

A Beef Producer is Optimistic

T. R. James, Middlesex Co., Ont.

Fear be it from any one to disparage the success which has attended the dairy industry and those who have engaged therein during the past few years. The dairy cow is a money maker where she is properly bred and cared for, but we all cannot be dairymen. We are not all so constituted that we care to milk too many cows, and many of us could not, if we would, handle a large number of them owing to the difficulty of securing suitable milkers not to mention the fact of being located on farms distant from a profitable milk market, either creamery or cheese factory, or it may be a railway station from whence to ship to the city trade. So many of us must stay with beef production; and with prices such as they have been for some time past, there is no hardship coming to us on that score.

Beef animals at prices that have prevailed during the past season have been exceedingly good property. There is no comparison in the matter of work required to take care of beef animals as against milking stock. One man can take care of as many beef animals as it would require three to handle in the case of milking cows.

We who are engaged in the breeding of beefers, be they Shorthorns, or cattle of other beef types, have much encouragement in the present situation and in the outlook for the future. Beef animals will most surely be on the boom again. I shall be greatly mistaken if before long Shorthorns and other beef cattle do not sell for high level prices such as have been current on various occasions in years past.

Be Careful of Cattle on Rape

Jas. Pate, Brant Co., Ont.

Cattle should be turned on rape only when it is dry. It is well to turn them on early in the evening when their stomachs are full. They should always have the run of a pasture field along with the rape, as the rape seems to bite their palates during the first few days for they do not seem to stay long on it at any one time when first turned in.

Once having been turned on the rape, the cattle should not be taken off unless it cannot be avoided, although after a heavy rain if the soil is clay in nature, they should in justice to the soil be taken off. If taken off, precaution must be used when turning them back on again. I have never lost any cattle from bloating on rape and only once do I remember seeing some of them uncomfortably full.

The cattle do better after the rape is half eaten off. The early, sappy leaves seem to scour them somewhat at first.

How to Prevent Waste of Silage

G. H. Blair, Carleton Co., Ont.

Unless one condescends to feed the cut corn within a few days from the time it is put into the silo, there is sure to be more or less waste on top caused by fermentation and decay through it being exposed to the atmosphere. Often there will be a loss of from 18 inches or two feet or more by the time the ensilage is wanted in late fall or early winter. The loss depends largely on the size into which the corn has been cut and upon the care, in the way of tramping, watering and so forth, that the top of the silo has been given.

There are many means used by different ones for preserving the silage at the top of the silo. We have used several including covering the surface with tar paper and a layer of chaff and moistening the whole, sowing grain on top of the corn, also on top of the cover of chaff. We have also left the top of the silo absolutely exposed but as it was after the silo fillers had left it. This latter we shall never practice again since

there was an undue loss from the spoiled silage.

The best method that we have ever tried has been to moisten the top layer of the silage with a barrel of water in which has been dissolved a good big pail full of land salt. The brine should

be made as strong with salt as the water can carry in solution. After giving the surface of the cut corn this treatment, it might be well to place on a few inches of chaff of some kind and then moisten and seed it with some grain.

MIXED FARMING ALONG WITH A DAIRY SPECIALTY ON A LARGE SCALE

A Descriptive Article of the Lakeview Stock Farm. Some of the Things That Have Been Accomplished in a Term of Less Than Four Years. Holsteins a Specialty.



Mr. E. F. Osler

IT is wonderful what a transformation can be worked in the appearance and productiveness of a farm in a short time through the erection of improved buildings, changing the layout of fields, under-draining, and following the most improved practice of crop management. The Lakeview Stock Farm, at Bronte, Ont., affords a fine example of the possibilities in farm improvement. It is owned and managed by Mr. E. F. Osler.

Mr. Osler is making a specialty of Holstein cattle and the operations of the farm are so planned as to give them every advantage. In addition to the Holsteins, it is aimed to have all other stock kept of pure breeding and registered or eligible for registration. The farm work is done with registered Clydesdale mares. Clydesdales

are equipped throughout in a most up-to-date manner. The main cow stable accommodates three rows of cows. The stalls and partitions are all of iron pipe. The cattle are tied in U bar stanchions and are fed in a continuous manger of cement, which may be cleaned out from one end to the other, it not having partitions nor racks. The calf stable is well arranged into box stalls on either side of a central passage. Wooden stanchions along this passage permit of the calves being tied up while they are fed.

A very complete litter carrier system has been installed. This gives connection with a manure shed from the cow stable, calf barn and pen; taken to the shed where all these buildings may be kept two spreaders side by side. As these are filled each day they are hauled to the field and the manure spread directly on the land.

The horse stable is separate from the other buildings and may be seen to the left of the illustration on page 6. It is fitted up in most complete shape with well laid cement floors



A Three Generation Group of Holsteins that do credit to their owner. Rose Rattler, 7,430; Lakeview Rattler, 11,364; and her bull calf. Particulars of these cattle are given in the adjoining article. Photo by an editor of Farm and Dairy.

ultimately will be a feature of this stock farm, second only to the Holsteins.

THE FARM

The Lakeview Stock Farm as it is now constituted has been in existence only since four years this coming autumn. It comprises about 400 acres, but in addition to this, Mr. Osler is renting over 100 acres more. The progress that has been made on this farm in the past three years is remarkable. Only a visit to the farm and an inspection of it can give one an adequate conception of the improvements that have been made.

The farm is laid out in large fields and is fenced with woven wire. Since acquiring the land, Mr. Osler has had it thoroughly under-drained. Over 25 miles of tile draining have been installed. Some of the tile used are as large as 12 inches in the more important mains. Advantage was taken of the services offered by the Guelph College to have a complete survey made. The system works well and Mr. Osler states that the drains have made all the difference in the world in the matter of crop production and the land is improving under their all the time. The soil is quite heavy and the fields are fairly level.

The farm buildings are magnificent and are

planked in the stalls; it is fitted with metal posts and mangers. The space along one side as well as across one end of the stable is partitioned off into box stalls. These afford the best of accommodation for brood mares or foals. The stable walls are of hollow clay block building material.

SOME OF THE CROPS

Three stave silos located at convenient points are used in which to store the corn crop. Ensilage is used as the base of the ration for the cattle. About 20 acres are devoted to corn each year. The silos are yet half full of ensilage from last year, not having been required. Other crops grown are mainly oats and barley, these all being seeded down with clover. The crops are arranged so that they follow one another in a three year rotation. A large acreage is devoted to mangels, and a considerable area is under alfalfa.

About 70 acres of the farm is taken up with apple orchard, the trees of which are for the most part in their prime and are of winter sorts. The apple orchard is cultivated and sprayed each year and is headed after the most approved practice. It is now sown to a clover crop of hairy vetch

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