

Butter Making.

There are several essentials and very many necessities in order to obtain first-class gilt-edged butter, and it is well to notice all of these and as far as possible obtain them. The essentials include a good cow, a comfortable stable well ventilated, an evenly balanced ration of good coarse food, pure water, and a good common-sense man in charge of them all. The food must be to the cows liking, as she has her likes and dislikes, it must be so mixed that a cow's health will improve, not causing costiveness nor the opposite, it must be porous and easily digested. She should have a quiet and comfortable place to lie down to enjoy her food. Everything that excites or worries a cow is done at the expense of nerve force and food is required to keep this up, therefore, avoid noises, bad orders, harsh or cruel treatment.

MILKING.—This should be done cleanly, quickly, quietly and regularly.

CLEANLINESS.—A cloth, dipped in warm water and wrung out nearly dry should be used by the milker and the bag gently rubbed with this to take off all the straw, &c. It is better to use the warm damp cloth as it does not chill the udder or make the cow uncomfortable. Then milk without moistening the teats; that is a useless and a bad habit and with a little practice it can be done easier and better. Milk the cow perfectly dry.

QUICKNESS.—The rapid and even milker always gets the best and most milk. To milk fast, then slow and then fast again is not so good as milking evenly. The cow makes an effort to give her milk and it has an exhausting effect upon her. I have noticed a cow lie down the moment you finished milking, seemingly tired. It is therefore only common sense to think that the quicker she is relieved the better pleased and easier it would be for her. Experiments prove that better results are obtained from rapid milking.

QUIETNESS.—There should be no noises or loud talking or earshness while the milking is going on. It more or less excites the cow and this has an influence upon the quality and quantity of the milk. All unnecessary talking does harm. Whatever excites or worries a cow uses an amount of nerve force and extra food is required to supply that again.

REGULARITY.—It is important that cows should be milked regularly, and at the same hour and in the same order. If they are missed occasionally or one night early and another night late, it tends to dry them up and soon you obtain