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**POTATOES PROVE PORK PRODUCER**

**Raw Tubers Fed With Barley, Make Profitable Hog Feed**

That steamed potatoes, fed with one-sixth as much barley, will fatten pigs economically has been proven by the Eastern Oregon Experiment station, where Robert Withycombe has just completed experiments with raw and steamed potatoes as supplementary feed with barley. The hogs in the experiment were divided into eight lots, and records of the different feed rations given each and the proportionate gain made were carefully kept. Each hog in lots 1 and 2 ate an average of 170.15 pounds of barley and 569.53 pounds of raw potatoes, making a gain in weight of 60.70 pounds. Those in lots 3 and 4 ate 110.30 pounds of barley and 663.75 pounds steamed potatoes, and made a gain of 70.60 pounds, while those in lots 5 and 6 ate 188.60 pounds of barley and 564.89 pounds steamed potatoes, and made a gain of 78.10 pounds. Lots 7 and 8 ate 300.10 pounds of barley without potatoes, and made a gain of 69.5 pounds.

The last two lots, fed barley alone were used as a check on the others to show more definitely the proportionate value of the potatoes. At the present market value of 7 cents a pound live weight, the hogs fed barley made a \$4.87 gain, which makes the barley feeding value \$1.62 to the hundred.

Lots 1 and 2, fed barley and raw potatoes at the rate of 3 pounds of potatoes to 1 pound of barley, made \$4.25 gain, which gives the raw potatoes a feeding value of 29 cents to the hundred. Lots 3 and 4, received six times as much steamed potatoes as barley, made a \$4.94 gain, giving the steamed potatoes a feeding value of 47 cents to the hundred. Lot 5 and 6, fed three times as much steamed potatoes as barley, made a \$5.47 gain, making the feeding value of the potatoes 42 cents to the hundred.

It is noticeable that those fed six times as much potatoes as grain did not make, quite this gain, so the difference in feeding value is accounted for. It is also noteworthy that the steamed potatoes are worth 13 cents more to the hundred than raw for feeding, as shown in the comparison of the gains of animals fed the 2 to 1 ration.

**MAKING THE LITTLE FARM PAY**

**By C. C. BOWSFIELD**

If there is one place more than another where a person's brains must be exercised it is on the little farm. Both production and selling have to be managed with the utmost skill and business sense. There is no room for waste. Products should be of a kind for which there is a certain demand, and then they need to be sold at the right time and in the right way.

Otherwise failure will overtake the enterprise, or, at best, it will only be a halfway success. Studying the needs of the market and observing the prices which commodities will command when fresh and wholesome are important features of modern farming.

Of the thousands of people who consider poultry raising perhaps nineteen in every twenty think of chickens. They need to broaden their vision and study ducks.

Duck farms now existing could be multiplied many times over without enlarging the supply beyond trade requirements. Prices are on a very profitable basis. Ducks at the age of six to eight months sell readily at \$1 to \$1.25. The outside cost of raising them need not exceed 25 cents. They are less liable to disease than are chickens. Eighty or 90 per cent of them will come to maturity. Wet weather, while death to chickens, is favorable to ducks.

The food is much the same as for other poultry. By getting plenty of clover ducks will thrive without grain or other expensive articles of diet. They are good foragers on a farm and yet cause less trouble than almost any other kind of fowl.

When it comes to fattening time in the fall grain is necessary. One of the first essentials in the summer is a swimming pond or tank. This must not be omitted from the yard or field where the ducks are kept. Plenty of clean water for drinking or to splash in will just about insure a healthy and thrifty flock.

To get started in the duck business

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**REMEMBER THIS LATER ON.**

A few hours of work "grounding" the wires of the fence about the pasture may save the best cows in the herd from destruction by lightning.

**THINK OVER THESE.**

The better farmer you are the less land you will need.

Every farm has its own peculiar problems. If it hasn't it is a peculiar farm.

**SWEET POTATO STORAGE.**

Easily Done if Tubers Are Sound and Are Handled Carefully.

The farmers of the south, who as a rule grow only a few acres of sweet potatoes, follow the practice of storing them in pits or banks. When free from disease at the time of storing this method has proved fairly successful for keeping the hardy varieties of sweet potatoes commonly grown in the southern states, but the more delicate Jersey type, which is in demand in the northern markets, cannot be successfully stored in this way. There is no

**USING MANURE SPREADER.**

It's a Good Servant, but You Must Know How to Put it to Work.

There are different ways of using a manure spreader. The best way is to set the machinery in such a way as to give the slowest possible speed to the apron. If set in this manner the beater gets two strokes at the manure, and the apron moving at a high speed it gets only one stroke. The more strokes the beater has at the same amount of manure the finer it will be. If operated in this way it will not deliver as heavy a coat as it would if the apron moved faster, but it does deliver it in a much better condition.

If one wishes to put on a heavier coat of manure the ground should be gone over again with the apron set at a slow speed. Some farmers never use their manure spreaders except at the lowest possible speed. The practical value of manure depends largely upon the thoroughness with which it is packed into the soil. This does not necessarily mean a lump of soil and a lump of manure, but a grain of manure with a grain of soil.—Orange Judd Farmer.

**SMALL SWEET POTATO STORAGE HOUSE.**

difficulty, however, in the keeping of sweet potatoes if they are free from disease, carefully handled and stored under proper conditions.

Two or three types of sweet potato storage houses are used by growers in the northern part of the sweet potato region. One consists of a building which is constructed entirely above ground and is provided with double walls, a plank, concrete or earth floor, bins for holding the stored potatoes and suitable heating and ventilating facilities. Such a house is shown in the illustration.

Another type of storage, used by growers in New Jersey, consists of a basement under the dwelling itself or under an outbuilding, but only part way under ground, and provided with plenty of windows for ventilation. A basement storage must be dry to insure the keeping of the potatoes.—Bulletin United States Department of Agriculture.

**Alfalfa and Sweet Clover.**

Where it is difficult to obtain a stand of alfalfa it is quite possible that sowing sweet clover a year or two before seeding to alfalfa would prove advantageous. Sweet clover will inoculate the soil and put it in good condition for seeding alfalfa.

**Is Your Orchard Wet?**

The drained orchard stands a far better chance to be profitable than the undrained one. Now is a good time to figure on tiling.

**A Box Hay Manger.**

Perhaps there is a large box about the place that could be converted into a hay manger. Instead of throwing the hay on the ground for horses or cattle, when feeding outside of the barn throw it into the box and there will be no waste.

Set two pairs of short posts into the ground the proper distance apart. Nail a 2 by 4 to each pair the proper height from the ground and set the box in, letting each end rest on a 2 by 4. Nail the bottom of the box to the 2 by 4's beneath. If this is located beneath the shade of a tree it will be a good place to feed on a hot summer's day instead of in the barn. A horse could eat grain from the box.—Iowa Homestead.

**BIDDY AND HER FAMILY.**

Grit to be of any use to the fowl must be grit. It must have sharp corners and cutting edges.

Warmth in the chicken house is fully as essential as feed for laying hens. They won't lay eggs unless they have a generous supply of both.

Chicken pox can be avoided by feeding plenty of charcoal and occasionally some sulphur. It is a blood disease, aggravated by unclean surroundings.

Keep the incubator dark will help to prevent the spread of white diarrhea. If it is light the chicks will pick at droppings of any birds that may be infected.

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