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Questions and Answers.

Miscellaneous.

Trouble Over Fence.

Kindly let me know how far from his neighbor's line fence a farmer should plant his corn? My neighbor has his corn planted a foot or so from the fence. My colts have been eating it, consequently trouble. Kindly advise.

A. M.

Ans.—If there is a lawful fence between you and your neighbor, you do not incur any liability through the colts eating the corn. Have the local fence-viewers inspect the fence, and if it be of lawful dimensions you are relieved of any obligations. It will be your neighbor's duty then to decide how close to the fence he cares to plant.

Absence of Oestrus.

As a reader of your valuable paper for a number of years, I will avail myself of the opportunity of asking a little advice. Of a herd of twenty milk cows, which all freshened before April 15th, there are six that have not yet been in heat. I salt them regularly every two days, and the pasture is fair. Could you give me any ideas that would be helpful towards hastening them, as I send my milk to a cheese factory in summer, and would like them to freshen as early as possible. Did you ever hear of using yeast for that purpose? If so, would you kindly tell me how to use it?

H. R.

Ans.—The yeast treatment is used where cows show oestrus but do not conceive when bred. This is another condition altogether, and always hard to explain or remedy. If the bull does not run with the cows, there is a possibility that some have been in heat unnoticed. However, if the bull could be allowed with the herd, it might tend to bring on the delayed oestrus. The only thing to do is to feed liberally on a well-balanced ration and wait, but many claim results from feeding 2 drams of nux vomica to each cow three times daily. It stimulates the nervous system and sometimes brings results.

Re Sheep Farming.

1. I would like to ask you a few questions regarding sheep-farming. I have a hundred-acre farm, all cleared but twelve acres of bush, leaving eighty-eight acres cleared and fenced. How many sheep could I keep to advantage on same, and grow ten acres or so of peas to feed the sheep through the winter, along with some hay and turnips.

2. The farm is a good loam, and some of the land a little rolling, with plenty of good well water. Would Shropshires or Cotswolds be best? I just intend going into grade sheep. Would count on selling lambs in January, when I could get best prices for fat ones. Could I make sheep-farming profitable on 100 acres? My idea was to do all the work myself, as sheep need very little care in summer, and less care any time than other stock.

3. Would you advise me going into same? D. C.

Ans.—1. One hundred breeding ewes should be the limit on such a place to insure a reasonable freedom from disease and affections common to sheep. There should be a small area each year under rape and cabbage, to carry the sheep over the autumn, when the pasture is usually dry. In addition to this, you should have ten acres of clover, five acres of turnips and peas. It would be wiser, we believe, to grow some oats in place of so many peas. Sheep pasture should be rotated the same as crops, else the soil becomes unfit for the sheep on account of disease and insects. This is an important factor in sheep-farming.

2. We fear you under-estimate the labor connected with successful sheep-farming, and advise that you start with twenty or twenty-five good ewes, and increase corresponding to your local possibilities. Success will not depend upon the breed. Either one you mention is good, and if you are a shepherd you must like one better than the other; get that kind. Grades will be all right, but use a good pure-bred ram.

3. If a man likes sheep, and will look after them properly, there is a good thing in them. They require care always, and constant care during the lambing season. However, with any degree of success, it should be a profitable method of farming. Many are finding it so.

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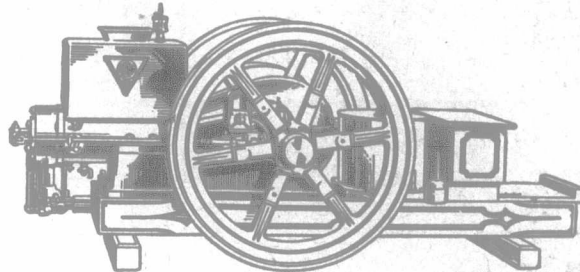
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