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## KEEPING THE HORSE IN GOOD HEALTH

In caring for the horse it is important that food, light and ventilation receive due consideration, says the Iowa Homestead.

The first thing will be the watering. The water from a good well is all right if the water is pure and situated in a place that keeps it so. Water is a source which contributes to disease by carrying the disease exciting organisms such as fungi. Diseases such as strangles and distemper are often carried through water. The wells should be sixty feet or deeper and the area surrounding them free from any low places or manure drains. Impure water is very dangerous to stock, and so is running water where sewers empty into it. Bacteria from different diseases may get into the water and be



The Shire is the result of many years of scientific breeding for the purpose of producing a model draft horse. Having been bred so long for this purpose, their special characteristics have become fixed and are transmitted to their progeny when crossed on any other breed. The Shire has a great deal of vitality and vim and is of kindly disposition and easily broken to harness. Shires are also easy keepers, and, possessed of hard, flat bones, powerful quarters and good feet, are surpassed by no other breed in handling heavy loads.

carried down the streams. The horse will consume six to eight gallons on the average, a little more in the summer, a little less in the winter. They should be watered before feeding and not immediately after feeding, as it has a tendency to wash the food out of the stomach before it has a chance to be digested. Watering immediately before feeding, if the water is cold, cools off the stomach, and the secretion is not so good. Do not water with real cold water or in large quantities of water immediately after or immediately before feeding.

The barn should be well lighted. Several diseases are the result of badly lighted barns due to the fact that they are too dark and the sudden changes from the darkness to the bright light causes a weakness and then disease. You do not want too much or too little light. The windows should be placed as high as the horses' heads or a trifle higher and at the right angle so as not to allow the light to strike the horses directly in the eyes. There should be plenty of light by all means.

We should have good air in our barns, as it is essential to the health of the horse. It is well to have the windows above the horse's head so that a direct draft will not strike the horse. Windows should be on two sides of the barn, so that the air may pass in from the one side and out the other. Be sure the air in the barn is pure. A good way to find out the condition of the air in the barn is to notice the air as you go in from the outside into the barn. See that it smells fresh and clean. If it is good for you it will probably suit the horse all right. Count your air space by the number of windows you have, and do not take into consideration the doors. Do not depend upon fresh air coming through cracks and crevices either. It is not a good idea.

The horses should have a regular amount of feed and be fed according to the size of the horse and the amount of work it is doing. They should receive a balanced ration that is fed at regular periods. They should have salt before them all the time. Feed good feed and see that it is not moldy. Bad results come from feeding moldy feed. Be sure you feed according to the amount of work the horse does. Have a pair of scales and weigh your feed and hay. A good many horses waste from one-half to one-third of the hay. Some men pile the mangers full and let the horse eat what it wants, then use the rest for bedding. Weigh it a time or two, and then you will have an estimate of the amount you should feed. Allow the horse to clean up the manger after feeding, and it will avoid part of the trouble with colic.

Give the Pasture a Start.  
Spring days look good to the dairy farmer and the dairy cow alike, but remember that a little time now will make the pasture much better later in the season. Give the grass a good start before you turn the cows out.

Poor Hog Methods.  
The man who tries to raise hogs without pasture and forcing crops for them is like a puppy chasing his own tail—he gets bits of exercise, but mighty little of anything else.

## THE SAFEST WAY OF INBREEDING CATTLE

There are many vague and foolish notions entertained on the subject of inbreeding, says Hoard's Dairyman. Like everything else in this world that is good for anything, it is capable of evil as well as good results. Knives have been used to stab people, ropes to hang them and water to drown them, yet no man of common sense would fall on that account to make a right use of knives, ropes and water. The safest way of inbreeding, so far as our observation goes, is from sire to daughter. There is one rule that should always be watchfully observed:

Never inbreed heifer or cow that shows a lack of constitutional vigor. Keep that idea foremost. Also, with like pertinency, never inbreed to a sire who shows any signs of lacking in constitutional vigor. Now, within those two road fences it is safe and very often advantageous to breed a daughter back to her sire. This should be practiced in breeding grade cows a great deal more than it is done, with close observance of the foregoing rules. It should always be remembered that inbreeding is an intensifier. It intensifies a weakness just the same as it may intensify strength, talent or capacity in any given direction.

Now, suppose we start with a pure bred bull and a herd of cows of mixed breeding. The heifers got by that union inherit 50 per cent of the straight blood of the sire and an equal amount



The Holstein cow is one of the most magnificently generous creatures on earth. She will give liberally and ungrudgingly to the fortunate man who possesses her, but she has the inherent and irrevocable self respect of all naturally created things. She will not give something for nothing or worse than nothing. It is gratifying to her admirers to reflect that the man who starves or otherwise mistreats one of these splendid animals will not profit much thereby. The Holstein cow Meg Rector III, produced in one year 25,108 pounds of milk containing 66.16 pounds of butter fat, not a great record for a Holstein, but vastly greater than the ordinary run of cows.

of the undesirable blood, tendencies and scattered heredities of their mothers.

When you come to breed these heifers, if you go outside for a sire, the scrub blood they inherited from their mothers is just as potent and often more so than the pure bred blood of their sire. But breed them back to their sire—if he is a good one—and the heifers from that union will contain 75 per cent of the blood of the sire. In other words, they are three-quarters inbred. This inbreeding makes them answer back in all subsequent breeding a great deal stronger than if they were bred from another sire even if in the same line.

We should so breed our cattle as to concentrate as far as it is safe the best heredity we can obtain. Starting with the blood of a very desirable bull, the universal practice is to dilute and diffuse that valuable heredity. The consequence is that the valuable qualities of the original bull are very soon so widely scattered as to be of small account. Skillful breeders like Dauncey with his Stoke Pogis herd of Jerseys so managed his intense inbreeding as to increase size and strength of constitution. It can be done if sufficient care is had at every step in the way to build on constitutional vigor. Without that our cattle are failures anyway.

Pasture For Live Stock.  
There is nothing that is quite so palatable for any class of farm live stock as green pasture. Stock will do better in growth and production and will remain in better health and condition on green pasture than on anything else. Silage and alfalfa hay come the nearest to it and offer the finest substitutes in winter feeding for the grasses of June. Too little attention has been paid to forage crops for swine. The greatest and most popular growth is made by the pigs under 100 pounds weight. After that weight has been attained his growth is slower and more expensive. But in either period of his life nothing helps so much to a proper growth and development as do green pasture in summer and good alfalfa hay in the winter, to which may be added a little silage.

Saving the Young Pigs.  
If you have not already built a suitable rail in your farrowing pens or cots it should be done at once. There are two things that will help to save the young pigs perhaps more than any other. These are to give the sow plenty of range before farrowing and to provide a suitable rail in the cot for the little pigs. Another very vitally important matter is to use care in feeding. While the sow needs suitable feed, overfeeding will bring about a feverish condition which will react on the pigs unfavorably if not fatally. Give the sow a thin slop and plenty of fresh water for several days after farrowing and then gradually increase her feed.

## Farm and Garden

DO YOU LIKE "SWEETS"?

They're Fine With Gravy—Here's How You May Grow a Crop.

Plant a few sweet potatoes in your garden this spring. They aren't hard to grow, and what is richer to eat than brown sweet potatoes with gravy? Besides, this vine is very ornamental, and its thick, dark foliage helps to make your vegetable garden more attractive.

Sweet potatoes are grown by means of sets or sprouts which grow from the root buds. It is best to get them from seed growers or gardeners. They require warm, moderately rich, sandy land. If the land is too fertile there will be a large growth of top at the expense of the root. The plants may be set out from the middle of May until the 1st of July or after the late frosts are over.

The potatoes may be grown on the level, but a ridge usually is preferred. In the garden ridging may be done with a hoe, making the ridge about eighteen inches broad and six inches high. The rows should be from three and a half to four feet apart. Set the plants along the center of the ridge—they should be about two feet apart—and if the soil is moist it is only necessary to dip the roots in water before setting. But if it is unusually dry at this time it will be advantageous to sprinkle the plants occasionally.

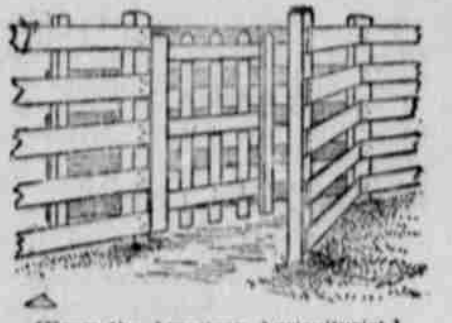
When the plants are small they should be cultivated often enough to kill the weeds and keep a mellow surface. Later on the vines themselves will cover the ground; then cultivation is impracticable as well as undesirable. After the vines are too large to cultivate they should be lifted occasionally or they are likely to take root at the joints and keep on forming more vines with no roots in the hill large enough for use. The vines should be lifted once a week. Every vine should be loose from hill to tip. This lifting may be done very rapidly with a pitchfork, but some care must be taken.—Kansas Industrialist.

## FOLKS OUT, STOCK IN.

Here's a Simple Gate That Will Help to Solve the Problem.

It is often inconvenient to pause and unlatch and then latch a gate between the barnyard or some other place where stock is kept and the garden or a field from which it is desired to keep animals away.

To obviate such difficulties the plan illustrated will be found very convenient. As will be seen, the fence is made to end at two stout posts, be-



between which is a rather larger opening than is usually allowed for a footpath gate. From one of these posts the flaring lines of fence are built to posts so as to form a V shaped opening, each ending at a post. On the other large line post is hung the gate, which swings each way and either comes against the V shaped sides when pushed or may continue so as to strike the smaller posts. In either case animals cannot get past, and yet the gate is always open for human beings.—American Agriculturist.

## OLD AND TRUE.

The old English farmers put their advice about keeping barnyard manure into two lines: Keep it moist and tread it tight. And it will well your care require. That is pretty much the whole story.—Rural New Yorker.

## FARMING WITH BRAINS.

Never venture upon an old bridge with team or machinery without seeing that it is firm and safe for heavy weights.

If the fertility of the soil is to be maintained it must be supplied with vegetable matter. Turn under cover crops and increase the humus supply.

According to the Iowa Press bulletin No. 12, sodium arsenite is the only chemical that will entirely destroy the Canada thistle. It is applied at the rate of one and a half pounds to fifty-two gallons of water.

Do not expect the hired man to feel satisfied if you leave him alone with all the chores while you are away visiting unless you are willing to do the same for him occasionally. Hired men are human beings and will, as a rule, appreciate fair treatment.

A soil that dries out quickly, is loose and sandy and leaches is also in poor physical condition from too little water and organic matter. Where irrigation is practicable this is advisable, plenty of manure, green manure, liming if there is sourness and thorough and persistent cultivation.

# HARRIMAN Townsite Now Open

Situated near the Malheur Lake, on a high, fine gentle sloping tract of land. This site offers exceptional opportunity for making a good city. Vast areas of arable territory spread out in all directions. Every valley and streamlet of the distant mountains has its ranches and flourishing livestock. Considerable land in the valley is still subject to homestead entry, and with the advent of the

## Oregon-Eastern Railway

Now building toward Harney Valley, this grand new empire will teem with land seekers and people seeking business opportunities and professional locations.

### GET IN EARLY

Good opening for a newspaper, blacksmith shop, hotel drug store, hardware and implement houses, as well as other lines of business. A limited number of lots are now offered for sale at remarkably low prices, either for cash or on easy terms, which prices will advance when the railroad is built into the Harney Valley.

REMEMBER, Harriman will be the first important point in the great Harney Valley to have a railroad.

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