



LIVE STOCK

RAISING CALF ON SKIM MILK

Much of Success Depends Upon Care of Little Animal—Proper Shelter is Essential.

(By F. A. BOARMAN.)

In case of the steer calf which will become a feeder, while he should be grown, he should be kept reasonably fat. He is the calf which should have the corn and should have the fat-making foods.

He should be reared in just the opposite direction, as compared with the heifer calf. It will not hurt the steer calf even to have his drink or skim milk when he is six or seven months old, if there is a surplus but skim milk cannot be utilized to as good advantage as in the case of the heifer.

The best skim milk calves are those which are born in the fall of the year. Their young life is spent in a more favorable season. The milk they get as a rule will be in better condition than the milk which the spring calf will get.

If you select dairy blood for your herd, one of the things which should attract your attention when you make your final decision is the vitality of the breed you select.

This shows up particularly strong in the calf during the first few months of his life. Dairy breeds, as you know, are not all equal in vitality. My experience in raising calves on skim milk has been confined principally to the rearing of Holstein calves.

I want to say in this connection in our own herd a calf never sucked its mother and in this way, after ten or twelve years of breeding, the sucking instinct was largely bred out of the calves. These calves were easily taught to drink.

Not all of the success of rearing skim milk calves depends upon the feed or upon the breed. Very much indeed depends upon the care of the calf, and feed without proper shelter will avail but little.

The calf must be made comfortable in warm as well as cold weather. If he is not failure will result. Let your feeding arrangement be such that each calf get his share.

Do not, as I have seen on many farms, pour the milk into a tub or a trough and let the calf fight for his share. There is no chance for disagreement on this point. This is not feeding.

It will be found advisable, summer or winter, to arrange that each calf can get his individual share of the food, in a yard in the summer time, or in a pen in the winter.

If you have plenty of time it will be found advisable to tie each calf at each feeding. Tie around each calf's neck a ring two inches in diameter with a light rope.

Give each calf a place at a post and staple to the post two feet above the ground a rope not more than eight or ten inches long with a swivel snap in the end.

Have these ropes far enough apart to prevent the calves from reaching each other and you will have no trouble from the calves sucking one another's noses or ears. Keep the calves tied until the milk is licked from their chops and noses.

If the calves be of about equal size they may be turned loose to a trough in which is the grain food.

HORSE-BONNET IS IMPROVED

Does Not Limit Movement of Animal's Ears and Causes Air to Circulate.

Mr. John M. Davies of Plattsburg, N. Y., has invented a horse bonnet of smaller dimensions than heretofore, which will not limit the movement of the ears of the horse, says Scientific American. Within the bonnet a drum



Horse Bonnet With Drum.

is suspended provided with a perforated bottom, while a diaphragm is stretched across the upper face of the drum. The diaphragm carries a weight which, owing to its inertia, causes the diaphragm to flex in rhythm to the movement of the horse's head while trotting or walking. This causes the air in the drum to be alternately expelled and drawn in, thus producing a circulation within the bonnet.

Rearing the Lamb.

If necessary to rear a lamb by hand, a New York state farmer says he finds the lamb the best judge of amount of milk required and feeds at first nearly all it will drink, which is almost one-quarter of a pint every three hours, the last feed coming at 9 p. m. After the grass starts the feeds are gradually reduced to one-half pint three times a day. The milk fed in this way will yield larger profit than if sold to the cheese factory.

RAISING SWINE FOR PROFIT

Success is Determined by Intelligent and Constant Care to Details and Judgment.

Success in hog raising is determined by intelligent daily, sometimes hourly care and attention to small details, and good judgment. When a farmer decides to become a hog raiser, he should plan to stay permanently in the business. For the capital, labor and time required there is no business that will pay larger profits, in many sections of the country, than hog raising. With an expert stock raiser as high as 300 per cent. net profit has been made in six months under ordinary farm conditions.

The breed to raise is the kind the grower likes best. There are more differences in the individuals of any breed than there are between choice animals of the different breeds. A good hog, well bred from a prolific strain of any of the popular breeds of hogs, will make money for the farmer when handled right.

Well finished hogs of the proper weight are always in great demand. Hogs weighing alive 220 to 250 pounds

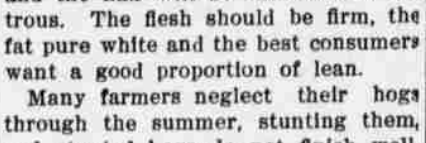


Building and Yards.

each, will supply cured hams weighing 16 to 18 pounds, and sides of weighing 10 to 12 pounds each. These weights command a premium of 75 cents per hundred pounds above lighter hams and sides.

Well finished hogs, only, are wanted. The hog should be well fattened and rounded out, the flesh coming well down on the hocks, and the fat on the sides should be from 1 to 1 1/2 inches thick. In a finished hog the flesh will be firm and hard to the touch and the hair will be smooth and lustrous. The flesh should be firm, the fat pure white and the best consumers want a good proportion of lean.

Many farmers neglect their hogs through the summer, stunting them, and stunted hogs do not finish well.



Ground Plan of Pigpen.

An unfinished, stunted hog weighing 150 pounds will dress about 65 per cent. Bacon from such hogs sells at wholesale for one-half that from finished hogs. The bacon from the unfinished, light hogs, when cooked, consists of skin and flabby, soft meat, and the consumer is dissatisfied.

The flesh on the live, unfinished hog is soft and flabby to the touch, and the hair has a dead appearance. The meat from an unthrifty hog is always soft and that from thin hogs is usually soft.

Special attention should be paid to housing the swine. Hogs are more disturbed by wind than any other farm animal and their shelter should thoroughly protect them from wind and from draughts.

The pigpen shown here is a satisfactory building where a permanent one is wanted. The partitions between the pens are movable in case it is desired to use the building for fattening hogs. The doors leading to the yards are raised from the central alley by means of ropes and pulleys.

A chute across the ends of one set of yards makes it an easy matter to dip hogs regularly. It is 6 feet to the eaves and 16 feet to the ridge above the pens. Additions to this house can be made when desired and the building remain just as convenient.

LIVE STOCK

NOTES

Shear the sheep before their wool gets to be a burden.

Keep the sheep pens clean. Dirt and foul odors affect sheep quickly.

Never feed the young pigs on the ground, especially if it is dusty or muddy.

No sheep has yet been developed which excels in both mutton and wool production.

Sheep must be grown rapidly while young if they are expected to attain a large size.

A horse that is afraid of the electric cars can never be taught what they are by whipping.

Sell your wool on a rising market. Nine times out of ten you will miss it if you try to keep it for something better.

If a good lamb comes from a good ewe, save it for your own flock. Don't let any butcher talk you into selling it.

The boar pigs should be castrated at two to eight weeks old, so they will recover from the effects before weaning time.

There is little money in poor sheep. They will just about eat a man out of house and home. Good ones or none—that's the motto for us all.

Sufficient care is not exercised by many in weaning the ewes that breed irregularly, and because of this the uniformity in the size of the lamb crop is reduced.

POULTRY LIKE GREEN FEEDS

Regarded as Absolutely Necessary Where Fowls are Confined in Summer.

(By MILLER PURVIS.)

I regard green feeds as absolutely necessary to the welfare of poultry, old and young, both summer and winter. Where fowls are kept confined it must be supplied to them and where they have full liberty it may be fed to them with profit during the months when vegetation is somewhat burned by the heat.

A letter from a friend exactly coincides with the experience. He writes that last summer he had a batch of rape which he cut and fed to his hogs. He says his hens ate this rape as greedily as they would if they had not been shut up where they could not be out to find grass for themselves. I have noticed this more than once.

Throw out a lot of fresh lettuce leaves where the hens can get it and they will eat it up clean. Cabbage stumps thrown out to the hens will be picked clean, even where the hens run at large.

Those who must keep their hens confined will find that a small plot of rape will furnish a large quantity of green feed during the summer.

It will be large enough to begin cutting in five or six weeks and as soon as it is cut off will throw up new shoots, thus renewing itself constantly, so the same ground may be cut over time after time.

Lettuce or dandelions make a very good green feed for laying hens or growing chicks. There seems to be some medicinal property about both these vegetables which promotes good health in the fowls.

Both are easily grown and furnish a good supply of feed if the tops are cut off instead of pulling the plants out by the roots when gathering the feed.

Turnips and beet tops, mustard, peas and all other tender green stuff will be relished, and save much feed of a more costly kind.

RUNNING THE DAIRY RIGHT

People Willing to Pay Big Price for Milk if They Are Sure That It Is Clean.

(By R. M. STERLING.)

We take pains to let our customers know how we run things in our dairy and charge two cents more than we used to get for our milk. Our customers pay it without grumbling, for they know our dairy is immaculate and our milk pure and clean, and I believe we could get an extra two cents if we had the courage to ask for it. I know a farmer in New Jersey who has built up a dairy herd of 200 cows and by producing certified milk gets 20 cents a quart and cannot supply the demand. Of course he has a big market in New York, you say. That is true, but he manages to sell every gallon of his milk in towns surrounding his dairy, 17 miles from New York city. This goes to show that there are always enough people, even outside the big cities, to buy milk which they know to be absolutely clean, and at prices a great deal higher than they have been paying for ordinary stuff dipped out of a rusty can by slovenly milkmen.

Nature provides for winter by promoting a rapid fall growth. The old ideas of getting something for nothing have been exploded for a long time and if we cut three tons of hay from our meadows we must feed them accordingly and keep the bare spots covered with grass instead of weeds.

If we supply better forage rations for our live stock they will come through the winter in better condition and will require less grain to keep them in a thrifty condition.

We, as a rule, are feeding too much grain to our animals and unless we devote more attention to providing nutritious forage rations we must expect less hardy and vigorous animals.

COMPOSITION OF A TOMATO

Nutrient Present in Largest Amounts is Sugar, While Organic Acids Give Character.

The extensive use of tomatoes as an article of food has caused many inquiries to be made as to their food value. The nutrient present in tomatoes in the largest amount is sugar, while the organic acids are the main substances which give individuality or character. In tables of analysis tomatoes are given as containing from 92 to 95 per cent. water, 45 per cent. ash.

Handling Lambing Ewes.

At lambing time a ewe desires quiet and isolation, and she should therefore be put in a pen by herself for a few days.

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Sometimes, in the case of twins, the ewe will abandon one and let it starve unless it is fed by hand. If penned by herself she is more apt to accept both offspring. When by herself she is under better control and more easily handled.

The ewe should be watched, and upon the first indication of inactivity and listlessness, denoting the approach of the lambing period, she should be taken from the rest of the flock and kept by herself as much as possible. The appearance of the udder and other conditions also betray the condition of the ewe.

Feeds for Young Pig.

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FARM GARDEN

PASTURE AND THE MEADOW

Careful Study of Subject Will Show Variety of Grasses Better Than Only One Kind.

(By S. M. MILLER.)

It sometimes seems as if one-half of the farmers were doing everything possible to fight nature and when we make a study of the various grasses and their peculiar needs we wonder that we have been succeeding as well as we have in growing good crops of hay. A careful study of the English system of maintaining a permanent meadow and pasture would essentially aid us in the management of our grass lands. There we may find from ten to twenty kinds of grass growing on one sod and all thriving and producing hay and forage.

We go on our meadows when the proper times come, cut the grass, cure it into hay and haul it to the stack or barns and think no more about the whole matter until the next year comes and then we go out and go through the same motions only get a smaller crop and keep this up until the yield is so small that we feel it is necessary to plow up the field and reseed it to clover and timothy again. We don't go to the trouble of top dressing or fertilizing the meadow or tile drain to prevent the water from drowning it out during the wet season nor do we plan to leave a stubble to protect it from the hot summer sun.

Animals will often walk from one end of a large pasture to another to get a nibble of some variety of grass that is different from that in the other end of the pasture.

Pastures that contain the greatest number of varieties of grass are invariably the ones that will support the most stock.

It is one of the greatest evils of our system of farming to plow up a good pasture for it requires a number of years to get a good turf established.

In selecting grass seed for a permanent pasture select kinds that will bloom in succession from early summer until late in the fall so that when one kind is not growing there will be another to occupy the soil and prevent weeds from growing in where the soil is not occupied.

In selecting grasses for the meadow select varieties that flower about the same time so that they may be cured for hay at one cutting.

Select those that furnish the most leaves and thus diminish the amount of woody indigestible matter in the hay.

It is folly to try to skim off a second crop from the meadows. If the growth is too rank in the fall pasture it off with young stock but do not pasture it close enough to injure its chances of living through the winter.

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BURNER TO DESTROY STUMPS

Made From Steel of Old Abandoned Food Cooker and Joint of Pipe—Cost \$1.25.

The rather peculiar device shown in the illustration herewith was made by a Vernon county, Missouri, farmer for destroying stumps, and we are in-



A Practical Stump Burner.

formed that it proved much more than expected, so far as getting rid of the old stumps were concerned, says Homestead. The cost to make this stump burner was \$1.25 and it was made as follows: The steel jacket from an old abandoned food cooker was used for the lower part, and the square part for the top was bought from a local tinner, it and the joint of pipe costing \$1.25. They are both a little heavier than ordinary sheet iron. In operation, the device is placed over the stump and a fire built around same with anything that may be handy for fuel. In some cases chips were used; in others, old rails, and in still others, pieces were split from the stumps themselves. Not only did the burner consume the entire stump in a short time, but in many cases the roots were burned out far down in the ground. A similar burner might be constructed from many things that are every year thrown in the scrap heap, and if the necessary material could not be found in the scrap heap, any tinner would build one for a small sum and your stumps would be burning while you were doing something else. The boys would simply love to operate one of these burners at least until the novelty wore off, and possibly the promise of a small sum of money when the last stump was burned out would prolong the novelty for a sufficient time to do the business.

MAKING COMPACTOR OF SOIL

Excellent Method of Constructing Improvement to Be Used in Place of Ordinary Roller.

To construct a good compactor on the soil to use in place of a roller, use



A Soil Compactor.

three two-inch planks about three feet long and one foot wide. Nail or bolt the edges together like the side of a house and hitch the chain to each end. Load it with as many large stones as a team can draw and go over the surface. It often does better work than a regular roller.

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WHEN NOT TO SWIM

EVERY SWIMMER SHOULD ACQUIRE THIS KNOWLEDGE.

There Never is a Time When It is Safe Under Unsafe Conditions—No Precautions Considered Excessive.

A single newspaper column reported recently thirty cases of drowning in places many miles apart, and under conditions as diverse as possible. They were not suicides, strictly speaking, although the moral responsibility is not greatly different in some of the cases. It is a mild statement that in more than one instance the fatality was not necessary. Many of the cases were pathetic, some surprisingly so. Young women died clasped in each other's arms, playmates died trying to rescue each other, and there were one or two cases of real accident through falling unexpectedly into water under conditions preventing rescue or escape. Such a toll as this is shocking, accustomed as we are to summer Sunday drownings, the New York Times says.

With the thermometer where it is, it is idle to advise even nonswimmers not to go into the water. Since they will do it, it is doubtful advice to learn to swim, since it is the swimmers who most frequently drown. Having taken the responsibility of advising everybody to learn to swim, it is necessary to supplement it by advising those who have learned to learn also when not to swim and dive and to enforce this advice by morals drawn from such awful examples. One young man broke his neck and drowned because he plunged head first into water which he was told was shallow. How is it possible to be truly sympathetic with such recklessness?

And the indignation with such disregard of human life is similar even when, as frequently happens, divers persist in trying the depths of strange waters with their heads instead of their feet. It is not so grand to try unknown depths with a leap instead of a dive. The difference between a sprained ankle and a broken neck measures the degrees of vanity which are behind these two methods of plunging. Boys who try to float on a board in deep water before they can swim are just boys and can be reasoned with suitably only by their parents.

This is only a word of advice to those who know how to swim, and appear to think that thereby they have a license to be foolish. There are times and conditions which even swimmers should not swim and there never is a time when swimming is safe under unsafe conditions. So long as water will strangle there is no perfect safety in the water. So long as this is true no precautions are excessive, whatever the skill of the swimmer. Except for show and only under conditions where help is sure and near. Everybody should learn both how to swim and when and where not to swim. Late newspapers are almost a perfect guide on the subject.

Tent Life in Town.

It is not uncommon to see handsome yards disfigured with a tent in the middle of the lawn. If the mother does not wish the baby to live outdoors all day, the boys want to play Indian.

Instead of the unsightly canvas substitute a vine-draped tent. Arrange poles in the form of a teepee and cover the outside with wire screening.

Erect it in a sunny corner of your yard and around the base plant quick-growing annual vines, such as climbing nasturtiums, Japanese hops, wild cucumbers, morning glories and gourds. If the