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Home Course In Modern Agriculture

XV.—Breeding Live Stock

By C. V. GREGORY, Agricultural Division, Iowa State College

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THE science of breeding is very complicated, but there are some points that should be understood and followed by every farmer.

Pure bred stock not only have the ability to make much more profitable use of the food given them, but they also add greatly to the appearance of the place.

The first thing to consider in starting in with pure bred stock is what

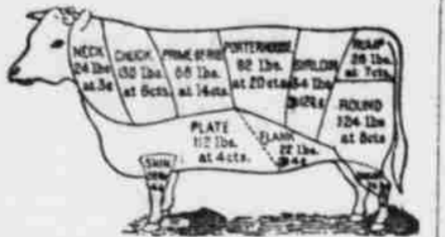


FIG. XXIX—THE WAY A FAT BEEF ANIMAL IS CUT UP.

breed to select. Do not make a hasty choice, for nothing will ruin your chances of success more certainly than frequent changes from one breed to another.

In beginning with pure bred stock the best plan for the average farmer to follow is to purchase a pure bred male of the desired breed and proceed to grade up his herd.

Because of his great prepotency a pure bred bull when mated to grade cows has much more influence over the characters of his offspring than the mothers have.

Of course if the cows are pure bred also there is less chance of the calves resembling some inferior ancestor on their mother's side.

In the selection of a sire to begin grading up a herd it is important that he be of the type which it is desired to reproduce in the offspring.

Constitution and prepotency are of little account, however, unless the bull has the proper form. The back and hind quarters of a beef animal are the parts that produce the high priced meat.

Thickness of flesh is one of the most important points to look for. By this is meant not fat, but the natural covering of lean meat.

These same points are the essential ones to look for in the selection of a ram or boar. Strong constitution, wide, deep, blocky form, fine quality and thick fleshing are just as important in these animals as in the bull.

Of course it will be impossible to find an animal that is perfect in all points. If the females in your herd are badly lacking in any particular be sure to select a male that is especially strong there.

Dairy bulls lack the fleshing and compactness that characterize beef animals. Low setness and extra width of back are not so essential.

Strict observance of these points in the selection of a sire of any kind will give you an animal that will in a few years bring about a great improvement in your herd.

When you have found an animal of the desired type do not hesitate too long over the price. A hundred and fifty dollars may look like a high price to pay for a bull, but an increase of \$2 a head in the value of the calf crop will pay for him in two or three years.

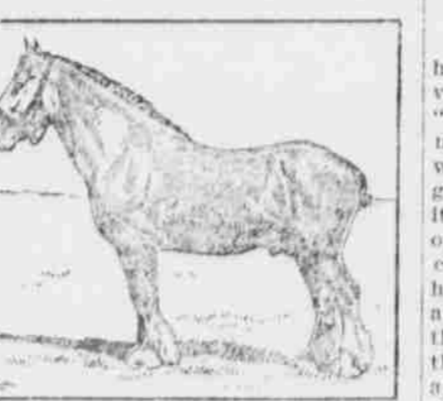


FIG. XXX—A TYPICAL DRAFT HORSE

long over the price. A hundred and fifty dollars may look like a high price to pay for a bull, but an increase of \$2 a head in the value of the calf crop will pay for him in two or three years.

BEING WELL GROOMED.

Exactness of Detail the Secret of Success.

At a recent luncheon a member of the fair sex was discussed, and all conceded she was a "perfectly groomed woman."

"It isn't because of fine raiment," said one.

"Perhaps not," remarked another. "Why is it, then?" chimed in a third, and the fourth settled the debate.

"It's because she pays such attention to detail."

If all women realized what this meant more would earn the distinction of being well groomed. The exactness of detail is a wonderful thing toward making a woman appear well groomed.

The careless woman is much in evidence, and frequently she is among the wealthy. Yet her sister not financially so well off does a better showing on a much less expenditure of money.

It is the little things which make one noticeable. How often a well groomed woman will be seen whose richness of toilet attracts all eyes, yet the otherwise perfect picture is spoiled by straggling locks of hair falling in disorderly fashion over the back of her neck.

It is downright laziness with many women, this overlooking of the little things in life. They feel too much effort is called into play to stop and properly adjust at the time the small essentials that go to make a perfectly groomed woman.

On rainy days the woman lacking this essential quality of detail is even more noticeable, for she dons a costume, usually any kind of a one, and saunters forth. She is less likely to be particular than on a bright day, and her indifference to minor detail makes her anything but an attractive object.

HOUSEHOLD HELPS.

A large pinch of salt put in the tank of a coal oil lamp will cause it to give a better light.

Try a little lemon and salt mixed the next time a price mark sticks to the bottom of china dishes or bric-a-brac.

Instead of adding bluing to water in which lace has been rinsed try making the final rinsing in milk. It gives a lovely creamy tone to the lace.

A little muriatic acid added to the rinsing water after a blue and white fiber rug is scrubbed with soap and water will help to restore the color.

The easiest way to clean a cereal cooker is to turn it upside down in a pan of boiling water and steam it until the sticky mass is soft and loosened from the sides of the pan.

If your lamp smokes or gives a poor light it may come from clogged pipes. Take the lamp apart, boil the burner in soda water and pour hot water through connecting rods and tubes.

Do not put a tomato aspic to harden in a tin or iron baking pan. The acid in the jelly acts on the tin and makes the salad taste, while the black pan gives an unsightly black rim to the aspic.

A sticky cake or bread pan should not be cleaned with a knife or anything which will scratch the surface and make sticking more probable thereafter. For this reason the crust of bread often advised as a cleaner is not desirable.

Almond Eyes Newest Whim.

One of the queerest fashions that have ever been known to society is revealed by the facial expressions of the "lazy rich." The eyes long have had much attention, and at times they were lowered, showing only a little glimpse of the pupils. At other times it was the custom to have them wide open, like those of a country girl.

The queen of Siam has one of the finest collections of jewels in the world. The walls of her bedroom are said to be fairly ablaze with precious stones.

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