

ALL AROUND THE FARM

MANAGEMENT OF FOALS.

Care of the Young Horses During Their First Winter. [Prepared by United States department of agriculture.]

Colts can be housed satisfactorily either in the stable or in an open shed. The main requirements are that the quarters be dry, sanitary and provide fairly warm protection from winds. Several foals may run together if the weaker ones are not driven away from their feed by the stronger. The quarters should be kept clean and well bedded and occasionally should be disinfected. Lice are to be suspected when the animals get to rubbing and lose patches of hair. Thorough washing with the proper solutions of coal tar disinfectants will kill lice. It costs money to feed lice, consequently efforts should be made to keep them down. The foals should be out in the



The picture shows a light mare of desirable conformation. Quality, smooth lines, animation and evidence of strong constitution are noticeable.

open every day that is not stormy. It is harmful, however, for them to remain out in a cold rain. The foal should be taught to lead and to stand tied during the first winter.

Feeds that will promote growth should be supplied. Good, clean clover hay is palatable and slightly laxative. Timothy hay commonly is fed. Well cured alfalfa hay free from dust is one of the best roughages for growing, but because of its relatively high protein content it generally is economical to supplant it with other roughage such as timothy, mixed hay or corn fodder. Besides lending variety to the ration such a method of feeding alfalfa would offset any likelihood of kidney or bowel irregularities. Sheaf oats can be used to advantage to supplant other roughage. The animals should not be allowed to gorge themselves on dry feed. They should be given only what they will clean up readily, but at the same time enough feed should be supplied. Oats, corn and peas, preferably fed ground, are suitable grains. Bran, oil meal or gluten feed will add protein and lend variety. Cottonseed meal should not be fed to foals. Appropriate grain rations for the first winter are: Two parts corn, five parts oats, three parts bran and one part oil meal, or four parts oats, one part corn and one part bran.

Silage should not be fed to foals to any considerable extent. Sliced roots, such as carrots and sugar beets, are very palatable and have a cooling effect on the digestive system. The quantity of feed generally should be regulated by the appetite, although occasionally the appetite may be too ravenous to be a good indication. The general condition of the colt and the droppings should be observed daily. Usually not over a pound of grain per hundred pounds of live weight should be fed until the animal is two years old. A liberal supply of salt and good water and plenty of fresh air and exercise are essential for the proper development of young horses. Idleness succeeding exercise will cause constipation. It is often said that a horse is made during his first winter. Certainly this is a critical time in the animal's life, and at no other age will proper feed and attention do as much to make of him a good horse. If stunted during the first winter he never will gain proper size and shape.

Keep Milk Utensils Clean.

Don't forget to use plenty of boiling water for scalding the vessels used in the care of milk. Keep all chemicals away from the milk. It should never be "preserved." It must not be adulterated.

DAIRYING AND SOIL CULTURE

SOME SILO REASONS.

Valuable Method of Saving Corn That Otherwise Would Be Wasted.

The dairy department of the University of Wisconsin is responsible for the statement, "There's a silo on every third farm in Wisconsin," and gives the following reasons for that fact:

Because silage helps the dairyman supply his herd with succulence in winter as well as in summer. It helps to keep the cows healthy and productive in the winter when green feed is lacking and dairy prices are highest.

Because a crop of corn has 25 to 30 per cent greater feeding value when put in the silo than when fed as dry fodder. This is due to the facts: (1) That much less of the feeding value of the crop is lost in the ensiling process than through weathering of fodder in the shock and (2) that silage is eaten practically without waste, while a considerable part of the dry corn fodder is refused by the stock.

Because the silo enables the farmer to make the best possible use of frost-killed corn. Even immature corn may be saved by putting it in the silo.

Because when the dairyman feeds palatable silage and a good legume hay he needs to buy much less of the expensive mill feeds to keep up a heavy milk flow than when he feeds such roughage as timothy hay and corn fodder.

Because silage for summer feeding is the best possible insurance against short, drought stricken pastures in late summer. It costs less and gives much less trouble to grow and feed silage than it does to produce a succession of soiling crops such as oats and peas, green corn and clover or alfalfa.

Because good silage from matured corn can be used for the production of milk for all kinds of cheese, according to many competent cheesemakers.

A silo built this year will cut feed bills, will be a permanent addition to the profit producing equipment of the farm and a mighty valuable asset when you want to rent or sell the place.

RAPE FOR SWINE.

Furnishes Abundant Protein When Corn Is Hogged Down.

Rape seeded at the last cultivation of corn will furnish abundant nitrogenous feed for hogs in normal seasons when corn is "hogged" down. Some feed high in protein is essential to supplement corn for best results in pork production.

By suspending on each side of the cultivator a tin can with a small hole in it rape seed may be distributed in the cornfield without extra labor in seeding. From one to two pounds of seed to the acre is the usual rate. The Dwarf Essex variety is most commonly grown.

Some high protein feed must be fed with corn for most rapid gains in fattening hogs, tests at the Ohio agricultural experiment station have shown. Tankage and skim milk may be fed when corn is hogged down. Rape or some other green forage crop, such as clover or alfalfa, will serve the same purpose and often is cheaper.

INCREASE GRAIN YIELD.

Lime Can Be Profitably Used on Wheat Land Next Fall.

Wheat yields may be increased by liming, experiments prove, but greatest benefits accrue when lime is used in the spring. Fall applications on wheat are also profitable if the soil is deficient in lime.

From 21 to 24 per cent more wheat was harvested in 1916 from fertilized and manured plots at the Ohio agricultural experiment station where lime was used. In this case liming preceded corn planting in a rotation of corn, oats, wheat, clover and timothy. Cultivation of the corn and subsequent plowings mix the lime through the soil thoroughly, and any acidity is corrected before clover is seeded two years later.

Applications of limestone or hydrated lime to wheat are profitable, the experiment station specialists say, if the soil lacks lime. The returns are not as great, however, as when lime is used on a spring cultivated crop.

No great thing is created suddenly any more than a bunch of grapes or a fig.—Epictetus.

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DAIRY WISDOM.

- Supply an abundance of pure water for the cows at all times.
- Whitewash the stables at least twice a year. They should be clean at all times, light, well ventilated, spacious.
- Bed the cows well with clean material. Be cautious about keeping the stalls clean of manure.
- About 90 per cent of all sediment found in milk is just plain cow manure.
- Allow no cleaning of stables while milking is being done. Have all dust settled before milking is commenced.
- Do not feed your cows anything but pure, wholesome feed. Sour feed should never be used for the dairy cows.
- It is a good practice to have the cows curried and washed, if they need washing. In no case should they be allowed to have filth caked upon their bodies. The udder should always be washed and dried with a clean cloth before milking.

Change Horse's Diet.

If a work horse loses its appetite it must not be assumed that it has acquired some serious disease. It probably has been kept on a too steady diet of one kind of food. The diet must be changed, and if an improvement is not noted quickly it is evidence that the animal needs both a purgative and a tonic. A tablespoonful of aniseed in the feed is an excellent tonic, as it sweetens the stomach and stimulates the appetite.

SILO NEEDS NO DRAIN.

When Corn Is Ensilaged at Right Stage of Maturity Moisture Is Absorbed.

A silo should not have a drainpipe to drain the water from the inside of it. If corn is put into the silo at the right stage of maturity no more water or juice will settle to the bottom of the silo than will be absorbed by the silage, says Kimball's Dairy Farmer. The theory that there should be a drain in the bottom of the silo is absolutely wrong, and it is based on the idea that silage should be made from very green and immature corn. However, even under these conditions there is much nutriment in the juices of the silage, which should not be wasted. Corn should be ensilaged after the kernels have become dented and begun to glaze and when the lower leaves of the corn have turned brown. This year much corn will need to be put in the silo before it is so far matured, but the juices will take care of themselves without a drain to carry them off.

There Is a Difference.

The difference between thin cream and rich cream is that thin cream contains less milk.

Better Gains.

It is not claimed by expert stockmen that pure bred cattle will eat less feed than scrubs, but it is claimed that they make much better and quicker gains from what they do eat.

Cows Like Peas.

Cows are very fond of cowpeas or soy beans, and these feeds supply protein.

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POULTRY AND EGGS

GEESSE GOOD GRAZERS.

Goose Raising Not Affected by High Priced Grains—Little Care Needed.

Geese can be raised in small flocks on general farms, on pasture or nonproductive land and do not require any material amount of grain. Low, rough pasture land, used for pasturing other stock and containing a natural supply of water, offers the best conditions. Many geese are kept in the south to kill weeds, especially in the cotton fields, and their use could well be greatly increased for this purpose. They are good grazers and will do well on grass and forage crops alone, except during the winter months, when they may be fed largely on available roughage, such as clover, alfalfa hay, silage, cabbage, mangel wurzels or any waste vegetables. If the grass or forage is limited it may be supplemented by light feeds of common or home grown grains.

Geese do not need shelter except during cold winter weather, when open sheds may be provided. Goslings are not usually hatched until good pasture is available and need additional feed only for a few weeks. The range of pasture used either for goslings or for geese should be large enough so that the grass will remain clean or the stock should be moved frequently to fresh land. Coops, barrels or some other dry shelter should be provided for the young goslings. Geese are very hardy and free from diseases and insect pests.

Lime For the Henhouse.

Not enough importance is placed on the value of good air slaked lime for use in the poultry house and on the runs. Properly used, the lime is of great sanitary value. It will counteract disagreeable odors. A free use of air slaked lime on chicken runs where grapes prevail is exceedingly beneficial. Its use no doubt also destroys other germs and bacilli. The wise poultryman will always have a good supply of lime on hand and use it both inside and out of his poultry houses.

Prevent Colds In Poultry.

As a good preventive of colds in poultry use copper sulphate, one ounce to ten gallons of water, or enough potassium permanganate to turn the water blue. Good ventilation and plenty of fresh air are essential in the henhouse, but one should guard against excessive drafts.

Same Thing.

"You say she always wears a touch-me-not air?"
"No; but it's always a case of fresh paint."—Kansas City Journal.

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