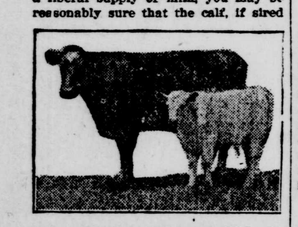
A Page for the Farmer and His Family

DAIRY FACTS

BEST TIME TO SELECT CALF

Make Selection of Young Animal While It Is With Its Mother and Before Weaned.

The best time to select a calf is at a few months of age, when it may be seen with its mother, or, at any rate, before it is weaned. Observe the calf's mother. If she is a wide, deep-bodied cow with plenty of size and is giving a liberal supply of milk, you may be reasonably sure that the calf, if sired



Select the Calf If Possible When It May Be Seen With Its Mother.

by a good bull and properly cared for, will grow into a useful breeding animal. Another advantage of selecting the calf at this time is that it may be necessary to select it at weaning time or even after it is weaned, but the best time, as stated, is before weaning.

Calves are frequently classified at fairs and calf shows as "senior" and "junior" calves, depending upon the time of year they were dropped. A calf, for instance, that was dropped between September 1 and December 31 the year previous to the show, would be classed as "senior" calf, and one dropped between January 1 and August 31 previous to the show, a "junior" calf. As a rule, a fall or senior calf, on account of its age at the usual time of holding the show, is to be preferred, although there are advantages in selecting a spring or junior calf, especially one dropped in January or not later than February. This, however, depends upon the rules of the contest at which the calf is to be shown and upon the facilities at hand for feeding and caring for it.

MILK FROM UNTESTED COWS

Orphan Asylum at New Haven, Conn., Provided With Product of Tubercular Animals.

A glaring instance of the dangers of marketing milk from untested tuberculous cows was recently reported to the United States Department of Agriculture by one of its field men engaged in tuberculosis-eradication work.

At the request of the meat inspector of New Haven, Conn., the federal expert examined the carcass of a cow recently killed at a local slaughterhouse. The animal showed extensive lesions of tuberculosis in the lungs, liver, and other parts of the body. Investigation revealed that the cow had been sent to the city by a dairyman who was delivering the milk from his herd to an orphan asylum of the city, and also that the milk was not pasteurized.

Upon further investigation, in which the state authorities at Hartford cooperated, a test of the entire herd was made. Of a total of 25 cattle, 23 reacted to the tuberculin test.

PROVIDE COMFORT FOR COWS

One of Essential Things to Think About in Construction of Building for Animals.

Comfort is one of the things to think about and provide for in the building of a dairy barn. Stanchions are satisfactory, especially the type that swings free and allows a measure of side movement. The length of the stall is not often enough reckoned with. Give the cows plenty of room to stand at ease with their hind feet two or three inches forward of the gutter. If the cows vary in size, run the gutter at a slight angle, so that the stalls at one end are somewhat shorter than they are at the other end of the barn. This allows the placing of the cows according to size in such a way that the stalls can be kept clean without trouble.

KIND TREATMENT IS NEEDED

Docile Creature Is Willing to Make Friends With Keeper—Will Resent Rough Handling.

Kindness should not be forgotten, for the cow is a docile creature willing to be friends with her keeper when she finds out that he is her friend and no reason to fight. The more intelligent and sensitive the animal is, the more likely it is to resent unjust treatment.

SUBSTITUTE USED FOR MILK

Success With Calf Meal Is Governed Largely by Experience of Feeder and Vigor of Calf.

The use of calf meal as an entire substitute for milk is frequently observed. Success in its use in this way is governed largely by the experience of the feeder, constitutional vigor of the calf and quality and method of preparing the calf meal.

COWPEAS THRIVE ON SANDY LOAMS

Legume Can Be Grown Successfully on Variety of Soils Under Adverse Conditions.

BEST AS LEGUMINOUS CROP

It Has Greatest Value in Southern States, Gradually Lessening Northward — Seeds Are Commonly Used for Human Food.

While cowpeas do best on sandy loams, they succeed on practically all types of well-drained soil, according to specialists of the bureau of plant industry of the United States Department of Agriculture. No other legume can be grown so successfully and on such a variety of soils under adverse conditions as the cowpeas. A very rich soil is not conducive to the best results with the crop. Good corn land is considered particularly favorable.

Warm Weather Crop.

The cowpea is a warm weather crop. It has the greatest value in the southern states, gradually lessening northward. It is grown, however, in the southern parts of Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, and New Jersey, and in parts of Michigan. In general, the cowpea is adapted to about the same climatic conditions as corn. It requires somewhat more heat, however. It will stand a considerable degree of drought, but under very dry conditions will produce only a moderate quantity of hay and a very small number of seeds, if any.

In the southern states the cowpea is the best known and most extensively grown leguminous crop. It is grown mainly for forage and to improve the soil. The seeds, in addition, are rather commonly used for human food. As a catch crop and for hay or seed production cowpeas are especially valuable in almost any system of rotation. In many sections of Missouri, Arkansas and Tennessee a rotation of wheat or oats and cowpeas has given good results. On farms where live stock is kept the following rotation is very popular: First year, cotton; second



Cowpea Field in Blossom.

year, corn, with cowpeas at the last cultivation; third year, winter oats or wheat, with a catch crop of cowpeas for hay or seed after the grain has been removed.

Worked In Rotation.

In sections devoted to growing tobacco a seven-year rotation of tobacco, wheat, two years of grass, corn with crimson clover as a cover crop, cowpeas, and red clover, has been recommended by a state experimental station. A good rotation in the corn belt on land where corn and wheat or oats are regularly grown consists of corn, soy beans, wheat, and clover, with cowpeas for hay when clover fails. Cowpeas are to be recommended also as a crop to precede alfalfa.

Farmers' Bulletin 1148, Cowpeas: Culture and Varieties, now issued by the United States Department of Agriculture, contains much valuable information on the growing of cowpeas. Copies may be had upon request of the department at Washington, D. C.

GROWERS OF SORGHUM SEED

List Published by Kansas Agricultural Station of Great Advantage to Farmers.

A list of growers of pure sorghum seed has been issued this year by the Kansas State Agricultural Experiment station at Manhattan, supplementing similar lists which have been published in the past on wheat, corn and other principal cereal crops. The list is made from field inspection and enables farmers to tell the exact grade of sorghum or percentage of mixture with other varieties which is to be obtained from any grower. This service has been of great advantage to the farmers of the state.

TREATMENT FOR BULLS' FEET

Many Useless Cripples Could Be Avoided by Giving Some Attention to Underpinning.

Unfortunately many good bulls become useless cripples through neglect of their feet. Few things are more painful than to see a good bull limping along on his heels, with long, upturned hoofs. No amount of attention can restore the sprightly step and erect carriage that are characteristic of a vigorous bull, when once his feet have been seriously neglected. Prevention is always better than to venture the risks of a cure.

DISEASE-FREE SEED CORN TESTS BETTER

Important Results Obtained by Plant Specialists.

Planted Thickly in Hill or Drill Row, Plant Is More Susceptible to Ailments Than When Abundance of Space Was Given It.

Seed corn that gave 100 per cent germination but showed infection by harmful organisms was matched against corn that showed no infection in a series of tests carried out by plant specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture in co-operation with the Indiana experiment station. The disease-free seed gave an increased yield of 10 to 30 per cent above its competitor.

Further results of the test seemed to prove that when corn was planted too thickly in hill or drill row it was more susceptible to disease than when better space was given it. In a similar test at Bloomington, Ill., the dis-



Prize Sample of Seed Corn.

ease-free seed gave an increase of 23 per cent over the other corn, which was selected for high germination only. At Hoopeston, Ill., the difference, measured in tons, ranged from 0.01 to 1.5 tons in favor of the seed selected both for high germination and freedom from disease.

The selection was based on the absence of discoloration in the kernels and cobs as indicating soundness. Disease is indicated by brown discoloration at the butts of the ears and at the kernel tips and by decay in the cobs.

CONDIMENTS ARE INJURIOUS

Effects on Egg-Producing Organs Are Temporary and Undermine Health of Fowls.

The use of condiments and tonics is to be deprecated rather than encouraged, though there are times with ailing fowls when a tonic will tone up the system. Condiments undoubtedly stimulate the egg-producing organs, but it is a temporary effect and the reaction which sets in not only is negative but tends to undermine the physical health of the bird. It is well to remember that in the egg-laying contests tonics and condiments have no place in the feeding rations, and that for the most part high records are attained without their use. So-called stimulants find their widest use by the novice in poultry farming; the experienced breeder generally lets them alone.

HEMP RAISED IN WISCONSIN

Badger State Cultivates 7,000 Acres, Half of Total Produced in United States.

Kentucky once led in hemp production, but has turned to more profitable crops and relinquished the lead to Wisconsin, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. The Badger state cultivated 7,000 acres, half the country's total this year, followed by Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio and California, with Kentucky sixth.

BIG SHRINKAGE IN POTATOES

Average Is Three Per Cent or 1,200 Pounds Per Carload When Shipped In Bulk.

"Shrinkage" in bulk carloads of potatoes averages three per cent, according to a survey of marketing conditions made by the United States Department of Agriculture. This amounts to 1,200 pounds per carload. The "shrinkage" is less where potatoes are sacked, as this reduces pilfering and rough handling to the minimum.

QUALITY OF WINTER WHEAT

Crop of 1920 Somewhat Above Average, It Is Estimated by Grain Handlers in Reports.

Somewhat above the average in quality, the winter wheat crop of the United States harvested in 1920, it is estimated by grain handlers in reports to the bureau of crop estimates, grades approximately 30 per cent as No. 1, 42 per cent as No. 2, 18 per cent as No. 3 and 10 per cent below No. 3.

HEMP USED IN SHOE TRADE

Without Russian Supply There Would Not Be Sufficient Supply Demanded by Trade.

American hemp is now used extensively with flax in shoe thread, the United States Department of Agriculture finds. Without the Russia supply, flax is not available in sufficient quantites to supply the demand.

LIVE STOCK

PUREBRED STALLION IS BEST

Poor Policy to Use Anything but Sound Animal, Free From Manifest Faults of Conformation.

A low service fee never should tempt one to use an inferior stallion. It also may pay better to use a stallion which stands at some distance rather than one that is more convenient. While the cost of a stallion is not always in proportion to his worth as a sire, the service fee generally is, if the horse has been standing long enough for mare owners to be able to pass judgment on his pre-



Troubadour, Morgan Stallion Used at Government Breeding Farm at Middlebury, Vermont.

potency and on the quality of the colts he gets. The opinion of disinterested horsemen together with the stallion's show winnings will aid in making a good selection.

Weight is an indispensable quality in a draft stallion, although it should not offset a deficiency in other respects. In the lighter stallion style, smooth lines and swift, well-balanced action are necessary to improve the light horse stock. In any breed good feet, clean, flat bone, free from meatiness, well-defined hocks, good disposition, quality, animation and breed characteristics are well worth looking for in the sire.

It is poor policy to use anything but a sound purebred stallion free from manifest faults of conformation and of the same breed or type as the mare. It must be borne in mind, too, that a stallion that is not properly fed and exercised is not likely to get a large proportion of strong, healthy colts. In short, too much care can not be exercised in selecting a suitable mate for the mare, and the fundamental law that generally holds in all breeding operations must always be remembered, viz, like produces like or likeness of an ancestor.

BUTTERMILK GOOD FOR PIGS

Very Little Danger of Overfeeding Animals Provided Some Grain Is Given Daily.

Several years ago at the Iowa station they fed spring pigs all the buttermilk they would drink, together with corn and tankage from self-feeders. These pigs averaged about four gallons of buttermilk per head daily, together with about two and one-half pounds of corn and one-seventh of a pound of tankage. But they used the buttermilk to excellent advantage, gaining one and one-half pounds per pig daily as compared with one and one-tenth pounds for the pigs on self-feeders of corn and tankage with no buttermilk.

Buttermilk has an almost identical feeding value with skim-milk and we may conclude therefore that there is very little danger of over-feeding pigs on either skim-milk or buttermilk, provided at least two or three pounds of grain per pig daily are fed in addition.

VACCINATION OF SMALL PIGS

Simultaneous Inoculation Gives Immunity Up to a Period of Nine Months, Says Iowa.

Hog cholera vaccination of pigs a week to six weeks old by simultaneous inoculation gives an immunity up to a period of nine months, according to the Iowa experiment station.

In the experiment a total of 171 immune pigs were treated. During the test three of the pigs died from other causes, but none from cholera. No ill effects from simultaneous inoculation was apparent on any of the pigs.

Serum was injected in the following proportions: Pigs one week old received 10 c. c. of anti-hog-cholera serum and one-half c. c. of virus. Pigs three weeks or more received from 15 to 20 c. c. of serum and from one-half to three-fourths c. c. of virus.

All pigs were tested with five c. c. of virus at the end of the period; the protection was lasting.

MINERAL MIXTURE FOR HOGS

Some Farmers Prepare Corn Cobs, Bone and Limestone—Another Good Preparation.

Some farmers prepare mineral mixtures for their hogs by using burnt corn cobs, burnt bone and ground limestone, which is all right, but frequently it is overlooked. A good home-made mineral mixture for hogs is as follows: Three bushels charcoal, two quarts air-slaked lime, eight pounds salt and one bushel wood ashes.

MODERN BARN A FARM ESSENTIAL

Only Well-Kept, Contented Cows Earn Their Keep.

NEED THE BEST OF SHELTER

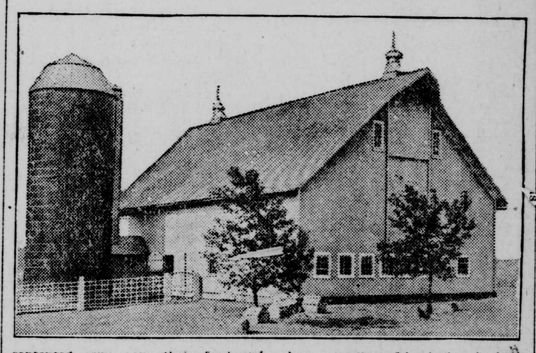
Design Shown Here Is An Efficient Dairy Barn of the Most Approved Construction—Will House 40 Cows Comfortably.

By WILLIAM A. RADFORD.

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building work on the farm, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 1827 Prairie avenue, Chicago, Ill., and only inclose two-cent stamp for reply.

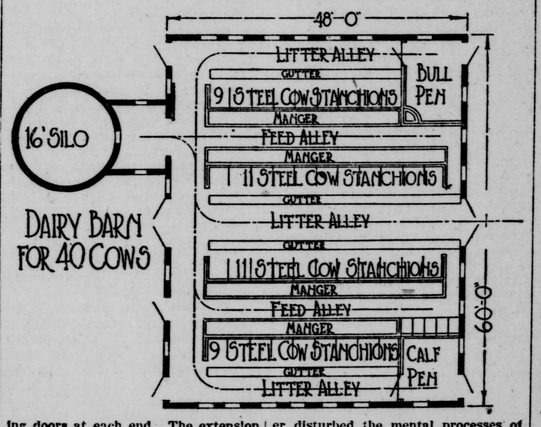
Farmers are beginning to appreciate the value of a real herd of milk-producing cows because they are a certain source of income all through the year. Crops may fail, owing to an early frost, insufficient rainfall, or blight, or many other reasons—if the farmer has no herd he is deprived of all income. However with a herd of cows he can withstand the blow of a crop failure and manage to finish the year.

Because of the importance of this branch of farm activity, the housing of these animals cannot be neglected. They need the best there is in the way of shelter, air and light. Only



contented cows earn their feed and good barns are important factors in securing this contentment. For that reason the dairy barn is far more important than any other building on the farm with the exception of the home. The farmer, regardless of expense, generally sees to it that this building has all of the features that will aid in increasing production of the animals and incidentally increasing his income.

The barn shown here was built with this idea in mind. It embodies the most modern equipment and is built along sound, accepted structural principles. Stout timbers make up the framework and support the large roof. The type of construction used is known as "plank frame" construction now used extensively because it affords strength and does not obstruct the interior with posts. In this barn there is an unusually large hay mow, with slid-



ing doors at each end. The extension of the gable of the room over this door provides a place to fasten the pulley for hoisting the hay from the wagon.

The main section of the barn, however, is the lower floor where the animals are housed. The floor plan shows a very efficient arrangement with stalls for forty cows, a bull pen and a calf pen. These stalls are placed in two rows facing in, with nine on one side and eleven on the other. Two sections of twenty each provide space for forty animals. There are three

litter alleys over which track is hung to take care of litter carriers. They labor saving devices have been instrumental in making the boys stay on the farm. Under the old system, a herd of dairy cows meant virtual slavery, and naturally the boys rebelled. Things have changed with the introduction of machinery and sanitary steel stanchions.

In like manner the feed is brought to the mangers by means of a feed carrier suspended on a track. The old back-breaking wheelbarrow method is now seen only on the backward farms of the country. The sooner the farmer recognizes that labor-saving machinery equipment will solve this help problem, the better off he will be.

Note how the feed carrier leads directly to the large hollow tile silo built on one side of the barn. This silo is well-built and about 16 feet in diameter affording plenty of storage space for the green feed which has become so important within the last few years.

The stanchion is an important part of the dairy barn. As in many other instances, the stanchion has been developed to a remarkable degree. Made of steel tubing, it is so designed as to be absolutely safe and at the same time humane. The cow can rest easily while held in place. In most barns of this type the stall floors are cork brick because of the sanitary and resilient qualities of that material. It is very easy for the cow to stand on and the animal is less liable to contract cold. Another feature of modern dairy barn equipment is the drinking cup, a device placed in front of each stall next to the stanchion. It is within reach of the cow and provides water whenever the animal wants to drink. This eliminates the old practice of taking the animal out in the dead of winter to the trough where a coating of ice had to be broken before the cow could drink. Moreover it increases the production of milk, an essential of which is plenty of water.

If more farmers paid less attention to the original expense when constructing a dairy barn, and looked to the future, they would increase their income considerably. A good barn is an excellent investment, a poor barn will be an endless expense.

Ideal Pair.

The proprietor of a drinking place in a southern province of the Philippines married a native woman whom he pronounced the ideal wife. As Fritz discussed his wares he informed his customers with mathematical certainty that his wife was "the bestest woman in da vorld." No one disputed till a Scotsman insisted upon knowing why she was. The question rather disturbed the mental processes of Fritz, but in a moment or two he answered confidently: "Vat I dinks, she dinks."

The Scotsman was not quite satisfied. "What does she think?" he continued. "Noddings," replied Fritz with his usual stolidity.

Unnecessary.

Also it ought to be conceded that no man needs to wear a stovepipe hat to make people watch his smoke.—Dallas News.

CHINESE PLAY AT WARFARE

Their "Battles" Might Be Likened to Those That Amuse the Idle Hours of Children.

China is the land of long queues and instantaneous revolutions, according to Nathaniel Peffer, in the Home Sector.

"He toils not, the Chinese soldier, neither does he fight," the authority on modern China says. "He is not expected to; his officers would punish him for it if he did, for fighting imperils the officer's safety. Some of the shots—not many, it is true—might reach their mark."

"Fight? In July of 1917, when the nine-day monarchial coup was attempted, I happened to be in Peking. The monarchist rump army held the palace; the republican army was getting ready to storm it. The fight started.

"With some other foreigners, I watched it from the city wall. There was some four minutes of fighting, with firing almost exclusively into the air, when both sides suddenly ceased. Officers started out from each belligerent camp under flags of truce; there they protracted negotiations, and finally the monarchist army surrendered. The republic was restored.

"The next day it was common knowledge in Peking that Chang Hsun, commander of the monarchist army, had been paid 200,000 taels to surrender. A pure business arrangement—he was outnumbered and bound to be defeated anyway. Why go to the trouble of fighting and getting killed? As it was, the casualties were among us foreigners on the wall. We had made the mistake of not getting in the line of fire."

The Novel-Writer.

What am I, a novel writer, trying to do? I am trying, with such limited means as I have at my disposal, to make little pocket-theaters out of words. I am trying to be architect, scene painter, upholsterer, dramatist and stage manager, all at once. Is it any wonder if we novelists do not succeed as well as we could wish when we try to be masters of so many trades?—F. Marion Crawford.

FROM FORTY-FIVE TO SIXTY

A Word of Help to Women of Middle Age From Mrs. Raney.



Morse, Okla.—"When I was 45 years old Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound carried me through the critical period of the Change of Life in safety. I am over 60 and have raised a family of eight children and am in fine health. My daughter and daughters-in-law recommend your Vegetable Compound and I still take it occasionally myself. You are at liberty to use my name if you wish."—Mrs. ALICE RANEY, Morse, Oklahoma.

Change of Life is one of the most critical periods of a woman's existence. This good old-fashioned root and herb remedy may be relied upon to overcome the distressing symptoms which accompany it and women everywhere should remember that there is no other remedy known to carry women so successfully through this trying period as Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

If you want special advice write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., (confidential), Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be opened, read and answered by a woman and held in strict confidence.



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As One Raised From Dead

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HORSE OWNERS

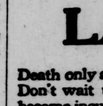
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