

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

IN every instance a question to which an answer is desired in these columns must be accompanied by the full name and the postal address of the inquirer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. The question should be written on one side of the paper only.

PEAS FOR SHEEP-FATTENING.

W. FORRESTER, Raraka, Waikari:—

Please let me know the best method to adopt for fattening sheep on peas. When should the peas be sown, and how long before they would be fit to turn the sheep on?

The Fields Division:—

The peas should be sown so as to come through the ground when all danger of frost has practically passed—in your district probably about the middle of September. You will doubtless know best when this period sets in. When the crop is partially in flower you could put on the sheep. The land should be well worked up before sowing the peas. They should be sown at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 bushels per acre (60 lb. to the bushel). The Field Partridge and the Egyptian pea are excellent field varieties. You have not described your soil, hence it is difficult to advise definitely *re* manuring, but from general knowledge of the country we would advise your using 2 cwt. basic superphosphate and $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. blood-and-bone manure per acre. The peas, of course, are sown broadcast, either by hand, or with a broadcast seed-sower, or with an ordinary drill with coulter removed.

SOWING HEDGE SEEDS.

ALEX. SERVICE, Avondale:—

Could you give any information as to the best time and way to sow hedge seeds, as pines, Pittosporum, boxthorn, and barberry? Will passion-plants grow from slips, or are they best from seed?

The Horticulture Division:—

Sow in the spring in the open ground. With a spade take out very shallow drills. Hold the spade very near the ground: this makes a wide and shallow drill. Scatter the seed evenly in the drill. Cover by lifting soil and spreading it over the seed. Beat the soil slightly with the back of the spade to firm it over the seed.

Passion-vines are readily raised from cuttings of young wood, but also grow from seed.

REMEDY FOR WORMS IN HORSE.

GEORGE BUCKLAND, Leigh:—

What is best to give a horse for worms?

The Live-stock Division:—

Give the animal, first thing in the morning, on an empty stomach, the following drench: Turpentine, 1 ounce; linseed-oil, 1 pint. If necessary, repeat in four or five days' time.