

Agricultural Department.

O. M. TINKHAM Editor. All communications for this department should be sent to the Editor, O. M. TINKHAM, No. 100 West...

Haying. As the time draws near for gathering Vermont's greatest crop, we all naturally are desirous of doing it in the cheapest way possible that will secure it in the best order.

The inventive genius of the country has seemingly reduced the labor of haying to its lowest point with good mowing machines, tender and horse raised, the hardest part of the work of various hay loaders, and have seen one or at least that was claimed in perfect order, but it was not so.

When to cut grass. There has been a great deal said and written on this subject for the last few years, and many, perhaps most dairymen, have advocated early cutting, cut as soon as fairly in the blow, some before it reached that condition.

For horses, good horse men whom we know and in whose judgment we have great confidence prefer hay cut when ripe enough for the seed to shell a little when feeding in winter, herds grass being understood to be meant, objection to feeding clover as likely to bring on heaves when fed dry.

We have tried to see to manage the putting in of our hay as to be sure to have some as good as there is for feeding in spring, and the poorer the quality and such as we may have had wet by itself so it can be fed just as we wish.

Of course there is no need to speak of the benefits or desirability of a mowing machine, as they are so generally in use. In some cases a tedder is equally or more valuable, though in the heaviest grass we find it less value, as it cannot do the work well and for such grass we have found no substitute for hand turning or shaking.

Brother farmers, give us your views about haying time, manner, etc., of gathering this most important crop.

Potato bugs. Yes, thicker than ever, and the only sure thing yet discovered to stop their ravages is the poison, generally some preparation of arsenic, Paris green (arsenic of copper) is largely used both dry, mixed with plaster or flour or in water, and is sure cure for them.

Feeding young chickens. Fanny Field says on this subject: We begin with hard boiled eggs and state bread moistened with milk. After a few days of this we feed cooked oatmeal, corn meal, and cooked potatoes, and as soon as they can swallow we feed every two hours for the first week, and afterwards five times a day.

The farming classes must not expect too much from science or scientists apart from actual practice and experiment. Science is conservative, a scientist is seldom an inventor, he judges only by what is already known.

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