

AGRICULTURE FOR GRADES

OUTLINED BY ALBERT H. GILLET *Teacher of Agriculture*

SWINE AS AN ADJUNCT OF THE FARM



STOCKRAISING is one of the important factors connected with farming. Conservation of soil fertility and the utilization of all products must be carefully looked after to make farming a success. It is said that in the great packing houses every part of the pig is utilized with the exception of his squeal. The successful farmer even saves the squeal by properly saving the by-products from the farm and feeding them to the pigs. This is one of the means by which farming is made financially successful.

In every Indian school there is a slop cart or slop wagon used to carry the kitchen refuse to some assigned spot on the farm. The designated spot at this school is the hog lots.

The native homes of the hog were Europe, Asia and Africa. In many parts of the world the wild boar is still found. Man placed some of these animals in captivity, fed them well, and selected his ideals for breeding purposes. Captivity and plenty of nutritious food brought about great changes in the hog's physical make-up. His legs, neck, and snout were shortened. His hams and shoulders were enlarged, and his whole body was made capable of taking on a great load of flesh. Remember that this improvement has required years of care and selection. The hog has also become more quiet in disposition and has not such a roving nature.

For rapid development in flesh formation the hog has the other animals of the farm out-paced. When properly fed and cared for, a good breed of pigs can be made to weigh more than two hundred pounds at six months of age. This means that the hog makes more money in proportion to cost of production than any other animal on the farm. The best type of a hog has short legs, small bones, a straight and broad back, a straight underline, heavy hams and shoulders, eyes set widely apart in a well dished head.

The ideals of different persons in a long selection has given to the world several breeds. The large breeds are the Chester White, Improved Yorkshire and Tamworth. The medium breeds are the Berkshire, Poland China, Duroc-Jersey, and Cheshire. The small breeds are the Victoria, Suffolk, Essex and Small-Yorkshire. There are types of the Poland China, Berkshire and Duroc-Jersey that belong in the class with the large