

COW TESTING DAIRY BOON

SLIPSHOD METHODS
RAPIDLY PASSING.

Experience Shows That Association
to Measure Productivity of Cow
Makes Money and Shows Up
Errors—Progress Made.

Guess and b'gosh system in the handling of dairy cows is rapidly passing in centers where cows are being developed for such purposes. The cow testing associations throughout the sections where that industry is gaining ground are proving a boom to dairying.

Experience is given in a well known farm journal of a man was milking 12 head of cows and getting a cream check from \$35 to 40. This man joined a cow testing association, used better methods of feeding, weeded out seven head of cows, replaced them with four better cows and received as a result of his change a cream check of \$80 per month.

One of the greatest benefits coming from a testing association is that it shows up the farmer's mistakes of the past and opens up avenues for improvement in the future.

The part that an association of this character can play is immeasurable. It takes a minimum of 26 farmers, as a rule to establish an association and employ an experienced tester. When once this is done he proceeds as follows:

1. Weighs all feed given to each cow that evening.
2. Weighs and samples the milk from each cow that evening.
3. Weighs all feed given to the cow the next morning.
4. Again weighs and samples each cow's milk.
5. Tests samples of milk from cow for per cent of butterfat.
6. Computes total feed consumed by each cow for a month, using the weights obtained as an average.
7. Computes milk produced in a month by each cow, using the test obtained as an average.
8. Computes butterfat produced in a month by each cow, using the test obtained as an average.
9. At the end of the year he computes profit or loss for each cow by charging the animal for feed consumed, and crediting her with milk and fat produced.

After finishing a day's work at one farm the tester goes to the next herd. Sometimes he has his own horse and buggy for traveling; in other testing associations the owner of the herd just tested takes the tester to the next farm. Often the tester is of assistance in locating or selling good cows, bulls, feed, etc. He is paid by the month, and boarded by the members of the association.

What It Costs To Test.

A cow-testing association costs only the wages of the tester, and a part or all of the equipment he uses. Some testers are paid at the rate of \$50 a month, others more. While these records may be obtained by the dairyman himself, it is generally more economical to have a tester do the work.

The amount it will cost each man depends on the number of members. A tester should have twenty-six herds—one herd for each working day in the month. There should be at least 400 cows. Some associations have adopted a flat rate of \$1.50 a cow, with a minimum herd charge of \$15. Other associations fix a certain rate for each month. The advantage of this plan is that all the cows in a herd can be tested for a fixed amount. Some state colleges furnish

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a testing outfit, record books and record blanks free to testing associations, asking for copies of testing records in exchange.

Are these costs of testing warranted? The following report say, "Yes," with emphasis:

The advantage of a testing association may be summed up as follows:

1. Detects the boarder cow.
2. Increases your net profit.
3. Builds up a high-producing herd.
4. Enables you to feed more economically.
5. Tells you the value of your bull.
6. Promotes cooperation in buying feed, buying and selling cattle, and develops community spirit.
7. Creates more interest and pleasure in dairying.

REMOVE RHUBARB SEED-STALKS

Seed-stalks which develop upon rhubarb plants ought to be removed before the blossoms set seed. Seed development draws heavily upon the plant. One of the most prevalent causes of failure with rhubarb in the home garden is seed-stalk development. This causes the leaf stems to become smaller and smaller year after year, until it hardly pays to care for the plants.

No rhubarb should be harvested from the garden after about the first week in July. After this date the plants should be allowed to develop normally to make and store plant food. The shoots and stems are produced early the following spring. If harvesting is continued too late in the season, the plants will be greatly weakened and a lower yield will be secured during the next few years.

FAIRS STIMULATE BETTER POULTRY

Advertising Proves Valuable in
Spread of More Fine-
Feathered Stock.

To keep his breeding birds in the public eye is the aim of every progressive breeder, as in this manner he attracts a following which either purchases his surplus breeding stock or else by word of mouth or other publicity advertises the fame and quality of this particular poultry, so that the ultimate sale of the fowl is effected. One of the greatest values of the fall fairs and poultry shows from the standpoint of the breeder is that they furnish opportunities of advertising his flock, comparing his birds with those of his associates, and profiting by the decisions of the Judges.

What Beginner Can Learn.

Attendance at the fall fairs and poultry shows is of particular importance to the beginner in the poultry-breeding business, as it shows him the fine points of standard-bred fowl; enables him to compare his birds with the birds of other breeders, and gets him in contact with successful poultrymen from whom he may learn many clever points of management which otherwise would cost long and costly experience.

Although the fall fairs and poultry shows are one of the best selling mediums for the poultryman who raises breeding stock, it is also advisable that he advertise judiciously in the poultry press as well as in reputable farm papers. The experiences of prominent breeders has been that it is preferable to run small "ads" at regular intervals throughout the year rather than to insert large advertisement only occasionally. The psychology of advertising is peculiar and unique in that management which pays in one instance may fail in another. Successful poultry advertising is largely a matter of management, although as a rule, where the breeder has superior stock to offer of show-room excellence and record, in many instances, the fowl will sell themselves on their exhibition performance without any extra effort on the part of the owner.

Advertise at Home.

Poultrymen, the country over, find it advantageous to use neat and attractive roadside signboards at their farm gates, which announce the breeding and number of fowl they have to offer, as well as the price, if desired.

CULL POULTRY OR GO BROKE

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Oct. 2.—"Commercial poultrymen must cull the poor layers or go broke at the game," said James Dryden to Willamette valley growers who recently assembled at the college to learn the why and the how of culling. "All growers must cull or lose money on their flocks. Even the best bred young flocks of the country have about 25 per cent of money-losers that must be taken out or lose as much as the good layers make. The experiment stations have developed a method of picking out the non-layers because the need

of culling is universal."

Time of moult, yellow color and condition of comb and abdomen, are the signs by which the skilled grower can separate the good from the poor layers, the poultry men were told. College records show that the hens that were the good layers in September and October are the good layers the rest of the year. The records of the good, poor and medium layers were charted, and the lines of egg production by the groups never crossed. Hence if the owner selects the hens that lay well in these two autumn months he has picked the heavy layers.

The good fall layers moult late and soon complete the moult. Early moulters and long-time moulters are poor layers.

Non layers of the yellow skinned breeds have bright yellow beaks, shanks, ear lobes, inner eye rings,

and vent. Good layers keep the yellow laid in the yolks of the eggs laid.

Good layers have a large comb for the breed, soft, bright red, waxy and warm. Non layers the reverse.

Good layers have flexible abdomen, rather wide and deep, with thin, well-spread pelvic bones. The distance between the pelvic bones and back of keel bone is wide. At least two fingers should lie between the pelvic bones and three fingers between the pelvic and keel bones.

"By observing these points you will be able to go home and pick out a good fat hen for your Sunday dinner without getting one that has eggs in her," said Professor Dryden.

Four chairs at your service at the Metropolitan. No waiting.—Adv.

Put it in The Bulletin.



The Test of Power and Performance

If you could meet with the new owners of the Essex and share with them the pride they have you would appreciate why these owners are the staunchest supporters of the worth of the

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Consistent in every detail—power, mechanism, style—the owner will tell you it is a joy to sit at the steering wheel and feel the consistency with which the motor adjusts itself to every emergency. He will tell you after a long drive how restful it glides along.

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Tire Talk

Motor Car Owners: Have you ever stopped to think of the cost per thousand miles of your tires? Have you ever divided the total mileage you get out of a tire by the cost of the tire?

If you have a tire that costs \$10 and you have driven it only 1500 miles, your cost per mile is \$0.00677, or \$6.67 per thousand miles. Right on this point. HOOD TIRES cost more, yes it is true, but at the same time they will deliver more miles and a proportionately less cost per mile. This is the proper way to measure the real value of a tire.

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