

FULLERS' EARTH.

Fullers' earth is a clay-like material which has the property of deodorizing and clarifying fats, oils, and greases.

There is none produced in Canada.

PREPARATION.

Regarding the preparation of fullers' earth, F. B. Van Horn says:¹ "The fullers' earth in Florida is usually mined by pick and shovel, and hauled to the mill, where the earth is broken up into small lumps and put through rotary driers. It is then taken by elevator to the crushers and ground and bolted into several grades, 120 mesh being the finest. The material is then ready for shipment."

USES.

Fullers' earth is used in the meat packing industry to clarify lard. The earth is usually ground to 120 mesh and is generally of English origin.

In the refining of petroleum a considerable quantity is used. For this purpose the earth is not ground so fine.

Small quantities are used to remove grease from woollen goods.

PRICES.

The price of fullers' earth laid down at the points of consumption varies from \$14 to \$17.

Amount of fullers' earth used in the manufacturing industries, as reported by the consumers:—

Location	No. of firms reporting consumption	Domestic	Imported
		Tons	Tons
Maritime Provinces.....	2	—	2
Quebec.....	3	—	160
Ontario.....	13	—	756½
Prairie Provinces.....	7	—	103½
British Columbia.....	1	—	35
Canada (Total).....	26	—	1057

The following imports are reported by the Department of Customs:—

	1910-1911	1911-1912	1912-1913
Fullers' earth, fn bulk only.....	\$5,012	\$7,324	\$14,150

¹"Fullers' Earth," page 733, Mineral Resources of the United States, Part II, 1907.