

your hand into the womb you can generally bring out a quantity of reddish mucous, which smells badly, and probably portions of the afterbirth which have not been expelled. The temperature, as shown by the clinical thermometer, may be higher than normal, or, on the contrary, below, so it is not to be relied on. In these cases treatment should be prompt and active. The first thing to do is to thoroughly flush out the womb with a warm antiseptic solution. As much as possible should be injected, and care should be taken to get as much as possible out again. Lysol, 1 to 80 (two teaspoonfuls to the pint), or Jeyes or Lawes fluids, 1 to 50 (three teaspoonfuls to the pint), can be used to make the solution, which can be repeated every day. A drench composed of Epsom salts 10 oz., powdered carbonate of ammonia  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., powdered ginger  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., and powdered gentian 1 oz. may be given in a quart of thin gruel or milk. The same drench, leaving out the Epsom salts, may be given three times a day afterwards. If the cow is a valuable one, and the case is urgent, I should give her quinine. This drug is, however, expensive. Two drachms dissolved in 2 oz. of sulphuric ether, in milk, may be given every four hours. What may be termed the subacute form may not be noticed for a week or more after calving. The cow may not be doing as well as she should, and be gradually losing condition. A reddish-chocolate discharge may be noticed from the vagina. In these cases the usual irrigation of the womb should be carried out, and the carbonate of ammonia drenches given.

#### LUCERNE.—COCKSFOOT-SEED.

MR. G. T. EMTAGE, Warkworth, writes,—

I should be glad if you would inform me (1) what is the best variety of lucerne to sow on sand, also what quantity per acre; and (2) how long would it be advisable to keep cocksfoot-seed.

The Fields and Experimental Farms Division replies,—

(1.) The Department has no definite information on a variety of lucerne specially suitable to such conditions. It must be remembered that sandy soils are of decidedly varying descriptions, and you give no details. There is practically no variety of lucerne specially adapted to sandy areas. The departmental *Journal* of October last supplies fairly complete information on lucerne experiments on sandy areas. The usual quantity of seed sown is from 15 lb. to 20 lb. per acre. The smaller quantity is ample if the cultivation is thorough.

(2.) The germination of cocksfoot-seed lessens each year after it is harvested. The conditions under which it is stored determine the deterioration. The recommendation is that if your seed has been kept for more than one year you should yourself test the percentage of its germination. Put a hundred of the doubtful seeds between damp paper or thin flannel and observe the results. The seeding can then be regulated.

#### EIGHT-WIRE FENCE.—BLACKBERRY-MOTH.

MR. CARL WEAFFER, Northern Wairoa, writes,—

I enclose measurements of a standard seven-wire fence, copied from a southern newspaper. Will you kindly give in the *Journal* the measurements of a standard eight-wire fence.

You do not say where the blackberry-moth is working, or whether any attempt is being made to spread it into other places.

The Fields and Experimental Farms Division replies,—

There is no definite standard. The distances between the wires are regulated by the particular predilection of the owner.

The Biologist replies,—

The blackberry-bud moth (*Carposina adreptella*) appears to be prevalent over most of the South Island and in the North as far as northern Taranaki. No attempts at distribution have yet been made, as it is well to first secure accurate data as to its effectiveness in those districts where it is most prevalent. The results of its work this year have not been so encouraging as that of last season.