

reasonable to expect that the propensity to breed early should be transmitted as certainly as any other peculiarity.

The Dorset Horns would also probably increase the prolificacy of the grades obtained from them. Prolificacy is undoubtedly a property of the Dorsets, and to the growers of mutton fecundity and prolificacy are valuable properties. Those who feed show sheep want single lambs because they get more of growth at an early age. But it is true, nevertheless, that when a sheep brings forth two lambs in the one case and only one lamb in the other, the conditions being equal, the mutton obtained from the two lambs in the autumn, or at any subsequent period, will be worth more than the mutton obtained from one lamb. But it may be answered that the two lambs will take more food than the one. They will, but there is an offset. We find it in the food of maintenance given to the dam. If a dam produces two lambs in the one case, and in the other instance two dams produce only an equal number, then the food of maintenance during the period of gestation in the second instance is probably twice what it was in the first instance. From Dorset Horn grades we should naturally expect a relatively large number of lambs, and as a result the profits in growing mutton should also be increased.

Dorset Horns are also good milkers, and this also is an important item in rearing winter lambs. Good milking qualities are always associated with good breeding qualities; hence, by using Dorsets or Dorset grades in the production of winter lambs, we should not only get a plentiful lamb crop, but also plenty of milk to feed the same. An abundance of milk is almost absolutely necessary for the production of winter lambs, for they should grow rapidly, and no kind of food is so good for developing them quickly as a plentiful supply of milk from the dam.

Dorset Horns are also a rugged breed, and this will further qualify them for their mission in producing winter lambs. The producers of winter lambs have a greater strain put upon them during the season of privation than the producers of spring lambs, and, in consequence, it is highly important that the animals subjected to such privations should possess vigor of constitution in a marked degree.

But it is at least questionable if Dorset Horns can be expected to supplant any of the mutton breeds that produce lambs in the spring. There does not seem to be any necessity why they should do so. They have a distinct field of their own, and that field is the production of winter lambs.

A Typical Dorset Ram.

The accompanying illustration represents a typical animal of the Dorset breed. It is the sire now used at the Minnesota University Experiment Farm, in that experiment which is being carried on relative to changing the breeding habit in ewes of the common breeds from spring to fall. This ram, Austin by name, No. 4554, Vol. III., was bred by Bernard Kendall, East Lulworth, England. He is a strong, rugged, lusty fellow, always ready for his food, always active, and always in a good, thrifty condition. It will doubtless interest some of the older Shorthorn breeders to know that the gentleman standing up in the conveyance is none other than Col. W. S. King, of Minneapolis, who in the palmiest days of Shorthorns was a frequent purchaser at some of the most successful sales ever held in Ontario. Col. King is still hale and hearty, and is apparently as active as ever. He just happened to come to the farm at the time the picture was being taken, and, unconsciously on his part, became the distinguished feature of the same.

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FOR FARMING.

The Dog Question.

The aim of go-ahead nineteenth century farmers is to sell as much water and fat with the least amount of mineral matter as possible at a profitable price, and to increase the fertility and capacity of their farms at the same time.

On poor soils where strawberries, potatoes, clover, etc., cannot be raised at a profit, no course returns so large an interest on capital invested and improves the condition of the soil to such a degree as sheep feeding. Sheep, fattening on turnips, return nearly all the manurial elements of the crop in a perfectly available and ever condition over the ground, and, when grain or linseed is judiciously fed in addition, the soil can be brought up into a high condition, while the farmer is pocketing a very handsome interest on the money invested into the bargain.

In view of their manurial utility, and the increasing demand for sheep, farmers should turn their attention more closely to this stock. In some parts of Canada sheep-breeding is almost at a standstill on account of the general dread of heavy losses by the ravages of dogs. This is especially true of some parts of Nova Scotia, where we have much ground that might carry sheep profitably, were it not for the half-starved, miserable curs that every little while decimate, or