

HOW ABOUT A SUMMER  
TOUCH OF WHITEWASH?

In the summer the farmers' fancy may rightly turn to thoughts of whitewash, for, after the long winter, the barns, creamery and home fences look much in need of being brightened up. Even dwellers in the city or suburbs will find that an outbuilding would be none the worse for a spring touch-up. And there is nothing after all better or so inexpensive as whitewash.

Persons are often deterred from using whitewash through the fear that a shower of rain might ruin it, but the Dominion Experimental Farms have evolved a waterproof whitewash for outdoor work which will prevent a newly whitewashed barn from looking a picture of desolation after a down-pour. It is made up in the following proportions; slake 62 pounds of quicklime in 12 gallons of hot water, and add two pounds of salt and one pound of sulphate of zinc dissolved in two gallons of water. To this, add two gallons of skim-milk. An ounce of alum, though not essential, improves the wash. Salt should be omitted if the whitewash is required for metal surfaces which rust.

For farm buildings, a disinfectant whitewash may be desired. Here is a recipe recommended by the Dominion Experimental Station at Scott, Saskatchewan. First, 50 pounds of lime are dissolved in eight gallons of boiling water. To this is added six gallons of hot water which has ten pounds of salt

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and one pound of alum dissolved in it. A can of lye is added to every 25 gallons of the mixture. A pound of cement to every three gallons is gradually added and thoroughly stirred. The object of using the alum is to prevent the lime from rubbing off. Cement makes a more creamy mixture, so that it is easier to apply and more surface is covered. Lye is added for disinfecting purposes, but a quart of creosol disinfectant to every eight gallons would serve the same purpose. Lye is preferred when the colour is to be kept white.