

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.
Miscellaneous.

FEEDING VALUES.

1. How many pounds of fat will corn and oats equal parts put on a critter? We are feeding them equal parts of ensilage and cut straw mixed.
2. Will 1½ shovels of ensilage put on mixed feed for each steer, put on more fat than ½ gallons of oat chop?

A. S.

Ans.—1. As the age, size and class of "critter" are not given, and the amount of oats and corn fed is not mentioned, we are at a loss to know. No definite rule as to gains can be laid down; some animals make larger gains than others on the same feed. Liberally fed, good-doing two-year-old steers should gain when at their best from 1½ to 2 lbs. daily.

2. Figuring 1½ shovelfuls of silage to be ½ bushel, and figuring oats at 34 lbs. to the bushel, the actual amount of nutrient materials in each is very nearly the same. Roughage and concentrate material is required in all well-balanced rations, therefore oats and silage is not a fair comparison.

SINK DRAINAGE — MOISTURE ON WALL.

1. In putting in a sink in a farmhouse, and connections to be made to carry off the water from washing machine, etc., would tile bedded in concrete or cement be satisfactory to carry it a safe distance from the house? If this emptied into a three-inch tile drain that runs about 35 rods, and then empties into a creek, would it be liable to block the drain? Would a cement vat, underground near the house, be any advantage by allowing it to fill with waste water, etc., and then run through the drains at once. What would you consider a cheap and satisfactory way to get rid of the waste water?

2. A cement silo with a ventilator in the roof is directly connected with the stable, and by leaving the door between silo and stable open in mild weather, it makes a fine ventilation for the stable. (a) So much moisture forms on the walls that water will trickle down them sometimes. Is this any detriment to the walls when it freezes? (b) Will it make the ensilage freeze any more?

W. H. W.

Ans.—1. They should be. Cases are known of ordinary four-inch drainage tile on a fair fall doing the work satisfactorily. To keep a drain from a kitchen sink clear, it is necessary to prevent solid matter from entering it, especially any coarse, insoluble matter. In addition, a trap just below the sink, should be provided to catch any solid matter that gets into the sink accidentally. The trap may be removed from the pipe and cleaned occasionally without difficulty. It is preferable to use sewer tile and cement the joints, but laid carefully with the joints well fitted and the grade true, so as to have no ups and downs to hold water, ordinary tile give good results. Of course, the pipe leading from the sink should be capped with a fine strainer. A cesspool is sometimes necessary. A close subsoil makes a cesspool useless, except as a receptacle for solid matter, and where it is intended to receive just the water from the kitchen sink, a cesspool seems unnecessary. If the subsoil is open and porous, a cesspool is a possible source of danger to the well, and must be placed as far from the house and well as possible, with good opportunity for drainage and seepage away from these. A good plan is to make the cesspool from 12 to 15 feet deep, from the ground surface, with a diameter of 6 to 8 feet. Curb the excavation with a stone wall to within three feet of the top of the ground. On top of this wall lay cedar logs, cover with a little brush, and fill up with soil to the ground level. An overflow from the pool must be provided. Drain tile leading to a suitable outlet, works all right for this. A solid cement vat could not be of any more benefit than to catch solid matters. A septic tank to handle all the house sewage might be a good investment.

2. (a) This may in time cause the walls to chip, but it is scarcely likely to do much harm.

(b) The effect on the silage should not be noticeable from this cause.

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W. W. CORY,

Deputy of the Minister of the Interior.

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