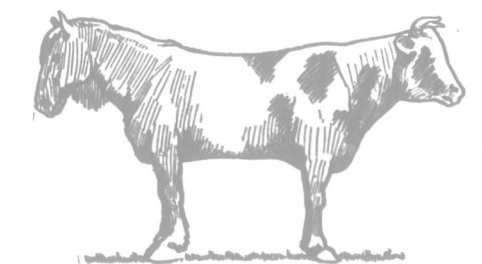


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sides with the long end of the butts upward clear around the stack and far enough out to well cover the tops of the last row set up, always bearing in mind that the head of every bundle that goes into the stack should point directly toward its center. The second row should be laid with the butts reaching midway between the tops and the bands of the bundles of the first row. The third row may be laid in a similar manner or as some choose it may lap a little more; that is, allow the butt of the third row to extend to the bands of the second row, etc. The succeeding rows to the center may lap to the ends. Start another layer and proceed as before. In order to build a good stack the center must be kept full. It is a good plan also to let the weight of the stack come on each bundle, except on those in the outside tiers, so as to firm them and cause them to settle evenly. The first three or four tiers should not be built out, but the outside of the stack at that place should be perpendicular like a brick wall. After that each outside layer should extend slightly farther out than the one beneath it, until a height of seven or eight feet be secured to make the bulge. It is not necessary to have the middle of the butt very steep. It should, however, remain well rounded at all times. In case it is not steep enough, each row of bundles may be made to lap to the bands or farther. This will raise the middle. If it is too full the remedy is lapping the bundles less. The stacker, especially if he is not an expert, should get off the stack after each load has been put on and carefully examine it to see if the stack has remained true. Whenever the butt of a stack has been thoroughly built there is very little danger of its getting out of shape as it settles.

When the top is started good work counts for much. The first outside row of bundles immediately above the bulge should have a greater slant than the rows underneath it. To secure this the last layers of the butt should be laid in such manner that the first outside row of the top may rest on three rows of bundles. That is to say, the last rows of the bundles should be laid as follows: The second row should just lap over the tops of the first row and the third row should lap midway between the band and the butt of the second row. In this way it will be seen that the first row of the bundles of the top will lay with the tops on the second and the third row of butts immediately underneath and thus obtain quite a steep slant. When a stack is being drawn in, the long side of the butts should be turned down instead of up as mentioned, when the bulge is being constructed. The top is built the same as the butt with the exception that the middle should be more steep.

It is easier to stack with a fork than by hand, which is the old way and the work is easier on the stacker as well as on the pitcher. By those who are expert with a fork it is claimed that a much better stack can be constructed with than without it. Stacking with a fork is also easier on the grain than stacking by hand. After the stack has been topped out a pointed stick from six to eight feet long should be pressed into the top to hold the bundles in place. If desired, four weights may be tied over the top in addition.

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