

to three years old,—which the majority do, though all will admit that it is too early—we should not care to milk her more than five or six months after calving. By this means she will grow and increase in size and value her second calf. But a cow from the fourth to the eighth year, if in good condition, need not be dry more than six weeks or two months before calving; i. e. if fed with a thoroughly liberal hand throughout the year. If more sparingly fed, or if the cow exceeds the latter age, then we should prefer her being dry three months before calving. But, of course, there are exceptions to be met with, which cannot come under any general rule, such as the case of animals whose flow of milk is so strong as to continue almost up to the time when a new lacteal secretion commences."

How to Feed out Roots.

As root culture is greatly upon the increase in this country, and many are trying their first experiments with them this winter, we will give a few hints upon their economical use. Nothing is more common than for beginners in the business to confine an animal entirely to the use of roots. They go upon the principle that you cannot have too much of a good thing, and give one to three bushels of turnips a day. The change in diet probably sets the animal to scouring, and turnips are voted humbug, when the humbug lies altogether in ignorance of the feeder. All animals like a variety of food in their diet, and hay or straw should always form a part of their daily fodder, no matter what else may be added.—In this course should be followed, whether we are seeking to make milk or beef, or merely keep an animal in a thriving condition.—Fattening a bullock, a bushel or so may be given according to size, making out the rest of the feed in hay, with some kind of grain meal. In feeding milch cows, the same quantity may be given, mixing the sliced roots with the cut hay, at three meals daily. The meal will add more to the quality than to the quantity of the milk. Stock cattle with plenty of hay and roots will not need meal to keep them thriving. A good root cutter is indispensable in feeding out roots.

Then, as to the order in which the various roots should be used up, we always begin with the white, or soft turnips. These grow quickly and remain in their best condition but a few weeks. By the first of January they begin to sprout, and lose something of their value. The ruta bagas and white French turnips keep well through the winter, and may be used at any time; carrots and sugar beets may be used as soon as they are dug. The mangel wurzel needs to undergo a curing

process, and should not be used before February. They are excellent keepers, and will hold on until June. If fed out the first part of the season, they make the bowels loose, and lead to a false estimate of their value.—Analysis shows that the mangel has nearly twice the nutritive matter contained in the Swedish turnip, and experiments in feeding confirm the results of the laboratory. They will yield from fifty to one hundred per cent. more in quantity, under ordinary circumstances, and are much the more profitable root to raise. We find our root crops enlarging from year to year, and that, perhaps, is the best testimony we can give of their value. Our list this year embraces several varieties of the white turnips, rock turnips, and ruta bagas, yellow and white carrots, sugar beets and mangel wurzel.—*American Agriculturist.*

The Royal Farms.

THE SHAW AND HOME FARMS, WINDSOR.

[The following description of the late lamented Prince Consort's farms at Windsor, from a recent number of the *Agricultural Gazette*, will be read with interest on this side the Atlantic, and will probably afford some useful suggestions of a practical nature to some of our readers. Establishments of a similar description are now getting common on the Home farms of a number of the wealthy land owners of the United Kingdom.—EDS.]

As you walk down the "Long Drive" from the Castle you pass the grounds of Frogmore upon your left, and beyond them on the same side lies the compact homestead and residence known as the Shaw Farm. It has always been a home farm for the supply of the Castle. The late Prince Consort became its tenant in 1849; but up till 1853 it was more directly under the management of the late General Wemyss.—Since then it had been placed in the hands of the late Mr. Wilson, as steward for the Prince Consort; and his successor, Mr. Tait, the present manager, has accordingly been here but a comparatively short time. The manager has altered but little since 1853, when Mr. Wilson, under the Prince's instructions, commenced the reformation of the short-horn herd. The principal feature of the farm even still is the admirable equipment of the land with buildings—the exceedingly complete and well arranged farmery at the Shaw, and the perfect arrangement of sheddings, houses, and yards for stock nearer Frogmore, where also the royal dairy has been erected. The herd is, however, growing in numbers and in merit, and though the late Prince Consort had hitherto been an exhibitor of short-horned breeding stock, two or three