

## Raising Fine Hogs in the Northwest

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

EVIDENCE of what appears to be a well organized campaign to delude farmers throughout the country into buying an alleged cure for hog cholera, under the impression that this has been investigated and approved by the United States Government, has reached the Department of Agriculture.

Articles praising this medicine, Benefol by name, are being sent out widespread to newspapers. These articles are so worded that it appears as if the Department of Agriculture had received reports from the State of Minnesota showing that the medicine had proved most beneficial.

As a matter of fact, the one report received by the Department was an unofficial and unsolicited statement sent presumably from the promoters themselves.

The department attaches no importance whatsoever to this statement. It has no reason to believe in the efficiency of any proprietary cure for hog cholera and does not recommend any. Under certain conditions it urges farmers to protect their stock with anti-hog cholera serum, but that is all.

In connection with this attempt it may be said that the medicine, which is now put forward as good for hogs, was advertised some time ago as a means of killing tuberculosis, typhoid and cancer germs, according to an article published in the Journal of the American Medical Association. At that time it was asserted that the army was interested in it. As a matter of fact, the army was no more interested then than the Department of Agriculture is now.

In view of the evidence that the attempt to create this false impression is persistent and widespread, all hog owners are warned to communicate with the United States authorities before accepting as true any statement that the government recommends any treatment other than the serum already mentioned.

## Shotes That Thump

WHEN we have wintered fall pigs in the open field with a run of 10 rods to feeding place we have never had a pig affected with thumps, but when running in the feed lot and sleeping in a nearby hog house that was closer and warmer we had trouble with thumps, writes G. P. Williams in the National Stockman. The longer these shotes are left in the drove the worse they thump and sooner or later die. We have found two treatments that proved successful.

The first treatment is to take the affected pig from the drove as soon as he is observed thumping and sell to a shipper, even though a special trip be necessary to take him to the yards. The other method is designed to be effective and consists in turning the affected shote into a field with a small pen only scantily supplied with bedding. The pig generally does a good deal of fretting along the fence in trying to get out, and in a few days this exercise and fresh air will often be found to have stopped his thumping. Dust, lack of exercise, sudden change from warm pens to outside drafts, damp beds, etc., are common causes of thumps, and remedial agencies must be along the line of correcting these details.

## Diseases of Hogs

WHENEVER and wherever hog cholera prevails all other epidemics to which swine are subject are apt to be classified as hog cholera. Here is an incident that took place in Will county, Ill., which is a case in point. The same is related by the Farmer's Review as illustrating the value of a county adviser:

One day a hurry up call was received from a farmer whose hogs were dying from supposed cholera. Of 300 head but 50 were left, and the external appearance of these did not indicate cholera. The adviser had a sick one killed and immediately made a postmortem examination. The vital organs were found to be in a healthy condition, but the intestines were full of worms. Mr. Granis advised a vermifuge for expelling

the worms and the feeding of a mixture of limestone screenings, rock phosphate and wood ashes. This advice was followed, and no further loss of pigs followed. This advice is invaluable to the hog raiser. Worms and lack of mineral matter are two great causes that contribute to a bad physical condition, which makes pigs susceptible to any disease that may come along, and if they die in any number it is called cholera.

### Experiment With Hog Feed.

The Virginia experiment station has carried on an extended trial of feeding hogs on two diets, corn and digestive tankage and corn and skim milk, with the result that the latter shows slight advantage over the former, principally because of the appetizing quality and added moisture of the skim milk. On a commercial basis very little difference was found.

The increase in hogs is greater than any other farm animal. The average annual increase of horses, cattle and sheep is from 30 to 80 per cent. In hogs it is 500 and over.

Never feed any animal so much that it is satisfied without rustling around for a part of its food.

If you are fortunate enough to own a good brood sow, make good use of her. Pigs from a mature sow are strong and grow rapidly.

A new remedy for hog cholera is being given a trial in Minnesota. It consists of hypodermic injections of benetol.

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