

## Many Good Points for Trench Silos

Invaluable Farm Accessory Easy to Construct, and Lasting.

By JOHN A. AREY, Dairy Extension Specialist, North Carolina State College.—WNU Service.

While no definite experimental work has been done in testing the trench silo in North Carolina, indications are that this type of silo may be useful because of the economy in construction and the need for more silos along with increasing dairy development in the state.

The trench silo is being used by an increasing number of Georgia, Mississippi and South Carolina farmers. It has long been used in the western states and has proven very satisfactory. I believe the type has a wide adaptation in this state, especially among owners of small herds. Every farmer keeping a few dairy cattle needs a silo of some kind, for the reason that about 30 per cent of the feed is lost when harvested and fed dry. Using a silo eliminates this loss.

Four advantages of the trench silo may be listed. First, it costs little to construct. The roof and the labor for digging are the main items of expense. The average cost of constructing 15 such silos in South Carolina during 1930 was 95 cents a ton capacity. On this basis it would cost \$28.50 to construct a 30-ton silo which would hold enough silage for eight to ten cows.

The second advantage is that the trench silo is easily constructed. The labor and tools generally found on the farm may be used. Third, it is easy to fill. The vertical filling equipment is not needed. Finally, the trench silo cannot blow down, regardless of size.

### Special Treatment of Fence Posts Advisable

Cutting fence posts in the woods and placing them in the ground a few days later, without barking or curing them, constitutes a great waste both of posts and labor. Posts should be cut several months before they are set, and it is especially important that the bark be removed.

The life of a fence post is, of course, influenced by a number of other factors besides those mentioned, such as the amount of heartwood and sapwood it contains, the rate at which it is set. The most durable woods are osage orange, white oak, mulberry, red cedar and black locust. When these woods are barked and properly cured, they will last from 20 to 30 years under ordinary conditions. Quicker growing and softer woods, after being cured, should be treated with creosote. When this is thoroughly done, they will last as long as harder woods.

A fence post from which the bark has not been removed holds the moisture which is absorbed in rainy seasons, thus making conditions favorable for bacterial and fungus growth. Moisture held between the bark and the wood furnishes an ideal place for the growth of wood-destroying fungi and insects that shorten the life of the post.—Wallace's Farmer.

### Bean Beetles Common

Ohio has been experiencing severe attacks in gardens this year from the Mexican bean beetle, which is a copper-colored insect about one-fourth inch long and with 16 spots. This southern visitor which has become common in Ohio only in recent years may be controlled by spraying with calcium arsenate at the rate of one pound of the arsenate and two pounds of hydrated lime in 50 gallons of water, says the Ohio Farmer. The same poisons may be dusted before bean pods form on the plants.

Barium fluosulfate sold under various trade names is recommended by several experiment stations. The insects feed on the tissues of the under side of the bean leaf, and hence it is essential that the leaves be sprayed or dusted thoroughly to get the poison material on the lower side of the leaf.

### Fall Planting

Several readers ask whether raspberries and other brambles may be set in fall. This is practical, and often more convenient than in spring. After the leaves have dropped in fall, a plant is in condition to set. The earth may be made very firm around the roots when setting, which is good advice with regard to the handling of most herbaceous plants and trees. One disadvantage in fall setting is that in very windy places they may be raked around in winter before getting a root hold. Firming the earth around the roots helps avoid this. Cutting back as much as the tops will stand also gives less surface for the wind to work on. A forkful of manure scattered around on the surface is useful, both as mulch and for fertility.—Rural New-Yorker.

### Lespedeza Coming North

Korean lespedeza is pushing its way north into Indiana. The common kind is reseeding itself as far north as Indianapolis, and the Korean as far north as the Michigan line. This legume has its chief value as a pasture crop on acid soils that are unsuited to clovers and alfalfa. It is neither a substitute for, nor competitor with, clovers, alfalfa, or soybeans as far as hay production or fertility improvement are concerned, according to Hoard's Dairyman.

## Treatment of Calf When on Exhibition

Accustomed Food and Drink Vital Points.

By CHARLES H. CRAWFORD, New York State College of Agriculture.—WNU Service.

Midway noises and milling crowds of county fairs, a strange stable, strange companions, and strange water, contrasted to the quiet, darkened, home stable, and a trusting 4-H caretaker, upsets calves' digestions and dispositions.

Under such unusual conditions it is not uncommon for calves to refuse to drink when they are away from home, and the calf may become gaunt and listless. Such calves show poorly. To overcome the possibility of such a condition, 4-H calf-club exhibitors should teach their calves to drink skim milk. The milk helps the calf to grow and also helps give the calf the finish that only a well-fed animal possesses. In addition to being a good feed, the desire for skim milk prevents the calf from refusing to drink, for the desire for the milk overcomes the distaste of the strange water. Skim milk can be made at the fair by adding one pound of dry skim milk to nine pounds of water.

For a week or ten days before the show, the calf should be fed as she is to be fed at the show. This prevents sudden changes which may throw the calf off feed. If possible, take hay to the show. Dry mixed timothy-clover hay is better for calves that are hauled a considerable distance than is the more luscious green alfalfa hay.

### Move to Have Animals Classified by Records

The various breed associations are rapidly moving away from the idea that an animal is necessarily superior because it can be registered. Practically all dairy breed associations now have classifications within the breed, based on milk records and inspection for individual excellence. At the last meeting of the Jersey Cattle club of the United States, for instance, it was decided to establish a tested sire list. A bull becomes eligible for this list when he has ten tested daughters that have qualified. The tested sire becomes automatically a superior sire when the total number of his tested daughters shall equal or exceed 50 per cent of all daughters registered, four years old or over, and whose average production, figured on a mature basis, shall be 600 pounds butter fat or more. Another important change adopted by the meeting was a comprehensive plan for the inspection and classification of Jersey herds. A herd, at the request of its owner, will be inspected by a competent judge and classified in one of six different classes. Even with these progressive measures, the Jersey fraternity across the line have not yet advanced as far as a couple of other breed associations.

### Burdock

Burdock is a common weed in farmyards, waste places, etc. It seldom gives trouble in fields under cultivation. It is a biennial, flowering from July to August. The seed, enclosed in burrs, is ripe by September. Eradication is best done by cutting below the crown or spading out when the ground is wet and soft, either the first year or before the seeds are ripe the second year. A handful of salt applied after cutting in hot, dry weather will kill the plant. Waste places should be seeded to grass and the weeds kept out until the grass has become firmly established.

### Fight the Rats

An increase in the infestation of rats on farms is reported by those who are concerned in rodent control work. A large quantity of food on farms, such as corn and other grains, etc., is given as the reason for the increase. Rats can destroy much grain and cause a considerable loss on a farm, if permitted to thrive unhampered. A well organized fight should be carried on against these pests. The use of poisons, such as red squill, have proven effective. While the cribs are empty this summer, time spent in making them rat proof will be profitable.—Indiana Farmer's Guide.

### Agricultural Squibs

Testing will help to find the vigorous ears of seed corn.

Cut all milkweed, ground cherry, pokeweed, and wild and burr cucumbers that grow near the cucumber vines, because they harbor the mosaic disease.

Ohio farmers saved 7 per cent more pigs of the spring pig crop than they did a year ago, but the crop in the United States this year is 7 per cent smaller.

Rotating stock on pastures increases production, eliminates waste, and makes better soda.

On July 15 all federal quarantine regulations for the control of cornborer spread were lifted because of lack of money for enforcement, according to Secretary of Agriculture Hyde.

Cultivation of stubble directly after harvest will encourage germination of ragweed seed, then in the soil, the young plants being killed with the harrow, or plowed under for humus.

## LITTLE GUILF ON THE CHESS BOARD

Compares More Than Favorably With Diplomacy.

Sir John Simon, speaking at the opening of the annual congress of the British Chess federation, referred to the innocence of the chess player. "Your opponent," he said, "holds out two fists, each with a pawn. You indicate one of the fists. He opens it and shows you a black pawn. Nobody since the beginning of the game of chess has ever said, 'But haven't you got a black pawn in the other fist?'"

In this, the foreign secretary was

perhaps thinking, the chess player compares favorably with the diplomat, even though their games are not dissimilar. When the world is your board and pawns men and women whose lives are at stake, when castles are mounted with guns and the slantwise attack of a bishop means death from the air, who dare be innocent? Chess is an abstract of politics. It is politics without passion, diplomacy in a world where all treaties are observed and all agreements faithfully fulfilled. The knight treads a crooked path like any politician, but it is always the same path; even the queen—the dictator—must obey rules. Pawns do not suddenly, like Japanese soldiers, leap forward five squares, nor players threaten, unless this is allowed, to

overturn the whole board. The innocence of the chess player is like the innocence of the economic man; and chess is the most refreshing game that exists because it is the least like life. What king, with a knowledge of good and evil, would be content to move by rule to the inevitable doom? Where is the bishop who would allow a pawn to drive him from his diocese? Chess was obviously invented by disillusioned statesmen. It represents their utopia—proletariat in front; king with glory and no power; queen (in the East, by the way, called minister) all powerful; church sudden and unexpected in attack; army threatening unlikely places; landowners firm and direct and powerful, particularly in difficult times when many

others have fallen—the whole working to rule. They do not work to rule at Geneva.—Manchester (Eng.) Guardian.

### Expediency

Doctor—No tobacco, no alcohol, no theaters, a quiet life, plain food, and early to bed.

Patient—Yes, doctor, and what then?

Doctor—Then you will be able to pay my bill.—Cleveland News.

### The Cinema Influence

Youth (pointing out lovely bather)—There, isn't she a peach? She knocks all the rest of the girls down here silly.

Friend—Ha! a real flatten'em blond!—Humorist (London).

# WARNING to PROPERTY OWNERS

TODAY a letter came to my desk that deeply impressed me. It was written by a woman—the mother in a typical American family. Her little home had been saved from foreclosure by a coat of new paint, for which a part of their meager savings had been paid.

Those few gallons of fresh paint had so revived the appearance and enhanced the value of the property that the mortgagee had consented to renew the loan . . . and the little home was saved.

I could not help thinking of the thousands of homes and buildings that are shabby and unattractive today due to several years of neglected painting; of the millions of home owners who, because of reduced incomes and enforced economy, have been obliged to sacrifice painting for taxes, interest, assessments, to say nothing of food, clothing, heat and other essentials of comfort and health.

You have seen these paint-starved houses and buildings, as have I. They are everywhere about you. Perhaps your home is included.

Do you understand what they signify? Do you realize what will happen to wood or metal that is literally naked of paint if these houses and buildings face the attack of another season of rain, snow, ice, and frost?

Never in the history of our country has the situation been paralleled. Property owners face an added burden of expense amounting to millions of dollars for repairs and replacements next spring.

And the crisis, in my opinion, will be reached this coming winter when paint of four, five, and even six years exposure to the weather will be unable to resist the elements—when badly weathered wood and metal will be easy prey for rot, rust and decay.

Today the big question facing thousands of property owners is plain. It is "paint or pay." Either you must invest a little this fall in new paint or you must take the risk of

paying many times the cost of paint to repair the damage done by rot, rust and decay this winter.

Even at the sacrifice of other things, have your house or buildings completely repainted now. No investment you can make will pay better dividends. And nothing you can buy will make you and your family feel so uplifted and cheerful.

If you cannot arrange to do a complete repainting job now, at least give the badly weathered places a coat or two of protecting paint.

Look especially, to the window sills, thresholds, outdoor porches and steps; the joints of porch railings and palings; the bases of pillars; the edges of eaves; the roof; the gutters and down spouts. These are the vital spots where water lodges—where ice and frost settle—where rot and rust attack first.

A few dollars' worth of good paint, applied now, will protect these vital spots—will tide you over this crucial winter. And it will probably save you a much greater expense for repairs and replacements next spring and summer.

Under existing conditions, you may be tempted to buy a cheap paint because of its low price. I hope you will not make this costly mistake.

Even on sound lumber, inferior paint is a poor bargain. But on weathered wood, which is very porous, such paint is worse than useless. It gives you a false feeling of security and leaves you without protection.

Prices of well-known, established brands of paint are now the lowest in fifteen years. Enough good, dependable paint can be purchased for a few dollars to protect all the badly weathered surfaces on your building.

Again I repeat, do a complete job this fall if you can. But at least do the vital exposed places before it is "too late."

*S. A. Williams*  
President  
THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS CO.

This message to the property owners of America is sponsored by the following paint manufacturers and their dealers:

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