Here's the answer

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**BULK SUPER STORAGE**

We are thinking of storing super-phosphate in bulk next year, and in order to assess the quantity of storage space likely to be needed we would appreciate some indication of the number of cubic feet required to house a ton of super.

A ton of bulk super occupies about 32 cubic feet, so a space 15ft. x 15ft. would accommodate about 21 tons in a layer three feet deep. A spokesman for the super-manufacturing firm which supplies this information said that he would not advise storing the fertiliser in greater depths than this. A three-foot layer could be forked over occasionally to prevent it from caking.

He also advised against bulking super on concrete floors which were seldom really dry. Wooden floors, or concrete floors covered with a layer of sleepers would be less likely to encourage caking from excess moisture.

**SALT-AFFECTED SOILS**

Would subsoiling be effective against patches of salt which have appeared on some of my paddocks? If so, at what distance apart should the deep furrows be ploughed, and would it be advisable to run them with the fall of the land or across it?

Subsoiling generally means the ploughing or breaking up of the soil to greater depths than normal working, so that under Western Australian wheatbelt conditions the breaking of the soil to a depth of 6in. to 9in. with suitable ripping points has been referred to as “subsoiling.” Experiments carried out by the Department over the period 1946 to 1950 on the property of Mr. R. Whitehead, at Hines Hill, gave no evidence that subsoiling would improve the yields from salt-affected land as compared with yields which were obtained by cultivation of the soil to shallower depths of 2in. to 4in.

In your district you are probably concerned about patches of salt-affected land where there are seepages of brackish water or where the ground water level has risen over a period of years since the land was cleared for farming. In such cases some improvement of the growth on the area may be obtained by the ploughing of furrows approximately on the contour two to three yards apart. Into these furrows small amounts of surface soil are washed and the seeds of grasses and other plants lodge in the furrows and in the roughened soil and become established.

Some salt-affected areas adjacent to creeks and on slopes remain very wet throughout the summer through the
seepage of brackish water, and in such areas it is worthwhile to try the summer growing salt tolerant grass, *Paspalum vaginatum*. Rooted pieces of this grass are available from the Avondale Research Station at Beverley and it may be convenient for you to call there at some time to see the conditions under which it grows and to obtain a supply of rooted pieces which the manager of the station will allow you to have on request.

**INSURING BEEHIVES**

One of my neighbours lost all his beehives in a bushfire last summer and as I own 35 hives I wondered if it would be possible to insure them against loss by fire or against foul brood and other diseases which may make it necessary for hives to be destroyed.

We understand that most insurance companies will accept insurance against fire, but not disease. The matter of compensation for hives destroyed because of infection with American or European foul brood was taken up by the Beekeepers' Section of the Farmers' Union recently but as yet no scheme is in force to cover such losses.

**CARNIOLIAN BEES**

I have been keeping a few hives of bees in my orchard, partly to assist in pollinating my fruit trees and partly to supply honey for domestic use, but the bees are very savage and it is difficult to work near the hives. I have heard that the Carniolian bees are very docile and easy to handle and would appreciate it if you could give me particulars of where I could obtain bees of this strain.

Pure-bred Carniolian bees are bred at the Department of Agriculture's apiary at Rottnest Island where the strain has been kept pure by not allowing other bees to be introduced there. They are certainly very docile and are a pleasure to handle beside being good workers.

Unfortunately, the Department finds it difficult to keep up with orders and there is a fairly long waiting list. Orders are taken in rotation as received and payment must be made at the time of placing the order.

The prices for queens are 7s. 6d. untested, 12s. 6d. tested and £1 select tested. Small nucleus hives can also be obtained priced at £1 12s. 6d., plus freight (usually about 7s. 6d.). These are sent with a laying queen and three frames of brood and honey. There is also a spare frame and wedges to make a solid foundation for travelling, and the spare frame, wedges, and nucleus box itself must be returned to the Department after the bees have been transferred to their new hive.

Owing to the prevailing seasonal conditions it is not always possible to predict when the bees will be available but notification by telegram is made before the bees are dispatched.

In your own case it would be best to purchase queen bees and requeen your hives. The young bees will then be of the Carniolian strain and will soon replace the savage hybrids.

**DDT AND TOBACCO**

Is DDT recommended for use as an insecticide on tobacco?

For some years it has been erroneously thought by growers that DDT has a harmful effect on the quality of tobacco produced. Western Australian tobacco normally has a higher salt content than other tobacco grown in Australia, and the idea probably arose from the fact that the small amount of chloride in the DDT will add further to the natural chloride present.

The amount of chloride in DDT is very small, and when applied as a 2% dust or 0.2% spray, the build-up of chlorine on the leaf is very slight indeed. The usual method of applying pollard and arsenate dust will not control leaf miner, of which there is quite a large population in the district.

Therefore, the recommendation now is to use DDT either as a dust or spray, thus dispensing with other methods of dusting.
We recently installed a hot water system which is fed from a 2,000 gallon tank placed on a high tank-stand. Can you recommend a simple gauge which would enable us to tell at a glance, the approximate quantity of water in the tank?

There are many different types of tank gauge, but most of them embody the same principles. There is usually a float in the tank and this is connected to an indicator outside the tank by means of a cord or wire running over a pulley.

The idea is shown in the larger sketch. The float may be a block of softwood, a metal canister soldered to keep it air and watertight, or even a tightly-corked bottle. The float should be slightly heavier than the sliding indicator on the outside of the tank and should be connected to the indicator by a length of cord or flexible wire rope passing over a pulley.

A scale painted on boards clamped to the outside of the tank indicates the depth of water at a glance. The groove in which the indicator slides should be painted in a contrasting colour—a white groove for a black indicator or a black groove if the indicator is painted white. The scale is in reverse—a high indicator denotes a low water-level and vice versa.

An even simpler method is that shown in the small sketch. An upright isbolted to the tank-stand and this carries a pivoted cross-bar to one end of which the float is attached. A counterweight may be attached to the other end of the cross-bar to give a suitable balance.
When the tank is full, the cross-bar should be horizontal. As the water-level drops, the float is lowered and the other end of the cross-bar rises. It is a simple matter to gauge the depth of the water in the tank by the angle of the cross-bar.

**EMU DESTRUCTION**

Is the emu listed as vermin and, if so, what are the best methods of destroying this pest? Mobs of emus do considerable damage to wheat crops in my district and although we try to keep them under control by shooting and running them down with dogs, we have not had much success.

Emus are proclaimed vermin in certain areas of the State but are protected under the Game Act in those Vermin Board areas wholly inside the No. 2 Rabbit Proof Fence and south of the East-West railway line.

However, the Chief Guardian of Game (Mr. A. J. Fraser) is always sympathetic toward applications for the lifting of the protection where it can be shown that emus or kangaroos are causing damage on farming properties within the protected areas.

Because of their roving habits, emus are difficult creatures to destroy, but some farmers have obtained good results with poisoned wheat. “Free feeding” is the secret of success and it is necessary to run out about a bushel of wheat in one or two places where the emus are most likely to find it.

Once the emus have taken the wheat, put down some more and continue until they have formed the habit of feeding in that spot, then put out the poisoned wheat in small heaps about six feet apart.

**Ingredients:**

- 20 lb. wheat.
- 4 lb. brown sugar.
- 1 oz. soluble strychnine.
- 1 ½ gal. water.

**Method:** Boil the water and add the strychnine and sugar. Stir well until dissolved then remove from fire, add wheat and allow to stand until the grain has soaked up all the moisture.

**ARE YOU GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR DAIRY HERD?**

(OR IS MASTITIS REDUCING YOUR OUTPUT?)

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.

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