

### The Horticulture Division :—

The blue lupin is recommended, being quicker in growth than the white variety. If sown in November the crop should be ready for turning under in May—a very good season, giving time for decay before the trees become active in spring. Sow 60 lb. of seed, in drills 12 in. to 15 in. apart, with 2 cwt. of superphosphate. If the seeds are broadcasted 80 lb. is required. Seeds should be procurable from any large seed firm.

---

### DRYING-OFF OF COWS.

#### “ RED CLOVER,” Parkhill :—

How long do you consider a heifer should be milked before having her second calf ?

### The Live-stock Division :—

It may be accepted as a common rule that a cow or heifer should be dried off at least two months before calving. This is necessary for the well-being of both cow and offspring. The fact of carrying a heifer on right up to the time of calving again will not improve her as a milker, and is detrimental to the calf she is carrying as well as to herself. About the end of the sixth and beginning of the seventh month of pregnancy the quantity of milk naturally diminishes, and the animal dries off of her own accord even although she is well fed and attended to. This, however, does not hold good in many of our highly developed deep-milking breeds, with which it is not unusual to have the milk-yield going on with no tendency to stop in the late months of pregnancy. In such cases it may be necessary to milk once a day or once in two days right up to calving, to avoid udder troubles. This is seldom followed by any harm to either cow or calf where the dam's tendency is to milk on, but to try to encourage the term of lactation beyond the seventh month of pregnancy, especially when the tendency of the animal is to dry off, is bad practice, and, as already stated, will not improve the cow as a milker.

---

### HORSES AND WHEAT.

#### “ SUBSCRIBER,” Ashburton :—

Please advise treatment for horses that have had access to wheat by accident. I would like to be prepared.

### The Live-stock Division :—

The treatment necessary depends largely on the amount of wheat consumed by the animal. If a horse is not engorged the first symptoms noticed are those of laminitis, or founder. If the amount consumed is large it causes dilation of the stomach. The main treatment in both cases is the evacuation of the stomach-contents by the aid of purgatives. For this purpose an aloetic ball containing from 5 to 7 drams may be given. For heavy draught horses 7 drams is sufficient. All dry or solid feed should be kept from the horse, but the animal should be given an ample supply of drinking-water. Luke-warm-water enemas should be given every three hours until the bowels respond and the contents of the stomach and bowels are evacuated. The horse should be starved for forty-eight hours, and only easily digestible food, such as bran or linseed mashes, should be given for a few days.

---

### CONTROL OF SLUGS AND SNAILS.

#### H. S. STRATFORD, Crail Bay, Pelorus Sound :—

We are very much troubled with slugs in our locality. Many people from outside districts have recommended hedgehogs to combat the pest, and I would like to have your opinion regarding their use. There are no frogs in our locality. Do you think that if we brought them here it would be a step in the right direction ?