lions or monkeys or elephants or any of the fierce animals. But what she lacks in man-eaters Australia makes up in many strange and beautiful birds and mammals which are found nowhere else in the world. One of these is the bower-bird, notes a writer in Pearson's London Weekly. This beautiful creature is a great architect, and the male bird builds itself a bower of arched sticks in which it dances and plays. The bower is merely a playhouse, or dance hall, and is not a nest. The bower bird decorates his dance hall with an artistic collection of shells, berries, leaves and bits of blue paper—it likes blues and greens. Also it paints the sticks with a mixture of powdered charcoal and saliva, using its beak as a brush.

An Old Indian Custom

An Indian widow was forbidden by custom to marry for a year after her husband's death because the spirit of her departed spouse was believed to stay with her that long. During the year she could not accept gifts of meat from anyone nor could she even buy it; she had to get it herself. If she lived through the year, says the Cleveland Plain Dealer, and observed all the rigid customs, she would then be given gifts by both the men and women in the tribe, and she would usually get another husband, because the next spouse would know that she was obedient and he could depend on her.

Indian men were not held down by such strait jacket rules. They could even put up their squaws as stakes in gambling.

Colman, First American Playwright Back in 1690

"Gustavus Vasa," performed in 1690 by Harvard students at Cambridge, earned for Benjamin Colman the place of the first American playwright. The earliest theater in America was built in 1716 at Williamsburg, Va., says a writer in the Indianapolis News. Fifteen years later, Mat Medley's company, playing "The Fool's Opera," made the first theatrical tour of the English colonies. In 1749, an attempt was made to play Addison's "Cato" in Philadelphia, but the players were arrested and the project abandoned. It was not until 1766 that a theater, the "Southwark," was built in that city. The New Amsterdam Dutch were indifferent to the theater, but after British occupation, the city's night life was gay and many young British officers took part in the theatricals.

The old John Street theater in New York was built in 1767. When the house was sold out, it brought in \$800, and sporting young gentlemen of the city vied with each other for the privilege of occupying the few special seats on the Washington frequently attended its performances and the greatest actors of the day, all of whom were styled "comedians," appeared. It was here that "Hamlet" made its initial appearance in America. Major Andre, later executed as a spy, was a scene painter, and many of the successful scenic effects at the old theater were his. John Henry, Irish actor, came from Covent Garden, London, to play "The Beaux' Stratagem" at this theater, and became America's first matinee idol. On another occasion a group of Cherokee chiefs witnessed "Richard III." As a return favor, they offered to give an Indian war dance. The offer was accepted and billed accordingly, with the result that the house was filled to overflowing. A young English actor of those early days, Lewis Hallam, caused considerable comment, playing Romeo to his mother's Juliet.

Muskmelon May Have Been Grown as Early as 1597

Strictly speaking we don't have cantaloupes in the United States. That term refers to a certain variety of the muskmelon grown in Europe. Named for Cantalupo castle in Italy, where it was first grown in Europe, the cantaloupe has a hard warty rind and a reddish-orange flesh. However, we in the United States have blithely referred to any muskmelon as a cantaloupe, until today dictionaries discriminate between the English and the American versions, writes Lona Gilbert in the Los Angeles Times.

Don't get the idea, however, just because of the European-American lingual differences that the muskmelon is a native of either. The melon is indigenous to Asia. Centuries ago the Egyptians borrowed the idea from the Orientals and raised an inferior melon, but a muskmelon for all that. Both the Romans and the Greeks knew muskmelons, but the latter, in writing of them, sometimes confused them with cucumbers.

Melons were brought to France in 1629 we know, and flourished thereafter, although they may have been grown in that country as early as 1597. We say "may" because the authority telling of them confused them sometimes with gourds.

True Value of Steel

The value of steel varies greatly, the price depending upon the articles into which it is fashioned. If a bar of steel costing 1 pound is made into horseshoes, the finished product would fetch about 2 pounds. If the same bar is made into needles, they would fetch 70 pounds, if into penknife blades, about 6,500 pounds, and into watch springs no less than 50,000 pounds! Very often, when made into precision instruments or hardened into delicate tools, steel has a greater value, weight for weight, than gold, and it is the most useful of all metals for engineering work. Without steel, asserts London Tit-Bits Magazine, industry would be temporarily dislocated, for another metal equally cheap that would lend itself to tempering, would have to be found.

Parks in Ontario

In the province of Ontario there are three national parks; one on Georgian bay, another at Point Pelee on Lake Erie, in southern Ontario; and the third among the Thousand Islands. The Georgian Bay park consists of thirty islands. Beausoleil, the largest, is a favorite resort. Point Pelee, the most southerly point in Canada, is a resting place for many migratory birds. Thirteen islands among the Thousand Islands, in the St. Lawrence river, between Morrisburg and Kingston, are reserved for Ontario's other recreational area.

Trousers Ridiculed

The word "trousers" seems to be derived from the French word "trousse," which signifies to tie or lace up tightly. Trousers first began to be worn about the beginning of the last century. They were much ridiculed at first, and it was hardly considered respectable to be seen in them. In October, 1812, orders were issued by Trinity and St. John's college, London, that students appearing in hall or chapel in pantaloons or trousers should be considered as absent.

HOW

PHYSIOLOGISTS TEST FOR GARLIC, ONION BREATH.

The pages of the Journal of the American Medical Association are serving as the battleground for a controversy about garlic breath. The question at issue is whether the disquieting oils which cause the odor are conveyed to the breath by way of the stomach, the blood stream and the lungs, or whether they are simply retained in the mouth when garlic (or onion) is chewed. It is a question of commercial importance to antiseptic manufacturers.

A short time ago two physiologists of Yale university published an account of tests which they said proved that the odor results from particles retained in the mouth.

They let their subject chew and swallow a bit of garlic; they let him chew it without swallowing, and they also had him swallow garlic in a gelatin capsule without chewing it. In each case they observed the quantity of the odoriferous oil exhaled. They found that when the garlic was chewed, whether or not it was swallowed, the breath was strongly tainted. But when the garlic was swallowed in a capsule the breath remained sweet.

How the Elements Rate in Average Human Body

If the chemical elements composing the average human body were isolated and sold at commercial prices they would be worth about \$1, says a writer in the Indianapolis News. The United States bureau of chemistry and soils supplies the following estimate of the average percentage of the different elements in the human body:

Oxygen, 65; carbon 18; hydrogen, 10; nitrogen, 3; calcium, 1.5; phosphorus, 1; potassium, 0.35; sulphur, 0.25; sodium, 0.15; chlorine, 0.15; magnesium, 0.05; iron, 0.004, and iodine, 0.00004. The body also contains minute quantities of fluorine and silicon, and perhaps manganese, zinc, copper and aluminum. Even arsenic has been discussed as being possibly an essential constituent of a normal human body.

Those who had attempted to evaluate the elements composing an average human body have met with many difficulties and their figures are nothing more than rough estimates.

How to Treat Spider Bites

Black widow spiders are easily recognized by the shiny black back and the red spots on the underside—one or more above the spinnerets at the tip of the abdomen, and one farther up shaped like an hour glass. Venom, injected from glands near the base of the jaws, through a needle-like tooth, causes a stinging sensation, followed by pain which progresses from the spot to the chest or abdominal region, and has a retarding effect upon the heart. First aid is to make the wound bleed freely by enlarging it and then apply suction. A few authentic cases of death to human beings from black widow spider bites are on record in this country.

How Japanese Kimonos Differ

The Japanese boy's kimono is made of dark striped material, with the sleeves rather short and the garment held together by a black girdle. He wears heavy socks that reach just above the ankle and straw sandals indoors and wooden clogs for street wear. The kimono of a girl is much gayer than her brother's. It has a pattern of flowers and birds, and is fastened with a bright red sash. Her sleeves reach to her knees.

How to Hold Beauty of Wood

Natural beauty should be retained whenever practicable in choosing woodwork finishes. If the wood is beautiful in itself and well matched for color and grain, a varnish or wax finish may be given if the room scheme permits. Inexpensive woods, or others that have been poorly selected, are generally given a finish of paint, enamel, or lacquer. These finishes provide smooth attractive opaque coatings.

How to Wash Corduroy Trousers

To wash corduroy trousers prepare a suds of lukewarm water and soap. Soak the garment up and down in the suds until clean, rinse in several waters and hang dripping on the line. Do not wring, because it mars the material. When dry, brush with a soft brush. Do not iron.

How to Preserve Drawings

Drawings and blueprints become spotted and dirty when in use in the home shop, obscuring the lines upon them. If these are given one coat of thinned-down shellac before using, they can be kept clean by wiping off with a dampened rag. The paper is also made more durable by the shellac coating.

How Living Cells Multiply

Cells multiply by splitting in half. Each chromosome splits into two pieces, one of which goes into one of the new cells, the other into the other. These new cells in turn divide, forming four; these split into eight, then 16, then 32, and so on.

How to Whiten Piano Keys

Yellowed piano keys can be whitened with eau de cologne, turpentine or alcohol.

RED CROSS HOME SAFETY ACTIVITIES

The Home and Farm Accident Prevention Program was begun on a national scale in the fall of 1935 after the experience of several chapters had proven its practicality as a local project.

The Red Cross adopted home and farm accident prevention as one of its regular, continuing programs in 1936, appointing John Meipolder of the National staff as consultant in Washington. At this time it was apparent that deaths resulting from home accidents might soon outrank even fatalities, and that a year-round program over a considerable period of time would be necessary to cut the toll appreciably.

Red Cross had an unusual opportunity to personalize its program because of its 3,700 Chapters. Each unit, knowing the safety needs of its community, could plan to meet those needs intelligently, especially so because its activities were already directed by community leadership.

The focal point of attack was the inspection of homes by householders whose interest had been aroused through an educational campaign. Red Cross home inspection forms, or check lists, were distributed by National Headquarters to the Chapter, by the Chapter to the Junior Red Cross and other school children of the community. The school children took the forms home and asked the direction of parents in removing hazards from the home.

The first year (1935, twenty-five million check lists were distributed and an estimated total of ten millions homes reached. Two thousand five hundred Chapters from coast to coast took part. This experience showed which of the Chapters were structurally equipped to maintain home and farm accident prevention on a permanent basis. This year the check lists are being sent only to Chapters requesting them, and it is heartening that 1,700 Chapters have ordered. A first printing of seven million check lists has been prepared to meet this demand.

Since nearly twice as many persons are accidentally killed in agriculture as in manufacturing and construction combined—and because little safety pioneering has been done on a national scale in this field—the Red Cross is combating farm work accidents which occur in rural and urban homes. Through rural schools, home inspection forms reach the farm home. In addition, organizations with contacts with the farm, such as 4-H Clubs, Home Demonstration Agents and others, are cooperating closely with the Red Cross.

Last year home accident fatalities took an unprecedented jump to 35,500 thereby going ahead of traffic fatalities by 700. Unfortunately as this circumstance is, it will nevertheless be help to Chapters in urging the need for community action. The fact that more persons meet their death in allegedly safe homes than on admittedly unsafe highways is news, and news means copy.

BIGGEST TOURING YEAR IN HISTORY

Checking up on its biggest touring year in history, the Keystone Automobile Club finds that its seventeen offices in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland and the District of Columbia mapped out 208,265 tours covering more than 205,000,000 miles.

The 1937 figures, January 1 to August 31, show an increase of 18.6 percent over the tours for 1936. Tours this year averaged nearly 1000 miles.

"Distance touring" is becoming more popular every year, Club officials say. Where only a few hardy motorists undertook a transcontinental journey a decade ago, thousands now drive from coast to coast. Trips of three to five thousand miles are common.

Two reasons are assigned by the Club for the increasing popularity of travel. One is the modern motor car which covers distance effortlessly and "holds up" under the varying conditions encountered in long trips. The other is the constant improvement of the nation's highway system. New roads invite patronage—and get it.

Aside from the tours prepared in Club offices, Keystone aided additional thousands of motorists through its Motor Patrol. Touring information was given to nearly 7000 motorists who stopped patrolmen on the highways to learn explicit directions or to inquire about road conditions.

For the first time since 1931 the state of Maryland will be represented by a 4-H Club dairy demonstration team at the National Dairy Show at Columbus, Ohio, October 9 to 16. This team, demonstrating clean milk production, will be chosen at a contest at Timonium Fair.

FOREST FIRE LOSSES IN STATE ARE ESTIMATED BY SPECIALIST

There were 1,380 forest fires in Maryland reported in 1936, which burned over 19,704 acres of land and caused a loss of \$49,431 in property values, according to C. F. Winslow, specialist in forestry for the University of Maryland extension service. In addition, he states, these fires cost \$4,749 to suppress.

Most of the fires, Mr. Winslow says, were caused by careless smoking, but careless debris burners, railroad operations, and incendiaries were responsible for almost as many. All but three fires that were caused by lightning were caused by man and could have been prevented if proper care and precaution had been observed.

Few forest fires would result, Mr. Winslow states, if the following rules were carried out: Do not throw lighted matches or burning smoking materials into dry grass or leaves; do not build camp fires in wooded areas during dry weather when the wind is high; do not leave camp fires burning—throw water on the fire and mix it through the ashes with a stick, or cover the fire with dirt; and do not burn grass fields or debris during windy weather. It is a good precaution to start such fires after three P. M. and bury against the wind; also, to have a sufficient number of men handy, equipped with shovels, rakes and buckets of water, to control the fire.

UNION EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN

Baltimore is planning elaborately for a union Evangelistic Campaign under the leadership of the famous evangelist, Gipsy Smith of Cambridge, England. The meetings, which will begin on September 26 and continue until October 10, will be held in the Fifth Regiment Armory. Rev. Charles T. Hewitt, D. D., Pastor of the Fulton Avenue Baptist Church, is General Chairman of the Campaign Committee. More than two hundred Baltimore ministers are cooperating; this group represents practically every Protestant denomination.

A large Chorus Choir has been rehearsing during the month of August. Approximately one thousand have already applied for membership in the Chorus. Rev. C. Carroll Bailey, Pastor of the Faith Evangelical Church is training the choir and will lead the singing during the campaign. Rev. Mr. Bailey is well known in music circles, having been a member of the Glee Club and Varsity Quartet at the University of Michigan during his student days, since then active in leading church music. For five years he was director of the YMCA Glee Club in Baltimore and now is Director of the Faven Glee Club.

Two other committees have been active in preparation for this city-wide campaign. Rev. J. W. Leggett, Pastor of the Central M. E. Church, South has gathered a large group of Personal Workers and Rev. Kingman A. Handy, a Baptist clergyman is organizing the Cottage Prayer Meetings. During the summer Special Prayer Groups of ministers and laymen have been met each week, led by Rev. J. Russell Gaar, Presbyterian pastor at Sparrows Point.

Gipsy Smith is now conducting a city-wide revival in Wichita Falls, Texas, where great throngs greet him daily at the Municipal Auditorium. This is his 34th Evangelistic tour in the United States. Although he is well past seventy years of age, he is as vigorous and active as many men twenty-five years younger. The meeting in Baltimore will be the only one the Gipsy will hold outside of Texas this year.

The great wage records system created by the Social Security Board to make each worker get the amount due him under the old-age benefits provisions of the Social Security Act has been described as "the greatest bookkeeping job in the world."

A farmer is a farmer only when he is farming and when he engages in other business or employment he comes under the Social Security Act.

Kent county, with 89.6 percent, ranks second among the counties of Maryland in the percentage of land in farms.

Dr. E. N. Cory, State Entomologist, says that the holly tree is seldom injured by the Japanese beetle.

There are two kinds of climbers: the big who are proud of their humble origin and the small who are ashamed of it.

Men who know when they get enough may be too full for utterance after getting it.