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### MANY SOILS NEED LIME

YIELD ON LIME AND PHOSPHATE  
PLOTS WAS 40% GREATER

Results of Experiments Carried Out  
During Two Past Seasons in Several  
Different Counties.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of  
Agriculture, Toronto.)

Lime and phosphate experiments were planned by the Chemistry Department of the Ontario Agricultural College to determine the effect of lime and acid phosphate on wheat and the succeeding crop of clover. Each experiment consisted of four one-half acre plots. The experiment was started in the autumn of 1922 when three experiments in each of the following counties were undertaken: Halton, Lincoln, Norfolk, Wentworth, Brant, Elgin, Hamilton, and Welland. The fertilizers and lime were applied immediately before seeding the ground with wheat. It was not expected that lime would influence the crop of wheat but it was applied to see its influence on the clover following the wheat. When the wheat was harvested in 1923 it was found that on the plots receiving lime and acid phosphate the yield was 54 per cent. greater than on the check plots.

In the autumn of 1923, three experiments were laid down in each of eight counties, extending west and east of the original eight. When the plots in the sixteen counties were harvested in 1924, it was found that the plots where lime and acid phosphate had been applied yielded 45 per cent. more than the check plots. The clover was harvested from the plots started in the autumn of 1922, and gave a yield of clover on the lime plots forty per cent. greater than the yield on the check plots. The clover yield on the lime and phosphate plots was sixty per cent. greater than it was on the check plots.

The soil of the plots in these sixteen counties all showed a shortage of lime when taken over by the Department.

During the autumn of 1924 the work was extended to three other farms in each of eight additional counties.

The results to date on the lime phosphate experiments are very interesting and show that without doubt lime may be applied with profit for clover and that acid phosphate may be used with profit on wheat. Dept. of Extension, Ontario Agricultural College.

#### Salting Tests.

There is some difference of opinion as to whether salt is, or is not, a butter preservative. Tests were made at the O. A. C. Dairy Department comparing butters made from the same cream, pasteurized, to one lot of which no salt was added, in other lots the salt content was .346, 1.69 and 2.9 per cent. The lots of butter were held in cold storage in 14-nd boxes for six months at temperature of 12° F. It was scored by the Provincial Butter Grader at the end of 1, 3 and 6 months periods. The lots having no salt averaged higher in flavor score when fresh and were practically the same at the end of 1, 3 and 6 months, and a little higher with one exception than the salted lots throughout the holding period. In these tests salt apparently had no preservative effect on the butter. High salting no doubt injures the quality of butter when fresh and is no advantage when it is to be kept in cold storage. Most Canadian markets require some salt in butter, but the demand is for less salt than formerly. At no time should butter contain over 2.5 per cent. of salt.

#### Dairy Notes.

Milk is such a perishable food that measures should be taken to preserve it in good condition for at least 36 to 48 hours after it is drawn from the cow. Pasteurization, which includes cooling and holding at a reasonably low temperature, preferably below 50° F. are the two things necessary and practicable at reasonable cost. Where milk is held at 60° to 70° F., which is ordinary house temperature, the Dealers' raw milk will not remain sweet for more than 12 hours, whereas if pasteurized it will likely be quite fit for table use up to 24 or 30 hours holding. If kept at 50° F. the pasteurized milk will remain in good condition for 48 hours or longer.—Prof. H. H. Dean, Dairy Dept., O. A. College.

#### Buttermilk.

The lactic acid organisms in buttermilk make it a very valuable food. Not so much is it valued for the energy value that it contains, but for its ability in fighting and destroying the bacteria of decomposition in the alimentary canal.

Poultry fatteners feed buttermilk with the purpose of getting quicker gains and more tender, juicy meat. They have also found that buttermilk fed chickens ship with less mortality and that the dressed poultry retains its high quality for a longer period after being placed on the market, indicating that the bacteria of decomposition had been eliminated or at least held in check.

#### Weak Link.

The number of eggs set to get a mixture pullet is possibly the most inefficient part of the poultry business. The hatching power of eggs is known to be an inherited character, yet the hatching power of eggs is very seriously affected by nutrition and general care and management. The Department of Poultry Husbandry, O. A. College, has been conducting some experiments along these lines, but results so far would not warrant any conclusions being offered. The problem is complicated and will take some time to work out.—Prof. W. R. Graham, O. A. College.

### SPRAYING FRUIT TREES

PRACTICAL INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT  
A VERY NECESSARY WORK.

Have a Good Outfit—Spray as the  
Calendar Tells You—Spray Right  
Through the Trees—Keep Tank,  
Pump and Nozzles Clean.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of  
Agriculture, Toronto.)

1. Do not spray at all unless you are going to try to do it well. It will not pay.

2. You cannot make a success of apple growing without good spraying.

3. You cannot spray well without a good outfit which will give you plenty of pressure. So overhaul the old spray machine at once, or if it is not satisfactory buy a new one with plenty of power.

4. Get a spray calendar from your Agricultural Representative, or from Mr. F. W. Hodgetts, Director Fruit Branch, Toronto, or Prof. L. Caesar, O. A. College, Guelph. Tack it up in the spray shed where it will always be available.

5. Use only the spray materials recommended in the spray calendar.

6. Do not spray when it happens to be convenient, but spray at the times the spray calendar says. The time of spraying is of vast importance and the times given in the spray calendar are based on years of study.

7. Out of none of the first three regular sprays, some years the first is the most important, some the second and some the third. Each spray helps to make the next more effective and each must be given to insure clean fruit.

8. McIntosh and Snow trees should always receive a fourth application. Read what the spray calendar recommends under "Extra sprays and remarks" and be guided by it.

9. You will not control San Jose scale on large trees, twenty-five years old or more, unless you first prune them heavily and scrape the loose bark off with a hoe. Then see that every particle of the bark is wet with the liquid; a mere mist or a light spray will not kill the insect. Use lime sulphur 1 to 7 of water, preferably just as the buds are bursting.

10. For scab and codling moth cover both sides of every fruit and also cover every leaf. Scab attacks the leaves, too, and is often washed from them to the fruit. It will require from 7 to 13 gallons for each tree twenty-five years old or upwards, not just 2 or 3 gallons.

11. Be sure the spray reaches right through the trees. To insure this go in, if necessary, underneath the tree and spray the part beyond the trunk first, then step back to the outside and spray the remaining part. Do this from both sides. Remember that it is the centre or shaded part of the tree where scab naturally is worst and your sprayers nearly always miss this side though they often cover the sunny or outer side all right.

12. A tower, even with a spray gun, is a great help. Often it will suffice to stand on the tank. A railing or support on it removes the danger of falling.

13. Do not use large openings in the discs of either nozzles or spray guns unless you have 225 pounds pressure or more. They are wasteful, make it difficult to maintain high pressure, and give too coarse a spray.

14. In many cases better work will be done with a rod and three angle disc nozzles than with a gun. In any case use some system in spraying so that you will make sure everything is being covered in a methodical way.

15. Have a handy place to fill the tank. Ten minutes should be long enough for any tank.

16. Do not stop spraying because rain threatens. Go right on until the rain has well begun. It is rain and moisture which cause scab outbreaks.

17. Do not stick to an eight or ten hour day when spraying, but make every effort to get it done as soon as possible without sacrificing thoroughness. If the second spray is not finished before the blossoms open, omit the poison and go on until it is finished.

18. Wash out the tank and pump clean water through the machine and nozzles at the close of each day.

19. Remember spraying gives healthy foliage and is a great factor in producing annual crops as well as giving clean fruit. Even trees that are not bearing should be sprayed to keep them healthy.

20. Get a new spray calendar each year.

21. When in difficulty consult your Agricultural Representative or write to Prof. L. Caesar, O. A. College, Guelph, or W. A. Ross, Vineland, or L. Caesar, O. A. College, Guelph.

#### Farm Notes.

Improved breeding is urgently needed in dairy herds. Most dairy men feed and house their cattle in a manner that is worthy of much better cattle than they are keeping. Efficient cows, efficiently fed and housed, are the dairyman's economic salvation. The most successful dairymen are breeders and improvers of dairy cattle.

While silage is an excellent feed for dairy stock, it should be combined with some leguminous feed, such as clover, cowpeas, or alfalfa, owing to its insufficient nutritive quality. The leguminous material will tend to correct the deficiencies of the silage in dry matter, protein, and mineral constituents.

The dairyman's motto is: "Production first"; and every cow, pure-bred or grade, must produce and keep up, because we can't afford to keep her. This is one reason why some pure-bred breeders shun cow testing associations. They are afraid of their records; afraid some of their cows are not paying for their feed or afraid some grade cow will stop too fast for them.

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