

**DAIRY WISDOM.**

Give cows six to eight weeks' rest between lactation periods. Discard the cow which has failed at the end of the year to pay market price for all the feed she has consumed. All cows that are hearty eaters are not profitable producers, but all profitable producers are usually hearty eaters. The best of cows will not produce milk unless fed liberally on the right kind of feed. If the udder of the fresh cow is in good condition and shows no trace of garget the calf should be removed after it has nursed once or twice. Cows giving over a gallon of milk a day should be fed grain. A good grain mixture is corn chop mixed with bran or cottonseed meal. A pound of this mixture should be given each day for every three pounds of milk produced.

**LAXATIVES FOR HORSES.**

**Care Must Be Exercised in Feeding Bran—Carrots Beneficial.**

While the horse is working hard succulent food is a positive injury in that it tends to remove undigested, as a result of laxity of the bowels, food nutrients that are daily required for formation of muscle supply or vim and vigor—in other words, repair of tissue waste, writes Dr. A. S. Alender in the Rural New Yorker. Where, on the other hand, the horse is idle the succulent food may be and usually is required to overcome the tendency to constipation and its accompanying train of evils.

In the former case the feeding of much bran daily might be detrimental, and in the latter case it would be useful and profitable. The hardworking horse keeps its bowels in condition by exercise and utilizes all of the food nutrients supplied him so long as his digestive organs are kept in good condition. If he be fed a bran mash daily he may continually suffer from what may be called subacute indigestion and fail to derive the proper amount of nourishment from the sound oats given him in addition to the bran. When Sunday arrives, however, his wanted exercise is stopped and he is unable to throw off the surplus food nutrients not needed by work. If he has been daily fed dry bran he will now be liable to suffer from acute indigestion if given a bran mash.

This being the case, the feeding of a bran mash to a horse that has been taking dry bran throughout the week is a dangerous practice. Where the hard



The Percheron breed of draft horse is the most popular as well as the most numerous in this country. At the same time the supply of pure bred draft horses in this country is all too small. According to Wayne Dinsmore, secretary of the Percheron Society of America, there is but one pure bred draft animal to every 167 horses found on the farms of this country and only one good draft sire for every 724 horses. The imported Percheron stallion Imprecation, shown here, was grand champion of his breed at the International Live Stock shows of 1911 and 1912. He is owned by I. Crouch & Son, Lafayette, Ind.

working horse not fed upon bran, but getting large quantities of oats during the week, is given a bran mash on Saturday night the effect will be good, and the practice is to be commended. Occasional bran mashes are also excellent for idle horses when fed upon corn, and a small quantity of bran will make the crushed oats fed to colts more effective. We say these things for the reason that bran causes opening of the bowels by irritating the bowels. It does not give a great amount of nutrients, although its analysis would lead one to suppose that it was even more nutritious than oats. It is indigestible and passes through the intestines in many cases wholly undigested. It acts as a laxative for the reason that it is a foreign body and is thrown off as useless by the irritated intestines. Carrots act in a somewhat different manner. They do not prove laxative on account of any irritating effect, but on account of real succulence, and have the special power of acting nicely upon the pores of the skin. They may be fed to a horse in poor condition when bran would only aggravate the impoverishment. Roots are relished by horses and are digestible.

**Dairy Filth a Crime.**

A dirty, filthy cow stable is inexcusable. It is a bad habit that must be abolished. Every farmer should take pride enough in his business and in his own self respect to abandon the habit of housing the cows in a dirty stable. His regard for his family and the good name of his children should induce him to reform in this line. But the real menace is the danger of the product from such a stable. It is a crime for any man to defile a food product, whatever the law may say.—Farm Press.

**DEMAND FOR SPECIALTY JUDGES JUST.**

While looking over a list advertising the proficiency of twenty-seven poultry judges we noticed twenty-two of them claimed to be judges of all varieties of poultry.

We wonder how many of the twenty-two can sit down and write the names of all the standard varieties or can name them on sight without aid from the show card or the standard cut and description?

It would be interesting, too, to know how many of these varieties our all variety judges have bred, how many they keep now and how closely acquainted they are with any of them.

To be a skillful judge of all varieties just means a close knowledge of 134 varieties of fowls and the standard requirements for each different one.

These varieties are: American, 20; English, 7; Asiatic, 8; French, 3; Mediterranean, 14; Polish, 8; Hamburgs, 6; Game and Game Bantams, 10; Orientals, 6; Ornamental Bantams, 17; Silkies, Sultans, Frisies, turkeys, 7; ducks, 12; geese, 7.

We have seen a single judge tackle an entry of 4,000 fowls comprising



Photo by C. M. Barnitz.

**WHITE DOTTE JUDGE AT WORK.**

most of these varieties, plus 400 pigeons of the different kinds, and rush the whole bunch through in a day and a half, and it surely was a hocus pocus, an awful mockery.

Exhibitors won't stand for such funny business, not even if a judge wears a halo in the form of a license from the American Poultry Association.

We have met a few all variety judges who didn't have to run to catch the first train out of town to escape the fanciers after the ribbons were placed, but good all variety judges are about as scarce as hen teeth.

That is why modern shows now employ specialty judges.

Exhibitors won't stand the bungling stunts of the fellow that knows it all. Varieties are too many and the classes are too large for the old fashioned way.

Besides, fanciers no longer run rooster menageries, but are mostly specialists in one variety. They therefore justly demand that the judge who scores their entry shall be a specialist in that line and know more about it than themselves.

**FEATHERS AND EGGSHELLS.**

The United States government is about to take a census of the rat population with a view to not only ascertain their tendency to spread disease, but the extent of their depredations in houses, barns and warehouses. Sic 'em, Tige!

Cooking feed for poultry doesn't pay. When the kettle of bones, bran, chop, turnips, later parings and grease boils over on to your wife's shiny cook stove and soaks into that nice kitchen carpet—well, you bet your boots, that doesn't pay either!

The gold medal goes to Mrs. Elizabeth Rime of Caldwell, N. J. She found twenty-two rats in a feed barrel in her pigeon loft, nailed down the lid, hauled the barrel into her kitchen, bored a hole in the top and inserted the gas hose. It took one hour to asphyxiate the long tail squealers and about five miles of gas at 80 cents a thousand. If the gas company makes Mrs. Rime pay for that gas it ought to be hanged.

To get the ballot the women of Michigan did not use the usual long green. They appealed to the men's stomachs. They won over 200 legislators by banqueting them on chicken pie. Fair maid, matrimonially inclined and thus far left, try a chicken potpie for bait.

Hens that are allowed to trot around in the snow all day are generally star boarders that seldom pay their board bills. The man who keeps layers on the zero plan need not count on winter eggs. He should cook them and buy hens in the spring, when any old feather bed lays. That will pay him better.

Professor Surface of the Pennsylvania department of agriculture last year sent out a bulletin on "Conserve the Skunk." He is now busy trying to get the legislature to pass a law forbidding the trapping or killing of skunks in any way whatsoever. The professor seems to have a great regard at present for Mr. Skunk, but just wait till he falls over one in his hen coop at night.

Those who expect to get all their air and light through an open front drop curtain will see their mistake when the hens dig up that awful dust. The dust will make the curtain opaque, and the air can't get through it.

C. M. Barnitz.

**TWO METHODS.**

It's a bit early in the season to talk methods of eradicating quack grass and Canada thistles, yet next summer it will be too late to give methods with the expectation of getting results from them. Small patches of either of these pests may be disposed of by cutting off below the surface of the ground at intervals of a week or ten days throughout the growing season. Even these plants, which have much vitality, must have leaves breathing above ground or they will die. Another method which is much used is to let the plants grow until they come to the blossom stage, then to cut them before any seed is matured. The ground should then be plowed shallow and seeded to sorghum. This should be cut and removed in the fall and the ground seeded to winter rye or wheat. This may be pastured as much as may be practicable and in the spring plowed under and the land planted to corn.

**A FEEDING EXPERIMENT.**

Some feeding experiments conducted last winter by the Pennsylvania experiment station had in view seeing how cheaply beef breeding cows could be carried through the winter. There were ten Shorthorn and ten Angus cows. During the feeding period of 140 days each cow was fed an average of 57.64 pounds of corn silage and one pound of cottonseed meal per day. With the silage worth \$3.50 per ton, and the cottonseed meal \$30 per ton, the average cost of feeding each animal for the period was \$16.13. With straw used in bedding worth \$3.94 and the care of each animal put at \$2, the total expense for each cow for the period was \$22.07. Crediting each cow with manure worth \$6.63 and an increase in weight worth \$8.22, the net cost of keeping each cow was \$3.22.

**TAMING WILD DUCKS.**

At the Storrs college, in Connecticut, some interesting experiments have been conducted the past few years along the line of domesticating several species of wild ducks. An expedition was sent to Canada to secure the eggs of wild fowl, including redheads, canvasbacks and bluebills. These eggs were put in incubators, and the ducklings that hatched thrived. These birds, now full grown, are in a state of domestication. The success of the experiment is attributed to the fact that the eggs secured were hatched under domestic conditions, so that the ducklings could have no remembrance of their wild life, for attempts at taming were found to be practically useless in case of ducklings, even though caught when but a few days old.

**A \$60,000,000 LOSS.**

Exhaustive investigations which have been carried on by the United States department of agriculture show that from the time eggs are laid until they are served on the consumer's table in one form or another there is a loss in value of 17 per cent. This loss is distributed under the following heads: Dirties, 2 per cent; breakage, 2 per cent; chick development, 5 per cent; shrunken or held, 5 per cent; rotten or moldy, 3 per cent. With the eggs of the country last year worth in the neighborhood of \$300,000,000, this means that the poultry keepers of the country suffered a loss of not far from \$60,000,000, and even more than this if the total value of eggs given represents but 83 per cent of their real value.

**FANCY FRUIT.**

It is a fact that the prospective apple grower might well keep in mind that in spite of the plentifulness of apples of some varieties, which are going begging at \$2.50 to \$3 per barrel, fancy Jonathans are retailing at \$5 per barrel and at \$2 per box or better when carefully wrapped and put up in this shape. There is little question that a practically limitless market exists for apples of the type of these Jonathans—the Spitzenburg and Yellow Newtown belong in the same class—allowed to come to full ripeness and carefully picked and put up in attractive packages. There are plenty of folks with long pocketbooks that will buy fruit of this kind if it is put up so as to appeal both to the eye and the palate.

**THE BIG CORN CROP.**

The final figures for the 1912 corn crop show a total yield for the country of 3,124,740,000 bushels. In the production of this vast amount of corn Iowa led with 432,031,000 bushels, Illinois ranked second with 426,230,000 bushels and Missouri third with 243,904,000 bushels. Indiana, Nebraska, Ohio, Kansas, Texas, Kentucky and Oklahoma follow in the order named with yields ranging from 100,000,000 down to 101,000,000 bushels. An interesting fact in connection with the yield per acre is that the New England states Connecticut, New Hampshire and Massachusetts lead all other states with yields of fifty, forty-six and forty-five bushels per acre.

**A YOUNG CORN GROWER.**

The champion corn grower of Ohio is a lad, fourteen years of age, of the name of Dewey Hanes, who lives at Arcanum, a little country town some forty miles from Cincinnati. On 208 acre of ground this boy raised last season 139 bushels of corn. This was the best record made by anybody in the state, and he was rewarded for his effort by a handsome prize and a free trip to Washington on the corn growers' special.

J. J. Jugg



**OREGON WELL REPRESENTED IN THE PERMANENT ST. PAUL AGRICULTURAL DISPLAY FROM "ZONE OF PLENTY."**

Oregon will no doubt derive great and lasting benefits from the permanent display of grains and grasses in the exhibition room of the Northwest Development League in St. Paul. Splendid samples of wheat, oats, flax, rye and barley were part of the state's magnificent agricultural exhibit at the recent Minneapolis and Chicago land shows and were brought East for display purposes by the Great Northern Railway. Commercial organizations, the railroads and the Development League are carrying on an extensive publicity campaign to at-

tract the attention of visitors in the Twin City to the display of the products of the soil of the American Northwest and it is likely thousands of people will view the exhibit annually.

One of the features of the Oregon exhibit is a sample of fall rye seven feet high. Varieties of oats include Mammoth Cluster, Storm King and Silver Mine. White Bonanza is also shown in the display. Crail Fife, Big Club, Blue Stem and Red Club varieties of wheat are well featured in the Oregon grain exhibit. Excellent flax samples and six row barley form a part of the display. Shelled grains in glass jars complete the grain exhibit. Grass samples include

timothy, red clover, alsike, alfalfa, bent grass, blue joint and bromo.

In the Oregon exhibit are a large number of jars containing fine samples of processed fruits of different varieties. The forests have provided an exhibit of woods of several kinds. The exhibition room is well supplied with Oregon literature descriptive of the state in general and by communities. The exhibit is open morning, afternoon and evening and representatives of the League give information about the states of Oregon, Minnesota, Montana, Washington, Idaho and the Dakotas, the seven states which the Development League is seeking to advance.

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