

Should Cows Face Each Other?

C. P. Blanchard, Colchester Co., N.S.

Yes, by all means. It is decidedly the most beautiful, convenient and economical way in which to build cow barns. I was amused at the arguments used by your correspondent, N. C. Campbell, Brant Co., Ont., in Farm and Dairy, with reference to the danger of infection in the case of tuberculosis animals when they stood in rows facing each other. It would seem as though he was having one row of cows tuberculosis and the other row healthy, because your diseased cow is much more likely to infect the cow alongside her than the one across the passage.

First, let us see about the ease of attendance. From our experience of over 40 years I would say that in attending a barn of 30 cows you will save at least 30 minutes each day, which means

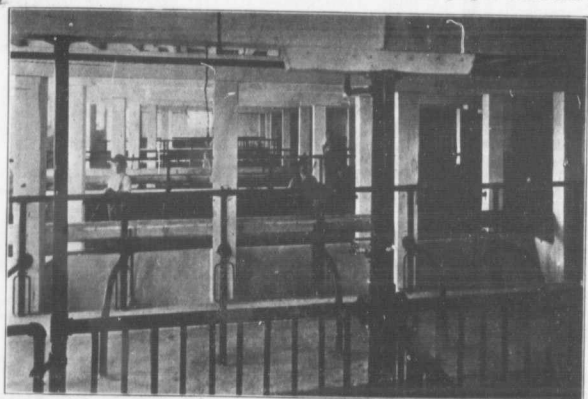
The syrup is finished (boiled down to 13 lbs. 2 ozs. per Imperial gallon) in the evaporator, strained through felt strainer and when cool put up in one-gallon cans and labelled.

The secret of good syrup and sugar making is to get the sap into syrup as quickly as possible after it seeps into the bucket. This necessitates a modern evaporator and clean metal utensils. The evaporator should be large enough to handle the sap as fast as gathered, and to do this with any machine the best of dry wood is necessary. Shallow boiling is also essential. I do not use covered buckets, but in a very stormy season they would be a great help.

More Ideas on Freshening Cows

C. W. Thompson, Hastings Co., Ont.

Our cows that are going to freshen soon are



Fittings Such as These are Possible to the Small Stable Too

Convenient, sanitary, up-to-date in every particular are the interior arrangements of the dairy stables at the Hamilton Asylum Farm. Notice the steel partitions and stanchions, chain fasteners, and continuous watering trough. All of these conveniences can be adapted as well to the small stable as to the large.

fully 100 hours during the stabling season by feeding from a central passage. We have our feed passage nine feet wide from stanchion to stanchion, with hay chutes in the centre, which also act as ventilators and take away all draught from the heads of cattle, which is a most important thing. We advise having a feed carrier for short feed, with track in centre of passage, and never to hire a man to milk whom you have to water because he will ruin your cows under any circumstances.

We don't know much down here in out-of-the-way Nova Scotia, but one thing we do know, and that is to kick any man out of the stable in short order who will ill-treat a milk cow in any way, and also that it is possible to have a herd of Ayshire cows that will make an average of 10,000 lbs. of milk a year and produce a sound, healthy calf at the same time in 12 months.

Experience in Syrup Making

H. H. Brown, Stanstead Co., Que.

I tap 1,800 trees, using 14-quart tin buckets. Most of these are painted white outside to preserve the tin from rust and to reflect the rays of the sun, thus assisting in keeping the sap cool. My evaporator is a five by six-foot Champion. My gathering tank and storage tank are of galvanized iron. The sap flows by gravity from the gathering tank to the storage and thence to evaporator.

I strain the sap twice and skim the foam from the evaporator frequently to remove impurities.

being fed on good, wholesome food, so that when they freshen they will be in as good condition as they were when they ceased milking. Our young heifers that are going to milk we feed better than the mature cows, as the heifers have to grow physically as well as nourish their calves.

As the critical time approaches the cow needs better feed than she required in the fore part of the winter. All grain rations are discontinued one week before the cow freshens in our stable and kept away from her for about 10 days after she has freshened, or until all sign of fever has disappeared from the udder. The grain ration, however, is replaced by bran or roots to keep up the strength of the cow and at the same time keep the blood cool. I do not think it well to allow a cow to stand around the yard during the winter, especially if the wind is blowing. I think this is one of the reasons why so many cows retain the afterbirth.

Just before a cow freshens I give her a pail of water fresh from the well, and as soon as she freshens I give her another half pail and every half hour until she refuses to take it. I keep the cow as warm as I can and free from draughts, and I have had very little, if any, trouble with freshening cows since I began this method of treatment about eight years ago.

On a heavy soil the poultry house should be floored. Anything is preferable to boards. Have eight inches of gravel under the cement. On sandy soils no floor in the house is required.

Artificial Brooding of Chickens

Chas. G. Golding, Assiniboia E., Sask.

The best time to prepare a brooder for chickens is about the time we place the eggs in the incubator. Having gotten our incubator nicely under way we take time to thoroughly overhaul our brooders, although we have, of course, cleaned them at the end of the previous season and replaced any worn-out or damaged parts. In using outdoor brooders we place them outside in a dry sunny place, and open them wide to receive the cleansing effects of the sun. We mix some hot whitewash and carefully go over the whole interior. This is, with some brooders, rather an undertaking, but will well repay the trouble, as so much depends on the condition of the brooder, especially during the first few days of the chicks' life.

Having cleaned and whitewashed the brooder we take a look at the lamp. Right here is where the first step in economy comes in. A dull, dirty lamp throws less heat than a clean, bright one. We take the whole lamp burner to pieces, and, after cleaning of all the dust from it, take a piece of fine sandpaper and scour all the brass parts till they shine and all that black accumulation is removed. We put a clean wick into the burner, and put the lamp back into place. Our brooder is now all ready for lighting.

GETTING UNDER WAY

On the morning of the 21st day of incubation we fill the brooder lamp two-thirds full of good, clean oil and light up, closing the brooder door and ventilators. We don't turn the lamp too high till things get warmed up a bit. By the morning of the 22nd day the brooder is ready for the chicks. We remove the chicks carefully from the incubator and cover them over with a light blanket to protect them from draughts, as many a chick receives its death blow between the incubator and brooder. It is well to remember that the chick has been accustomed to a temperature of 102 to 105 degrees, and that the change from that to the chill outside air in spring is too violent for any chick to encounter with safety. We place all the chicks under the hover (unless we notice a deformed one, which we think it better to dispose of at once) and leave them there.

SAND AND OAT HULLS IN BROODER

When we first lighted the lamp we covered the floor of the brooder with a light sprinkling of fine sand, and on top of that about half an inch of chaff. We use oat hulls for this purpose. How do we get them? When we fatten our cockerels in the fall and early winter, we feed them on oatmeal made by getting oats chopped fine and then run through the fanning mill, turning the crank backwards. The fine meal comes out under the mill and the cracked oats and hulls come down where the grain usually runs. We pile this up in an out of the way corner for the time, as at this time it is the meal we want. Later on we put all this chaff through the mill again. This time we turn the crank slowly the proper way. We put no sieve in the bottom, and the light chaff is blown out and the cracked and hulled oats fall under the machine. The chaff is used for bedding for the chicks, and the hulled and cracked oats mixed with cracked wheat and barley and any other grain we can get makes fine chick feed.

Having gotten our chicks under the hover we leave them alone for about 24 hours. You may or may not open the ventilators at this time; we always open somewhat, generally those on the side of the brooder, away from the prevailing wind. If the wind changes we close them and open the others. After 24 hours we find our chicks busy. They have found out that there is more to eat than brooder than the hover, and in the spirit of ad-

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