Raising Fine Hogs in the Northwest

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



FINELY-BRED POLAND CHINA BOAR.

This is the second of a series @ o for the Northwest.

BY JAMES E. WITHYCOME AND

E. L. POTTER. T IS impossible in this article to go extensively into the various theories of breeding and of heredity. A few fundamental truths in the principles of breeding will be given. First, "like begets like." Pigs of the right class can be produced if the right class of

boars and sows are used and if (note the "if") the ancestors of the boar and sows are also of this type.

There is no other safe rule to follow.

There is no mysterious secret known

only to the elect. There is no way in which to control the sex of the offspring. Sudden frights, the protein and mineral matter necesor other vivid mental impressions received by the female during pregnancy or at the time of service do not affect fatten. the offspring. The first male to which the female is bred does not in any whatever affect the offspring produced later by a different male. There are volume's written on the subject, but the statements given cover most of the facts which are of practical value to the breeder.

Time For Farrowing.

The most desirable time of the year in most parts of the state for a sow to farrow is in March, with the exception of some of the colder and more exposed places, where April or even May is more desirable. The breeders should breeding, in order that the pigs may come when wanted, and above all, so pounds. that they may know just when the pigs son. One service at one period of heat or milk of variable quality is substitut purpose. The sow carries her young cording to the condition of the sow. about.112 days, but may vary somewhat | Some people have a great fear of ex-

of all kinds are generally supposed to protein and mineral matter. maintain a constant weight, and neither | The feeds which are unusually well gain nor lose to any appreciable ex- supplied with these elements are alfalfa. tent when fed a ration of one per cent clover, vetch, peas, skim milk, shorts, of their live weight per head per day tankage and kale. Of the grains, wheat in grain or grain equivalent. A 350- and oats have a fair amount, while bar pound sow would therefore be expected ley is somewhat deficient. Roots of all to hold her own on 3 1-2 pounds of kinds, while having a good influence

so small a ration of grain alone, as sows, are not as good for building bone there is no enough bulk to properly dis- and muscle as the other feeds mentioned tend the digestive organs, and the ani and when fed should be supplemented mal will therefore constantly crave with feed having an abundance of promore feed. In the West kale or roots tein and mineral matter. or vetch hay, together with about one | Care should be taken that the sow is or one and a half pounds of grain per not constipated. If there is a tendency day will constitute a good ration. In in this direction give more laxative the eastern part of the Northwest al- food. Roots, kale, alfalfa and bran falfa hay and about one pound of bar- have a laxative tendency. Do not wait ley per day will be sufficient. Sows until the sow is about ready to farrow

first part of the period of pregnancy.

The hay used should be of good qual- of articles by two men well-in-
ity and especially fine in texture. Small racks similar to those used for feeding cattle are sometimes used, but many farmers feed the hay in troughs or on the floor and do not require the hogs to clean up the coarse stems, but take them out and use for bedding or feed for other stock.

> Where many horses are kept the best possible plan is to feed the hogs the fine stems and heads with accumulate in the bottoms of the mangers. This is much better than the hay direct from the stack. Common red clover will do just as well in every way as alfalfa when cured under similar conditions, many claiming it is better.

Grinding alfalfa for hogs is not usually a good practice, and costs more than is gained. Alfalfa is especially good for brood sows, as it has plenty of bulk and above all, because it contains sary for the proper development of the litter without too great a tendency to

On a ration of barley, which is some times fed, the sow must have enough to make her fat, sometimes too fat, in order to get enough portein and mineral matter to properly develop the pigs. Skim milk is another good feed for sows, and should be fed about as liberally as the supply will admit.

Foods Are Compared.

In estimating the amounts required for maintaining sows about 2 1-2 to 3 pounds of milk or alfalfa will take the place of one pound of grain. One quart of milk weighs about two pounds, one therefore be careful about the time of quart of wheat nearly two pounds, of oats one pound, of barley one and a half

While the estimate of one per cent of will come, and so be able to prepare for the live weight per day is about as ac them. By far the best way is to keep curate an average maintenance as can the boar in a separate enclosure and be given, similar results will not be obtake the sow to him when she is in sea- tained in all cases, especially where hay is ample, more would be exhausting the ed for the grain, and the ration will procreative powers of the boar to no therefore often need to be varied ac-

fat on a brood sow The periods of heat last about three mistake, for while sows may be injured days, and recur about every three weeks. by excessive fat, a great many more are After the sow is bred she should be injured by excessive kanness, and where kept on a moderate ration which will the sows are excessively fat the damage keep her in good average condition, un- more often comes through having been less she is immature, when she should fattened on feed with too much of a be kept growing nicely. Mature swine fattening tendency, and not enough

grain per day, or the equivalent thereof. upon the digestive system and being in It is not, however, desirable to feed many ways especially good for brood

are often maintained on less than this before seeing to her physical condition. 182-4-6 Morrison St Portland, Oregon, to do.

The Hum of the Blizzard Makes Me Smile

The louder she hums the more I smile—it means the filling of my silo of stuff my cows like and thrive on—it means that my crop is being rapidly put away where weather does not bother. I don't have to wait for good weather like you do and run the risk of losing my crop. That hum is music to me—sorta seems like the old Blizzard is singing over the good work it's doing. Yes, it's a Blizzard. Why? Well, Sir, just watch it a few minutes and you won't need an answer. See the boys hustle. They have to, to keep up with it. The Blizzard hardly ever chokes, cause the throat is so large and clear. No, there is no danger. The gears are all shielded and a pull of that lever near John's hand instantly stops, starts or reverses the feed rolls and feed table. The Blizzard is different from most silo fillers. You see the Blizzard people started to build silo fillers before any one else and decided to build as simple and as good a machine as possible. Most cutters have a separate cutter, fly wheel and fan, but the Blizzard people combine these in one, which makes less wearing parts and takes less power to run the machine. Another thing that made me take to the Blizzard set is that no time is lost in adjusting the knives to the shear plate. There is a device on the main shaft by which this is done while they are running full blast. No, the boys don't worry shout the silo. The Blizzard wind blast shoots the silage up any distance and the new distributor spreads it out evenly inside. I tell you it's a money maker for any farmer and in off weather seasons it so. great big money saver, "WHY SILAGE



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