

Approximately 20,000 flowers were crossed, using a series of yellow sweetclover plants as female parents pollinated from a wide source of low-coumarin white sweetclover plants. Around 900 embryos were transferred to the artificial medium with roughly one-third of the embryos making some satisfactory growth. Of those plants making growth in the bottles and transferred to vermiculite, over 50 have survived and were established in soil.

The important result of this research is that crosses have been accomplished between yellow and white sweetclover and excised embryos have developed into seedlings on an artificial growth medium and later became established as vigorous plants in soil. When the plants have flowered, a selfing and crossing program will continue in an attempt to develop a low-coumarin yellow sweetclover. Additional research is needed and will be continued to determine if the plants surviving are true hybrids which through subsequent breeding procedures can be a source for selection of a truly sweet yellow sweetclover, a variety low in coumarin and having the other desirable characteristics normally associated with yellow sweetclover in North Dakota.

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### A COW FOR THE SUBURBS

There is a growing demand in this country for useful objects in small sizes. We have dwarf fruit trees and midget automobiles. We enjoy the benefits of baby tractors, household elevators and one room air conditioning plants. We have developed small, compact food freeze units just large enough for a family. We have miniature turkeys and watermelons bred to fit into refrigerators.

It ought not therefore be surprising to learn that we now have a miniature cow which is said to be ideally suited to a domestic establishment in the suburbs. The breed of cow in question is not new. It is described as a native of the mountains of Ireland. It is named the Dexter, and it is being tried out on farms in Westchester county, New York, and in Connecticut.

The Dexter is a pretty little animal not much larger than a Shetland pony. It comes in black or red. It stands 38 inches high to the shoulder and weighs around 500 pounds. Compare that with the Guernsey's height of 50 inches and weight of 1,150 pounds. While the Guernsey gives five gallons of milk a day, the Dexter gives only two.

One great advantage of a midget automobile is the number of miles it can go on a gallon of gas. So, too, the Dexter admits of appreciable savings of "fuel." Where a Guernsey needs two acres of pasture and from three to four tons of supplemental hay a year, a Dexter can get along on one acre of pasture and one ton of hay.

What is more, the Dexter does not have to be fed on alfalfa and clover. It is said to have a taste for weeds, including wild grasses, thistles, nettles and even poison ivy. In fact on one farm in New York Dexters are used in place of goats to keep the weeds down as well as to give milk. We are told, further, that they do not enjoy pampering like the larger cows, scorn a barn in winter and protect themselves from cold with a shaggy coat of hair.

A century or so ago the Jersey was greatly fancied both in England and in this country as a private family cow. It was small and it gave a limited quantity of exceptionally rich milk. In the Dexter perhaps we have an extension of the same principle to meet present day needs.