

DRAFT HORSE ESSENTIALS.

Some Points to Be Considered in Breeding Them.

The action of a draft horse is a point which is receiving more attention than it formerly did.

In breeding draft horses too much attention cannot be given to the question of weight.

While a good horse can never be of a bad color, still some colors, such as the nicely dappled gray or blue roan, are more in demand than others.

Silage as a Horse Feed.

I know silage is a good feed for horses, for I have tried it. I have not, however, fed to any great extent.

THE HORSEMAN

Give the breeding mare liberal feeding and plenty of exercise. If driven carefully she is all right; otherwise she should be turned in a yard or field every pleasant day.

Don't use cold bits in cold weather. Your horse's tongue is tender, and his mouth is formed of delicate glands and tissues.

Be sure that the halters put on the colts are strong and well fitted, says Farm Journal.

Accustom the colt to being handled by having a halter on and occasionally taking hold of it when feeding the mare.

The stomach of the horse is a delicate organ. It should not be made a dumping place for dirty grain and musty hay.

Sound halters teach the horses respect, and they are often insurance against wasted grain and sick animals.

Give the colts a chance. Thrifty yearlings should grow one hand taller this winter, but they won't do it unless well fed.

It is even more important to feed the brood mares liberally and with the best quality of hay and oats during the period of gestation than it is to feed the foal liberally during the first winter of his or her life.

OIL IN ROAD WORK.

EXPERT BELIEVES IT EXCELLENT FOR HARDENING SANDY HIGHWAYS.

Cost Is About One-third That of Macadam, or \$1,200 Per Mile, Says Kansas Professor—Several Practical Tests Made.

"Roadmaking with oil I believe to be a commercial success, which will in time be generally adopted in improving the sandy roads of the state."

This is the opinion Professor Albert Dickens of the Kansas State Agricultural college, the man who for the past year has been assigned to the work of expending the \$2,500 appropriated by the last legislature for the purpose of experimenting in oil roadmaking.

"The cost of oiling a sandy road," said Professor Dickens while the guest of F. D. Coburn, secretary of the state board of agriculture, "will be about \$1,200 a mile.

"We have constructed oil roadways in four different parts of the state. Our most extensive experiment was near Garden City, where we oiled a little over a mile of road.

"Whether the oil in the roadways will have to be renewed remains to be seen. Of course there are certain portions of the oil which are volatile and will pass off into the air.

"Up at Manhattan the people who own fast horses were so well pleased with the oil road that they have oiled the race track and claim that it makes their track one of the best in the state.

"The farmers living near Garden City and the merchants in the town are talking of oiling the main roads leading to this tributary country, so that the farmers can come into town regardless of the sand.

"We have found that narrow tired wagons cut up the road badly after it has been oiled, while the wide tired wagons tend to make it more solid and firm.

It is likely that the next legislature will be asked to continue the appropriation for oil road experiments in order that tests may be made in other portions of the state and establish fully the practicability of this method of good roads making.

CALL FOR NATIONAL ROAD.

Appeal to Have Famous Highway Rebuilt by the Government.

The National Good Roads association, with headquarters in St. Louis, has sent out the following appeal to motorists, says the New York American:

"The National Good Roads association is a powerful force for good, and its work is accomplishing results in all parts of the United States. It is engaged in many things that will benefit the people.

"That memorable road was intended to be one of the highways between the east and the west before railroads were known. It was built at great expense, costing the federal government over \$7,000,000.

"It is proposed to rebuild it, and the National Good Roads association has undertaken to have it done by the government. The length of the road is about 700 miles, and it can be rebuilt for less than \$7,000,000.

"One first class continuous highway across the continent would be a great thing. Many a traveler would spend two or three months going and coming by team, bicycle, automobile or otherwise. It would be easy for the nation to do a thing like this.

"In 1905 150,000 Americans visited Europe and for the privilege of going over the first class European roads paid over \$500,000,000."

LIVE STOCK NOTES.

Note That the Progressive Breeder May Find of Value.

Old sows should not be kept over unless there is a good chance of getting a good litter of pigs.

Ground oats are undoubtedly a more economical feed for colts than whole ones, but it is more economical to feed sound sweet whole oats than most of the ground oats that are offered in the market.

In feeding young stock it is more essential to best results that balanced rations be fed than when feeding mature animals.

Rye is a good food for hogs if fed in moderation and not fed exclusively, says Farm Journal.

Be sure that the calves are comfortable and steadily growing every day. There is no profit in runts.

Get the calves to eating grain at as early an age as possible for greatest gains.

In Texas molasses is used as a part of the feed for steers during the last feeding period.

If young cattle are fed for early market it is essential that they be well bred—first, because they must fatten while growing, and, second, they must have the quality and conformation to make them suitable to the buyers for the best trade.

Wind that comes sifting through cracks is the coldest wind in all the world. Cattle know it too.

As hogs increase in size the amount of food required for the maintenance of the body becomes greater and the gains are naturally smaller.

"Dehorning Range Cattle. I have after some sad experiences feeding what are commonly called range cattle found that the proper time to dehorn them is not when they are first turned into the feed lot, but after they have got on full feed and feel at home, as it were, in the feed lot.

THE SHEPHERD

The successful shepherd is the one that carefully cares for the little things in every department. Boracic acid and water cures sheep's sore eyes.

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It is all right to keep the barn reasonably warm, but ventilation must not be forgotten.

No matter how good the breed, poor care and management will ruin it. Never feed coarse timothy hay to sheep. Remove any hay or stubs that may be left in the racks before giving a fresh supply.

Every time you go to the sheep pasture, and I would make it a point to go often, count the sheep and take them a bit of salt, says a writer in the Farm Journal.

When you go to catch a sheep never grab it by the wool. You would not like some one to take you by the hair of the head and pull you "up standing" all of a sudden, would you?

Sometimes sheep get so fearful of dogs that they will start up and run the moment a man or other object comes among them. No flock of sheep that is as worried as this ever can do well.

For lamb feeding a mixture of three parts of corn, two parts of bran and one part of oilmeal is well adapted where the principal forage is clover hay and where straw is used as a relish and not for bedding.

If the lambs are wintered on an exclusive ration of fodder and hay and roots to make some growth the gain will be so little, as the proportion of food used for mere existence is so great, that the gain made will not pay for the trouble, interest and risk.

Don't overcrowd. Such a condition breeds disease. Don't forget that culling counts as much as feeding.

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