

Raising Fine Hogs in the Northwest

Some Ideas on the Best Way to Breed and Produce the Farmers' Mortgage Lifters.

UNDER the recently passed act of Congress which grants \$500,000 to combat hog cholera, the United States Department of Agriculture's agents will co-operate closely with the state authorities to prevent and eradicate the disease by the use of anti-hog cholera serum and quarantine methods. Approximately \$20,000 will be spent during the coming year in each experimental area selected.

Appropriations will be spent in making surveys, using serum on hogs on infected and exposed farms, in sanitation and quarantine work and in organizing farmers to co-operate with the state and federal authorities. In addition, funds will be used for the production by the department of anti-hog cholera serum and for the inspection and proper control of serum prepared by private and other agencies.

Extensive demonstration and educational work also will be undertaken in territory outside of experimental areas to acquaint farmers with the results of the experiments and to supply them with information as to the methods of controlling the disease.

Method of Procedure.

The method of procedure in the actual areas where the demonstration work will be conducted are as follows:

Education—Assemblages of farmers to be arranged in each school district of each experimental area. The objects sought and methods of procedure will be explained and full information given regarding the nature, cause and prevention of hog cholera. Further educational work to be carried on through the distribution of publications and through personal interviews with farmers.

Organization of Farmers—This organization will be made up as follows:

A leader for each township and nine associates will be selected. Each associate will have assigned to him an area of about four sections for survey. The men in this organization will serve as volunteers without salary, and they will keep the United States Inspector in Charge advised concerning the conditions in the county and will also aid in securing the required statistics of the hog industry.

Survey—A complete survey will be made to determine the number of hogs raised and the number lost from hog cholera prior to beginning the work and during each year thereafter during the life of the project.

Sanitation and Quarantine—This will comprise the regulation of shipment of hogs into and out of the experimental area, the regulation of shipments within the area, the quarantine of infected places, destruction of dead animals, cleaning and disinfection of railroad chutes, pens and loading places, etc.

Immunization and Treatment With Antihog-Cholera Serum—Serum to be applied to hogs on infected farms and on exposed farms by the United States inspectors in such manner as they may deem necessary.

Serum Production—All antihog-cholera serum required is to be produced and supplied by the Bureau of Animal Industry, provided that in the event of the inability of that bureau to produce sufficient serum the several states will supply the deficiency in so far as possible without cost to the United States Department of Agriculture.

Organization and Co-Operation.

State Organization—The State Agricultural College, or other state agencies, will place in each experimental area at least one qualified man who, with the co-operation of the United States Inspectors, and County Advisors, will carry out the necessary educational work, organization of farmers and make an accurate survey of the area.

The Live Stock Sanitary Board, or other proper state authorities, will place in each area at least one qualified deputy who will enforce, in so far as state laws will permit, such sanitary and quarantine measures as may be deemed necessary by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Volunteer Organization—To be composed of farmers residing in the experimental area and to be selected jointly by the United States Field Inspectors in charge and representatives of the State College.

Field Forces—One supervising field inspector. The functions of this officer will be to visit the various experimental areas, to advise with the United States Inspectors in Charge of field work regarding the methods of work, thus giving to each inspector the benefit of observations made in other areas and thereby increasing efficiency.

A force located in each experimental area will be maintained as an independent unit, reporting directly to the Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry. The force to be maintained in each area will consist of one inspector in charge, one or more assistant inspectors and one clerk. The size of the organization in each area will be governed by the necessities of the case and the funds available.

Laboratory Force—One inspector in charge, with the necessary scientific assistants, clerks and laborers to prepare sufficient antihog-cholera serum to supply the needs of the various field inspectors.

The Local Leaders.

The United States Field Inspector in Charge in each experimental area is to be recognized as the local leader of the project. This official, by confer-

ence with the local state representatives, will arrange for the details of carrying out educational work, quarantine and sanitation, and other activities. State officers shall at all times be furnished with full information concerning the general progress of the work and the United States Field Inspector in Charge shall likewise be advised concerning the general progress of the work and results of work carried on by the local state officers.

The salaries and expenses of employees of the United States Department of Agriculture will be borne entirely by that department, and similar expenses of state officers will be paid by state or local agencies.

No contract or agreement in connection with this work will be regarded as binding upon either the state or department of Agriculture unless made in accordance with the principles laid down under the heading "Organization and Co-Operation."

The department under the appropriation act for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1914, was given power to regulate the preparation, sale and importation of viruses, serums, toxins and similar products intended for the treatment of domestic animals. The hog-cholera act provides that no less than \$50,000 of the total may be used in this work.

The purpose of the work is to protect farmers from serums that are either dangerous, under strength or ineffective.

The general method of procedure will be to inspect establishments which do an interstate business in serums, toxins, etc., and to issue a license to those that comply with the regulations. In addition the department will take samples and test serums in interstate commerce and recommend revocation of licenses or prosecutions where the facts warrant. In the case of imported serums, admission will be refused any serum which is found to be dangerous or spurious.

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