



Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development

Journal of the Department of Agriculture, Western Australia, Series 3

Volume 1
Number 5 *September-October, 1952*

Article 21

9-1952

Here's the answer

Follow this and additional works at: https://library.dpird.wa.gov.au/journal_agriculture3

 Part of the [Agriculture Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

(1952) "Here's the answer," *Journal of the Department of Agriculture, Western Australia, Series 3*: Vol. 1: No. 5, Article 21.

Available at: https://library.dpird.wa.gov.au/journal_agriculture3/vol1/iss5/21

This article is brought to you for free and open access by the Agriculture at Digital Library. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Journal of the Department of Agriculture, Western Australia, Series 3* by an authorized administrator of Digital Library. For more information, please contact library@dpird.wa.gov.au.

HERE'S THE Answer!

STRIKING FORTUNIANA CUTTINGS

Having read with interest the articles on roses which have appeared in the Journal I am inquiring if you can supply some advice on the rooting of Fortuniana cuttings. I have grown two Fortuniana bushes with the idea of striking some cuttings for stocks. I already have some nice roses but all are growing on briar stocks which were obtained by taking up some of the suckers.

This query was received in a letter addressed to the author of the rose articles (Mr. C. C. Hillary) but unfortunately you omitted to sign the letter.

Fortuniana cuttings are best taken from the parent bushes in May. They could also be cut during June, July and August, but the percentage of strikes is apt to be much lower than it is with cuttings taken in May.

Pieces about eight or nine inches long and about the thickness of a lead pencil usually make the best cuttings. They should be cut straight across at the bottom end, using a sharp knife, and all the leaf buds or eyes except the top one or two should be removed.

The cuttings should then be placed in bundles and "heeled in" for three-quarters of their length in clean sandy soil to callous. As soon as the cuttings

have calloused they may be planted out in rows spaced three feet apart with nine inches between cuttings. It is essential that the cuttings should be watered both frequently and regularly until such time as they are growing well, and at no time during the subsequent summer should the young plants be allowed to go short of water.

CHEMICAL CONTROL OF COUCH AND KIKUYU GRASS

As an ex-dairyfarmer I am fully appreciative of the value of kikuyu grass in the right place—the pasture paddocks. My present problem is to eradicate it from a suburban quarter-acre block where I propose to build a house and establish a garden. One end is heavily infested with kikuyu grass which seems to have its root system throughout an eight-inch layer of soil. The other end of the block carries a rank growth of couch grass. Would any of the new chemicals weedicides be effective?

Both couch and kikuyu are difficult to control chemically and the best results have been obtained with sodium trichloracetate. A solution containing one pound per gallon of water should be applied in the form of a fine spray at the rate of approximately one gallon per 30 square yards.

As the chemical is absorbed largely through the roots, the grass should be cut short and the soil moist at the time of application. Ploughing or digging prior to application increases the effectiveness of the treatment. The action of the chemical is slow and a month or more may pass before maximum results are apparent. Any re-growth should be sprayed when it appears. The cost of the trichloracetate—about 8s. per lb.—restricts its usage to small areas.

Sodium chlorate, the active principle in the proprietary line, Atlacide, is also used for the control of couch and kikuyu at the same concentration and rate of application as the acetate. The chlorate is cheaper but is usually less effective, involving the spraying of a greater amount of regrowth. It is a contact spray which acts very rapidly.

Neither chemical is selective in its action and all plants on which the spray falls will be affected to a greater or lesser extent. There is also a risk of affecting shrubs and trees, including fruit trees, if spraying is carried out within the range of their root system.

The length of time for which the soil is affected by the chemicals depends on a number of factors including the rate of application, the soil type and the amount of rain or irrigation following the treatment. Sandy soils can be utilised within a month or two of moderate applications.

Unlike arsenicals, the chlorate and trichloracetate are non-poisonous to animals.

LEG MANGE OF HORSES

I have a horse with a kind of itch on the feet and legs. This itch seems to extend well up both the fore and hind legs and the animal is constantly rubbing against wire fences or against scrub. The animal is a former coal-mine horse and I have been told that the trouble is "greasy heel". I rather doubt this, however, because it extends very high up the legs. Can you advise the cause and cure of this trouble?

The symptoms you have described are suggestive of leg mange. This condition results from infestation with small mites which inhabit the skin and cause considerable irritation accompanied by symptoms of stamping and rubbing.

The hind limbs are most usually affected and the parasites do not often extend beyond the level of the hock. In some cases the forelegs may also be affected, and in that case the infestation does not usually extend beyond the knees.

For the treatment of affected horses, dressing with a lime sulphur solution is recommended. Ready mixed concentrated lime sulphur may be purchased from suppliers of orchardists' requisites and the solution is prepared by mixing one part of concentrated lime sulphur with 15 parts of warm water.

Affected legs should be clipped and the clippings burnt, following upon which the dressing should be thoroughly applied in such a manner as to wet the hair right down to the skin surface. Treatment should be repeated twice weekly until recovery occurs.

BRACKEN FERN POISONING

I will be glad if you could supply me with any information dealing with the administration of Vitamin B1 in the treatment of bracken poisoning of calves and sheep. Any other information regarding this disease will also be welcome.

There has been a considerable amount of confusion over the treatment of bracken poisoning owing to uncertainty as to how the plant produced its toxic effects. However, much of the confusion has been cleared up by the finding that identical symptoms can be produced in rats and horses by Vitamin B1 (Thiamin) deficiency, and that the condition of fern poisoning can be cleared up in these animals by Vitamin B1 treatment.

With cattle, and possibly sheep, the position is not altogether clear, Vitamin B1 apparently not being successful in these animals. However, recent work in

England has indicated that Nicotinic Acid is effective in treating cattle at least. Information regarding sheep is not available, but quite probably the same thing applies in this case.

Bracken poisoning is essentially a slow process, and large amounts must be eaten to produce toxic effects. It is important to remember that deaths often continue for some weeks after animals have been removed from bracken country.

In many cases death occurs suddenly without any symptoms being shown. In others dullness, lack of appetite, and a high temperature are the usual symptoms. Condition is rapidly lost, and dark, foul-smelling dung, often containing blood, is passed. In the later stages it may be almost entirely blood.

Bleeding from the natural openings (nostrils, anus, vagina, and eyes) is

common, and bleeding may also occur through the skin.

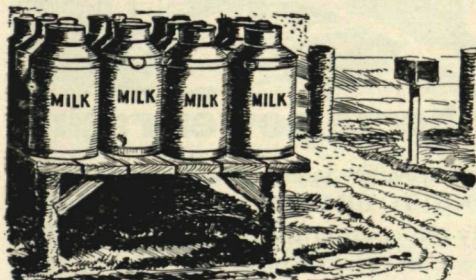
Death usually occurs within two or three days, and struggling and bellowing often precede it.

As successful treatment is still uncertain at the present time, preventative measures are important. Such things as avoidance of overstocking, the provision of adequate minerals, and where possible the eradication of bracken should be considered.

In view of the English work with Nicotinic Acid, the use of this vitamin in the treatment of cases would be warranted. Dosage was 600 mg. of Nicotinamide once daily by mouth, and in most cases successful results were obtained within three days. Treatment consequently is not expensive. Nicotinic Acid in the same dosage would probably also be successful.

ARE YOU GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR DAIRY HERD?

(OR IS MASTITIS REDUCING YOUR OUTPUT?)



PENIJEC For MASTITIS

... SOLD BY CHEMISTS ...

AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST SELLING MASTITIS TREATMENT

YOU SHOULD KNOW THIS ABOUT PENIJEC AND MASTITIS

Penijec is made in TWO STRENGTHS because - broadly speaking **MASTITIS** occurs in **TWO FORMS**.

- (1) Common (Streptococcal) Mastitis
- (2) Stubborn (Staphylococcal) Mastitis

Diagnosis is difficult. Your animal may have both infections. To be sure, **HIT HARD** with a first dose of strong **PENIJEC 110**.

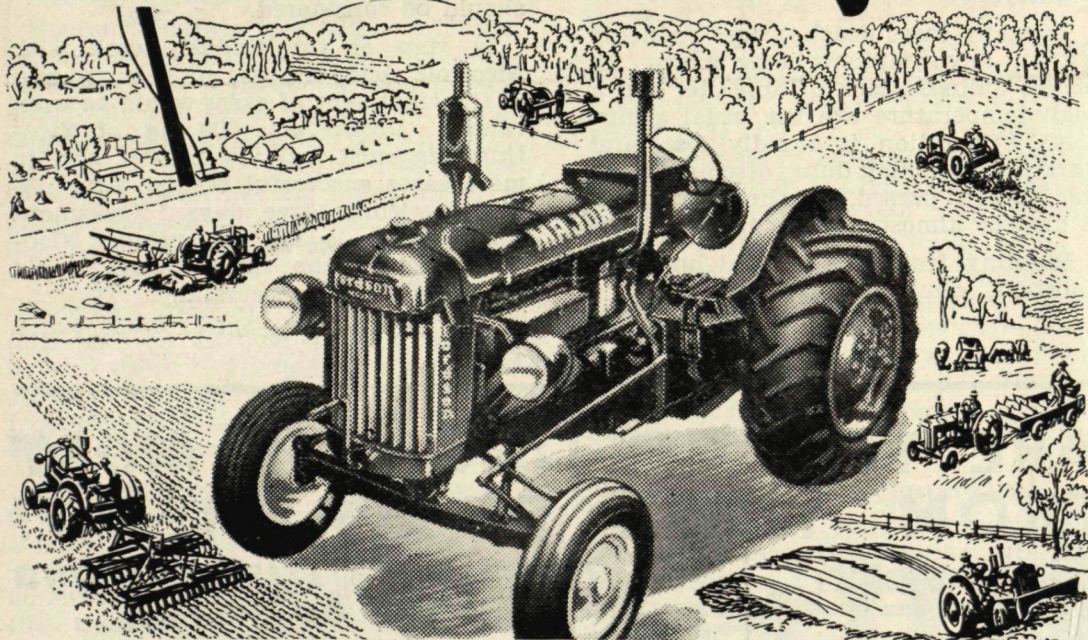
WE RECOMMEND:

First day - Penijec 110 followed by daily injections of Penijec 30 until quarter is normal. Animals with past history of **stubborn MASTITIS** - continued daily treatment with **PENIJEC 110** until quarter is normal. Best results are obtained when treatment is commenced without delay.

Be sure always to keep **PENIJEC** supplies on hand.

OUTRIGHT ALL-AUSTRALIAN
SALES LEADER

FORDSON MAJOR



Lowest-priced tractor per horse power rating

Fordson Major is its own best advertisement with over 30,000 Sales since 1945 . . . almost equal to all other makes together . . . IT MUST BE GOOD TO BE USED SO MUCH. On top of its overwhelming sales leadership it is indisputably *the lowest priced tractor per h.p. rating.* And what tractor compares with Fordson Major's low-cost versatile power for 101 farm jobs . . . ploughing . . . harvesting . . . orcharding . . . dairy and 'mixed' farming etc. Either the Kerosene or Diesel model offers a choice of gear ratios for work where soil conditions and size of implements need extra pull at the drawbar. But nothing will convince you like a demonstration on your own property! Arrange it with your Fordson Major Dealer to suit your convenience.

FORDSON MAJOR FARMS AUSTRALIA

Enquire from your local Fordson Dealer

FM32-24BT

With all this Standard Equipment

LIGHTS
STARTER
BRAKES
BELT PULLEY

RADIATOR
SHUTTERS
POWER
TAKE-OFF

COMPARE THESE PRICES WITH
THOSE OF ANY OTHER TRACTOR

£641

Kerosene Model
with
Steel Wheels

£844

Kerosene Model
with
Pneumatic Tyres

£1312

Diesel Model
with
Pneumatic Tyres

TERMS: Liberal terms are available—even as low as 25% Deposit with balance over 3 years.

FORD MOTOR COMPANY OF AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD.