

RAISING THE DAIRY CALF.

It seems as though the raising and developing of the dairy calf should be as plain as the A B C's to every farmer, and yet so many neglect this most important part of the dairy farmer's work. No set rule can be given to use for all calves. My rule is this, writes C. I. Hunt in *Kimball's Dairy Farmer*: The calf is left with the cow for a week or ten days and allowed to suck one teat only. This, I find, gets the digestion of the calf in good working



NO. 1.—RAISED WITH VERY LITTLE FEED.

order, and it is much easier than to begin feeding milk as drawn from the cow. The quantity to be fed must be governed entirely by the capacity of the calf. Twelve pounds fed in three feeds and at 100 degrees is a safe start. As soon as the calf will eat clover hay and grain it should be given. Hay should be before it all the time and grain all it will clean up after each feed of milk. There is nothing better than coarse middlings. Some of our breeders keep grain before the young stock all the time, and it cannot be denied that it makes sleek looking calves, but when that calf goes to the average farmer with his care he will practically be a ruined calf.

The dairy calf should have grain every day in the year, with the possible exception of during May and June, when pasture is at its best. If they have been so fed they should be bred to freshen at about two years, never less. After the heifer is bred is a critical time, because she then has two beings to feed and provide for, and if she is tied up you must remember that it depends on you whether you develop her or make a fixle. A well bred dairy cow will return with good interest every dollar spent for her welfare while she is growing and getting ready for her life work.

I recently heard of a man who boasted that he had kept fifteen head of two-year-old heifers since Jan. 1 and not fed a spear of hay. Thinking that both he and his cattle would be carefree, with camera in hand we started for his place. He was very glad to have me take a picture of one two-year-old. It is shown in illustration No. 1. She is now twenty-three months old, due to freshen soon and will not weigh 200 pounds—surely a wonderful development. Illustration No. 2 shows a cow that was developed



position on Friday, Jan. 1, at Oregon Day. There has been such a general movement of people beyond the state expected to be seen at Oregon Day.

"Judging" WITH PLINY OF FEED. In Portland, he will eat plan. She handle," pounds of milk as a two-cent of was still fed on the above fair. At six years of age gave over 60 pounds of butter in one year—more than the other will do in five years.

Which is the more profitable? It cost money to develop No. 2, but in seven years she gave over 71,000 pounds of milk. As the time for the cows to freshen draws near, make up your mind to keep only the best heifer calves, and don't be afraid to feed. One calf properly cared for is worth a carload like the one first described.

Must Earn Their Feed. My favorite breed, or rather type, is the popular dairy Shorthorn, says a successful dairyman. These cattle are growing more and more in favor both east and west. I weigh the milk from each cow night and morning, keep complete records and find that at a consistent cost my cows annually return a good amount of dairy products. I have set a mark at 300 pounds butter each per year at maturity. All cows falling below this will be dropped at the block.

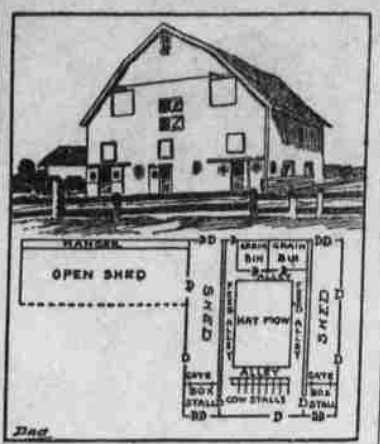
Pasture For Calves. The wisdom of having a nice pasture for calves will be readily apparent to all keepers of live stock. They cannot thrive on short or soiled pastures. Other animals that are older can fight their battles on these. Calves cannot do so. They cannot hold their own in pastures with older animals. The latter will monopolize the pastures. They will take all the choice portions. The former need these. It is better, therefore, in fact, it is necessary—that the calves shall have a separate pasture.

RAISING YOUNG BEEF.

A Conveniently Arranged Building For Quarters and Feeding. The illustrations show a cattle barn and shed adjoining which I have used for five years with satisfactory results in raising and fattening young beef. writes a breeder in the *Breeder's Gazette*, Chicago. The main barn is 60 by 55 feet and 22 feet to the eaves which gives ample loft room over the sheds, in which I put hay and blow the center now full of straw.

The fox and milk cow stalls have the sunlight and are closed but few

days in the year. I keep about twenty five cows for the raising of my calves.



PLAN OF BARN AND SHED.

They have the protection of the open shed, with mangers in which is fed roughage, usually corn fodder, while their calves get through a creep into the shed of the main barn, where they are fed clover hay, oats, bran, a little chopped corn and oilmeal, which they learn to eat long before they are weaned.

As I aim to market my cattle at about twenty months of age, I find early feeding, comfortable quarters and good breeding all in line to produce prime beef at so early an age. The second summer and winter the calves are changed to the opposite shed of the barn, where they have protection from flies in summer and a good place to enjoy their clover hay or shredded corn fodder. Their grain is fed in troughs in an open yard. A large gate between box stall and shed admits of driving the entire length of the barn, which makes hauling out the manure a simple matter.

I find the arrangement of the barn, both storage and feeding capacity, very convenient.

CARE OF SHEEP.

Some Points on Feeding and Keeping the Flock Thrifty.

Sheep must be fed with great regularity. Slipshod methods are fatal to success.

Do not feed corn to the breeding ewes. It is too heating. Give two-thirds oats, one-third wheat bran, with a little oilmeal mixed in. The grain should be selected with care.

Lambs should be taught to eat grain by themselves as early as possible and should be eating well before weaning. On an average they should be fed ten weeks before weaning.

If you can do no better by way of making troughs for the sheep to eat their grain out of, you can nail two boards together in the shape of a Y, with a couple of short pieces across the ends to keep them right side up. This will save much grain, and grain is money this year.

Endilage furnishes a good succulent food for sheep. In the absence of roots it is most valuable. Keep salt in the pens at all times.

Night is the favorite time for dogs to make their raids, so make it a rule to have the sheep near the barn every night. Dogs are much less apt to trouble them then.

Dip the sheep immediately after shearing and again in about three weeks to destroy eggs and all ticks that may have escaped at the first dipping.

The lambs should be dipped at the same time, for when the ewes are shorn the ticks flock on to the lambs.

Expert Milking.

A dairyman who generally did his own milking employed a boy. The milk shrank one-third in two weeks. The farmer resumed milking and in two weeks got the same amount as before. Afterward he set the hired man to milking, and the milk shrank 10 per cent in two weeks and in two weeks more, the farmer milking again, was back at the standard. This man milks quietly and very clean. He closes the forefinger and thumb around the teat high up and makes a downward motion, tightening the grip and forcing out the milk. He then lets go his hold, keeping the finger and thumb in a circle, carries up the hand and presses it smartly against the udder, closes and pulls down as before. The idea is to give as near as may be the same motion the calf does in sucking.

Concerning the Calf. The heifer calf should develop muscle and bone rather than fat.

Too much cream for the calf is about as bad as too much money for the boy. Never sacrifice a heifer calf from a first class butter cow. All are needed to supply the depleted dairies.

It is detrimental to allow a calf to run with a cow even for a few days. As soon as the milk is fit to use the calf and the cow should both be accustomed to the separation.

Never tie a calf with a rope about its neck. Ten chances to one it will get choked to death. A stout strap about the neck, with a ring and a chain, is far better. A swivel will keep the chain from being twisted.

SELECTING SHEEP.

The Value and Indications of a Strong Constitution.

By HOWARD A. CHANDLER. There is one very important thing which is oftentimes very thought of or taken into consideration by the sheep breeder or buyer—that is, constitution.

Weak sheep cannot produce good, strong lambs; neither can they give good returns in the feed lot. The healthy, strong constitutional sheep has a much different appearance and general make-up than the weak one. In the examination of a sheep I always start at the end of the nose and work back. The indications of strong constitutions are a wide, open nostril, a short, broad head, width and depth of chest, fullness behind the shoulder both on top and at the side and well sprung ribs coming wide apart from the backbone. Such a sheep has room for the vital organs to perform their work in a proper manner. Neither the breeder nor the feeder can afford to lose sight of the constitution in his sheep, because his profits will certainly be cut short.

To have the wool dense and of good length is a prime requisite. Although the breeders in the corn belt must pay

attention to the mutton qualities of their flocks, a good fleece can also be obtained. The Merino need not be in the corn belt for this purpose. By careful selection of the English mutton breeds in the belt obtained very dense, heavy fleeces that are very dense. There is a great variation in fleeces, and when making selection of your flock header it is well not to be too easily satisfied. The fleece should be of good length and the fiber dense.

Density means the number of fibers to the square inch. Of course they cannot be counted, but you can easily ascertain the density by the hand with fingers close together. Take a handful of wool on the side of the different sheep and you will find that there is far more wool in your hand on some sheep than on others.

Notice carefully the wool covering the belly. We must guard against bareness there for several reasons. Proper wool will increase the weight of fleece and also serve as protection from cold when the sheep is lying on wet ground. A good, heavy fleece can be produced on mutton sheep of the highest type, and we must still strive to have that sort. Not only does it increase your profits at home, but it increases the price of the lambs you send to market. In our large market centers sheep pelts are considered quite an item, and the lambs with heavy, dense fleeces will outsell the others.

Value of a Good Bull.

Did you use a scrub bull last year, and are you saving his heifer calves from your best cows? What assurance have you that the calves will be even as good as their dams? Would it not have been better to have bought a pure bred dairy bull? Yes, pure bred bulls cost money, and he might have cost \$100. Is that a large sum to pay out? Let us look into the matter. Suppose that such a bull sires for you but ten heifer calves and that each one of them, when she comes into milk, gives but one pint of milk at each milking more than her dam gave at like age, or 600 pints for the 600 milkings of the year, which is worth \$6 to you. But you milk a cow an average of seven years, and the one cow turns you \$42 more than her dam. Ten such cows means \$420. The probabilities are that the increased milk they would yield over their dams would be worth \$1,000. How, then, can any intelligent man afford to use a scrub bull?—Malcolm H. Gardner, Superintendent A. R. O.

Value of Pure Bred Stock.

Writing of pure bred sheep, a breeder says: It takes the same care to save a grade lamb that it does a pure bred. The same quantity of feed keeps each alike. If a grade will make you 100 per cent a year, it will be from one-fourth to one-half of what a pure bred ewe will make you with a little more money invested for the breeding stock. A \$5 grade ewe will raise you a \$3.50 lamb; a \$20 pure bred ewe will raise you a \$12.50 to \$15 lamb. The man who saves from 90 to 95 per cent of his lambs cannot afford to breed grade sheep. His labor is worth too much and his time is too precious. It is as easy to raise a \$25 lamb as it is a \$5 lamb if your foundation stock is right and you give it the proper care. A careless or negligent person had better breed grades, if anything at all, for he has not so much money invested.

Offering Cattle For Sale.

What does a buyer want to know about cattle offered for sale? First, the conformation and color markings and weight, style, general appearance, and in a cow, as to her udder, its size, shape, teats and milk veins; second, the buyer wants to know the pedigree from one to three generations and the records or yields of each ancestor. If it's an animal bred from cattle in the Advanced Register, state the milk and butter yield of each female and of her daughters, and if she has sons who have sired A. R. O. daughters give the number of them. State the breeding of the sire and give the number of his A. R. O. daughters, and mention the largest records of two or three of the larger ones; state the history of his sire and grandsire and the collateral branches of the family.

Rooting Pigs. Pigs are more apt to be "rooters" in spring, when the ground is soft, than they are at any other time of the year. Much of this can be prevented by feeding regularly with coal, charcoal, ashes or other mineral matter. Ringing the hogs should be resorted to in extreme cases.

FEEDING LIVE STOCK.

Occasional Change of Food Beneficial to All Farm Animals.

All kinds of farm live stock go off their feed at times, the cause of which may be some internal complaint, but very often it is traceable to their being fed too long on one kind of food, writes William H. Underwood in *Country Gentleman*. Bread is the main food for the human race, and there are foods that take a like position in the animal kingdom. Sound, sweet hay, for instance, is a material which most farm animals never tire of. Oats, too, are an all the year round food, particularly for horses, but in these days, when cakes, meals and condiments are so much employed in feeding, the appetites of the animals are very apt to clog.

Inferior fodder, too, upsets animals, and no one will keep much live stock or go on for a very long period without finding that a change of food is desirable, indeed necessary. When in difference to food calls for this, some will imagine that a tonic or pick-me-up will quickly rectify all failings, and these are sometimes given, but few have very good results and none lasting, as the improvement, if it takes place, is not permanent.

The best thing is to give less food and change it partially or wholly. Good, bright hay may always be included. Crushed oats are one of the best correctives I have ever used. These will be taken when nearly all else is refused. If an oily meal goes down badly, one with no oil should be substituted. This is a decided change and generally a most acceptable one, and it cuts both ways, as if dry meals are given the animals should be given just oil matter. They should not be given out on the changed ration for years ago, was killed by giving him

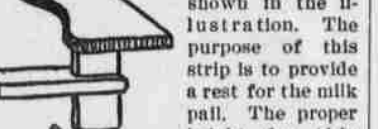
a day or so, but should have quite a period of it. This will be the most beneficial in the long run. Much food is given to some classes of animals in a very sloppy condition. They often get terribly tired of it, and dry materials are gone for greedily. Milk cows are given a lot of moist food in the hope that this will increase the flow of milk, but when the time comes, as it certainly will if persisted in, when they are indifferent to it there should be no delay in introducing more dry food.

Pigs are often extremely "nice." How frequently do we see their troughs nearly full of food that has been given hours previously. This is especially the case when fattening is going on. That they should refuse is wondered at, but experienced feeders are in no way surprised, as they know the results of persisting with one kind of food only.

A change from fine to coarse material is generally advantageous. It must not be inferred that I mean a change from superior to inferior foods. That is quite a different method, which I do not support.

Improving the Milk Stool.

A Kansas dairyman claims that an improvement over the ordinary milk stool can be made by simply attaching an extra piece of 2 by 4 about ten inches long, as shown in the illustration. The purpose of this strip is to provide a rest for the milk pail. The proper height for this strip will be dependent upon the general height of the cows. The rest saves the milkers the work of holding the pail between his knees or keeps it off the stable floor in case this undesirable practice is followed.



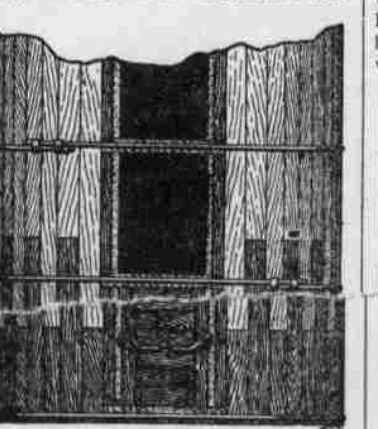
REST FOR MILK STOOL.

FAILURES OF SILOS.

Why Some Structures Have Not Given Good Service.

Some of the failures of silos have been due to carelessness in filling, but more frequently to faulty construction of the silo. Too often the walls of silos are not made air tight. Unless the walls of wooden silos are made air tight, with tar paper, felt pads or clay worked into the joints, much silage will be wasted. Ninety per cent of stave silos are not air tight at the foundation. The shrinkage and swelling of staves break the cement, which must be frequently mended. Some losses have occurred because the ends of the staves have decayed. The illustration shows how some durable wood may be used at the bottom of the silo, which is one method of overcoming this difficulty. The iron bands of the stave silo must frequently be examined or they will fall down as the staves shrink. Sometimes the iron splices rust.

The walls of the silo must be rigid or they cannot stand the pressure. A number of concrete silos have failed on this account. When the sides begin to bulge, air can get between the silage and the walls. Brick silos with



A SILO WITH REDWOOD STAVES AT THE BOTTOM, CHEAPER WOOD ABOVE.

out-reinforcement have been failures because of this pressure from the inside.

A mistake sometimes made is in building the silo of too large a diameter for the size of the herd, so that silage spoils by too long exposure of the surface. In one case a man with a small herd built a silo in his barn eighteen feet square and sixteen feet high. After two years' trial he gave up the use of the silo in disgust because his silage did not keep. A year or two later he sold his farm to a more progressive man, who built partitions across the same silo, making four small silos out of the large one, and had no difficulty in obtaining good silage for stock.

The silos should be deep. The deeper the silo the better the silage. The diameter should conform to the size of the herd, and if two inches of silage are fed each day there will be no loss from surface exposure.

To Make Ewe Own Lamb. A breeder has a little trick to make a ewe own a lamb that is worth copying. A stanchion is made in the middle of the stall and the ewe fastened in. The lamb can get all around her, and she cannot hurt it, and of course it will want to lie on the hay in front of her. In a few days it is her lamb.

THE VETERINARY

Pure creolin applied once a day for a week or so is a remedy used for ringworm on a cow. First wash the part with soap and water.

A Remedy For Colic. A home mixed colic remedy which is a favorite with many horsemen is composed of one ounce each of tincture of opium, sulphuric ether, tincture of ginger, spirits of aiter, essence of peppermint. Give two tablespoonfuls in a pint of hot water and give one tablespoonful every half hour until improvement begins. After an attack of colic horses should be fed with care for a few days.

Castor Oil For Horses. The Horse Breeder says: "Hardly a season passes that castor oil is not recommended by some turf paper as a medicine for horses or colts. It may be used in some cases without causing death, but a valuable young colt, owned by the writer some thirty-five years ago, was killed by giving him

castor oil for constipation. The oil was administered and the colt died before we knew that he was sick. Our advice to horsemen is, never give castor oil to any animal of the horse kind, old or young. Whenever a purgative is needed always give raw linseed oil, which is both effective and safe and much cheaper than the poisonous castor oil, bulk for bulk."

Three Valuable Remedies.

There are three remedies every farmer should have on hand for treating sick calves, says a New York breeder. One is the formalin treatment for white scours, one-half ounce of 40 per cent formalin in fifteen and a half ounces of pure water. Use one teaspoonful to every pint of milk fed. White scours are easily recognized both by the whitish color of the voiding and by the odor. Another remedy is the two-hundredth dilution of sulphur for regular looseness of the bowels. This is a homeopathic remedy. Give from three to five tablets three times daily to young calves under two weeks and more to older ones.

The other remedy is cantharis for bladder trouble. If you find your calf wet on belly or inside hind legs or eyes running profusely, with bowels loose, five drops 3x homeopathic tincture given three times daily will soon cure.

BREEDING THE MULE.

Strong Demand in Many States For Those of Heavy Type.

For no class of stock is there a stronger demand than for big, well broken mules in six or eight of the agricultural states. Whoever would raise them has a hungry market already established, says the *Breeder's Gazette*, Chicago. It is not necessary to precede the work with a campaign of education. The multiple merits of the mule are familiar to thousands of farmers and planters who are unable because of the inadequate supply to buy the mule stock that they want. An attractive opportunity invites farmers to undertake the production of high class commercial mules, and it is certain that many of them will grasp it within the next few years.

While the day of the small mule is not past and probably never will be in the sugar and cotton country of the south, he is sure to yield considerable ground in the border states and elsewhere to the draft mule, which is clamorously sought at the leading mule markets at stiff prices. But this type cannot be produced without big mares. No matter how big a jack may be, he cannot sire draft mules from the ordinary run of small native mares common in the mule belt. Mammoth jacks are capable of notable results in increasing the size of mules, but they are much handicapped by the want of scale in the mares to which they are bred. An improvement in native mares increasing their size 200 to 400 pounds would benefit the mule industry immeasurably. It would endow the country with big mule possibilities such as never before existed. This change in the type of farm mares in those sections where the mule is the main reliance for field and other hard labor would not upset the other purposes for which they are usually maintained. Probably 90 per cent of the mule bearing mares could be improved in size without detracting from their value

Ridding Cattle of Grubs. Grubs under the skin of cattle may be killed in several ways, according to S. Arthur Johnson, Colorado Agricultural college. One common method is to rub down the lumps on the hide with a round stick, such as a broom handle, thus killing the grubs where they lie. Oil or lard may be applied to the holes in the hide, which will stop the breathing pores of the grub and kill it. If a little carbolic acid is put in the lard it will help the wound to heal more quickly. By pinching on either side of the lumps the grubs will often be forced out. They should be killed by the foot if they drop to the ground. The holes may be treated with carbolic lard. This method is to be preferred, for it does not leave the grub under the hide to fester.

Tobacco For Scours in Sheep. A breeder who uses homespun tobacco for scours in sheep says of the treatment: I used it all last summer and winter and am using it now. I had no scours in my flock last summer and have had none to amount to anything since. I sometimes mix salt with it, but I know sheep will and do eat it alone. I give thirty-five sheep about one-half pound once a week. I give clean tobacco, just as it is stripped from the stalk. They will eat the leaves as they will eat corn fodder, but not nearly so much. I also used a worm powder last summer with the tobacco. I buy lugs.

Needed by All Dairywomen. Scales, thermometer, paper and pencil are things very necessary for all dairywomen. They are of everyday value, and a record helps much in the sale of a cow.

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The Price of Sires. Good fleshy bulls have sold recently at \$5 to \$6 per hundredweight in leading markets. This means that the man who has bought, used and fed a pure bred bull can sell him for more than enough to buy another one. An aged bull that brings \$5 per hundredweight on the farm will pay for his successor and more, too, in some cases.

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And yet too many cattle raisers think that a pure bred bull at \$75 to \$125 is away out of sight. Counting the improvement made in the herd, the better quality and higher price of the cattle sold from it, the pure bred bull is about the cheapest investment in sight.

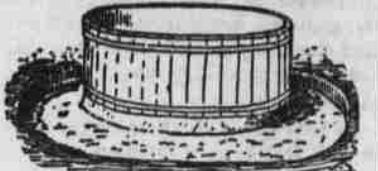
Pure Water For Calves.

It is very easy in the summer to allow calves to suffer for lack of fresh, clean water. Where calves are compelled to drink from stagnant ponds or foul troughs they cannot be expected to do their best—in fact, they are pretty likely to become poor and suffer from digestive troubles. In a trial at the Kansas station with thirteen calves ranging from two to three months of age it was found that 808 pounds of water were drunk in seven days, or nearly ten pounds per head per day. It was observed at the same time that the calves drank many times, drinking only a little each time.

IMPROVING STOCK TANKS.

Those Having an Excavation Around Base Give Better Service.

A Nebraska stockman says of the water tank for stock shown in the illustration: "This is how I arrange my water tanks, and I find they last longer and are more satisfactory in every way. The majority of farmers simply dump gravel, brick or whatever filling material is used on the ground around the trough and allow the cattle to pack it down."



MUDHOLES IMPOSSIBLE.

terial is used on the ground around the trough and allow the cattle to pack it down.

"I think a much better plan is to excavate a space around the tank, say, eight or ten inches deep and a couple of feet wide, leaving the tank, of course, on an earth bottom. The filling material is dumped into this excavation and tamped several inches at a time with a tamper that can be improvised from a heavy block of wood or short log.

"The excavation should be filled until it is at least several inches higher than the surface of the yard adjacent to the trough. By this method of filling in around tanks it is more difficult for cattle to wear the filling away or tear it up. It is also practically impossible for hogs to make a mud-hole in this filling, as the water seeps away quickly."

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