

**Have a System in Horse Breeding\***

John Wardhouse, York Co., Ont.

Our Canadian farmers lack a system of horse breeding. When I was acting as one of the commissioners, who some two years ago, investigated the conditions of horse breeding in Ontario, I found that very few farmers had any definite aim when breeding their mares. It seemed that where a man had a glib tongue he was able to get plenty of work for his stallion even when his stallion was inferior. The farmers showed a tendency to drift around from one type of stallion to another. Thus the colts were not as satisfactory as they might have been had better breeding methods been followed.

Before breeding his mare a farmer should have an ideal in view. As a rule farmers obtain better results from heavy horses. They have not the time that is required to make a success of light horses. Be sure you get the right type of stallion. The mare you breed should be a good animal. Some farmers claim that they cannot afford to keep high-class mares. Farmers can't afford to keep for breeding purposes such mares as are being bred on many Ontario farms.

To ensure success in raising horses it is necessary that both the mare, and the stallion to which she is bred, shall be good animals of the right type. It would pay many farmers to sell their poor mares, add a little to their sale price and purchase better animals. If better animals were bred and more systems followed in breeding the average animal in the country would be worth one third more.

The average farmer should be able to keep two good brood mares. Before breeding them he should look them over carefully. If they are weak in any particular they should be bred to stallions that are strong where they are weak. Should they be slow walkers or have poor action they should be bred to stallions that are fast walkers and that have good action. Farmers should not listen too much to what the stallion owners have



A Good Kind to Own

This prize winning Clydesdale mare shows the quality so much desired in Clydesdales. The property of Donald Gunn & Son, Ontario Co., Ont.

to say. They naturally, are inclined to talk up the good points of their animals and to say as little as possible about their weaknesses. They are many men who travel stallions who know very little about breeding.

Farmers should study out for themselves the type of stallion they desire and not be induced to breed to anything else. It has been advocated that a law should be passed to compel stallion owners to guarantee a certain percentage of colts. It would be difficult to obtain such a law as there is no way of guaranteeing that the mares are sure breeders. It would not do to pass a law to benefit the farmers that would be unjust to the owners of stallions.

\*Report of an address delivered at the Ottawa Winter Fair.

**A Commission Would be Advisable**

W. G. Telford, Peterboro, Ont.

The suggestion offered by Farm and Dairy that a commission composed of practical farmers be sent to Denmark to investigate the conditions of hog raising there is a good one. I have been much interested in the discussion that has since taken place in favor of this scheme.

The methods of raising hogs in other lands should be investigated right from the start of the business. Enquiry could be made into the cost of feeding, the price the feeders get, how the pigs are fed, how they are sold, whether they are graded or not and if so how an honest system of grading is worked out. Another item that would be of great interest to our hog raisers, would be to ascertain as near as possible what margin of profit packers in other countries are making.

A proper system of grading is one of the great needs of the swine industry in Canada. It is by no means fair to pay the same price for all kinds of hogs delivered at the packing house. By such a system, some get too much and others not enough. But do they? Is it not a fact that the man with the inferior hogs gets what they are worth while the man with the hog of first quality gets too little?

The packers lose nothing by grading. They have the home market to fall back on and they make good use of it in disposing of stuff that will not grade the best. They do not export this inferior product. Go to any shop in one of our cities and buy pork and what do we get? We pay from 18c to 25c a lb. for it, that is for the boiled ham, and I am much mistaken if this is not the product of the inferior hogs which would do to ship abroad, and for which the packer pays 35c or 4c a lb. Thus it would seem as though the packer makes a profit on such product in two ways, by paying too little to the producer and by over pricing the consumer. A proper system of grading honestly carried out on right principles would do much for our bacon industry and would encourage our farmers to breed the right type of animal.

The proposed commission, to be sent to Denmark, could investigate many things that would be of value to the hog raisers of this country. Among other things they could find how the producers in Denmark are made to supply their own factory. I understand they are fined if they do not supply their hogs to their own packing house. The whole trouble of the co-operative factories started in Ontario a few years ago, was that the farmers did not support them. The other packing houses combined against the co-operative concerns to put them out of business. We farmers did not recognize the folly of our action at that time, thus we crippled our own co-operative packing industry.

We farmers are inclined to go to extremes, to overdo things. By all means, let us not lose this pork business. There are other lines that we could take up, but we need the pork to fall back on and to keep up the revenue of our farms.

**The Value of Two Cows**

N. S. McLaughlin, Huron Co., Ont.

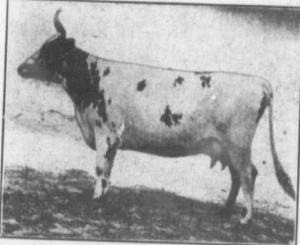
Regarding the discussion invited recently by Farm and Dairy on "How do you value a cow?" the comparison already given of these two cows is very incomplete and misleading, viz.:

COMPARISON OF TWO COWS, SAME HERD (BOBOAYGEON)	
TOTAL YIELD OF MILK—SEVEN MONTHS	
The Most Profitable Cow	
Weight of Milk	5695 lbs.
Weight of Fat	185 lbs.
Yield of Cheese	609 lbs.
Value of Milk	\$55.95
Cost of Feed 7 months at \$3	21.00
Profit	\$34.95
The Least Profitable Cow	
Weight of Milk	2790 lbs.
Yield of Fat	110 lbs.

Yield of Cheese	
Yield of Milk	\$72.10
Cost of Feed (7 months at \$3)	21.00
Profit	\$ 6.90

To this should be added, if we are to arrive at anything like a proper conclusion, figures something like the following:

OOW NO. 1	
Am't to her credit 7 mos.	\$14.95
Probable amt. given, 1,000 lbs. in other 3 mos.	10.50
Probable cost of food in 5 winter mos.	22.50
Net profit 12 mos.	22.95
OOW NO. 2	
Am't to credit, 7 mos.	\$ 4.90
Probable amt. given, 500 lbs. in 3 mos.	5.00
Probable cost of food, at \$4.50 for 5 winter mos.	22.50
Net loss for 12 mos.	10.60



Matchless Beauty of Nether Lea—1900—Qualified for Advanced Registry with record of 833 lbs. milk; a living proof that beauty and utility can be found in the same animal. Owned by Gus A. Langlier, Stadacona Farm, Quebec Co., Que.

However, this we think a very unfair way of paying for milk, i.e., "pooling" or paying by weight of milk only. If paid for according to fat content with 2 per cent. added to represent the casein value, the result would be somewhat as follows:

OOW NO. 1	
695 lbs. milk, 3.32 per cent. fat.	Value, \$52.32
Cost of Food, 12 mos.	43.50
Net Profit 12 mos.	\$18.82
OOW NO. 2	
320 lbs. Milk, 3.94 per cent. fat.	Value, \$54.60
Cost of Food, 12 mos.	43.50
Net Loss 12 mos.	\$ 8.90

Or, again, if paid for according to butter-fat content alone, which is the only fair way when butter is made, and we believe the most reliable even when cheese is made, the result would be approximately, viz.:

Cow No. 1	
695 lbs. Milk, 3.32 % fat.	lbs. fat. Value \$49.81
Cost of Food 12 mos.	43.50
Net Profit 12 mos.	\$16.31
Cow No. 2	
320 lbs. Milk, 3.94 % fat.	lbs. fat. Value \$37.11
Cost of Food 12 mos.	43.50
Net Loss 12 mos.	\$ 6.39

It may be shown that 43.50 is too high for cost of food and we believe it is. Where a study of relative values of various goods available is made, feed provided accordingly, and where cows are kept in proper condition the year round, these yields may be obtained at a cost of \$3 a month the year round or \$36 for 12 months. In that case the results would be:

Returns.	
Cow No. 1	Cost of food. Profit.
Cow No. 1	\$49.81 \$36.00 \$13.81
Cow No. 2	\$37.11 \$36.00 \$ 1.11

As to the value of a cow I have shown cow number 2 to have practically no value in a dairy herd, but rather (excepting under the most favorable conditions) a decided loss. I have done this without any desire to favor one or the other. The figuring out for each of the return of purchase price, with a reasonable amount for interest on investment, risk of loss, etc., is yet to be done. I will

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