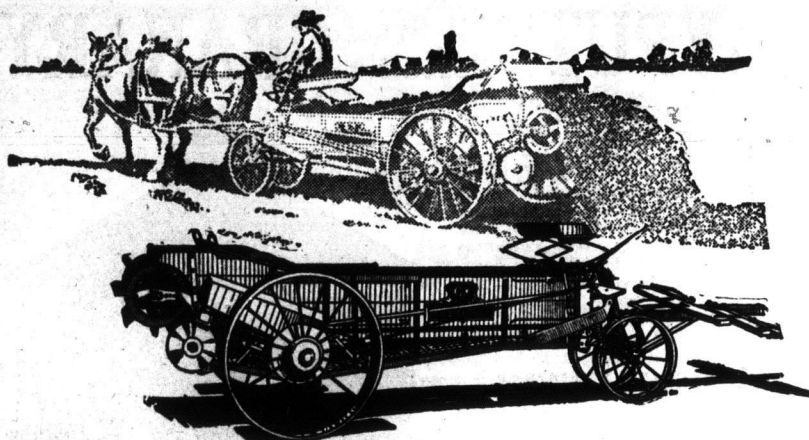




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The Persistent Milker

Probably nothing is of more real importance to the dairyman than the cow that is a persistent milker. The moderate milker may seem to produce more for a time, but it is almost always true that our highest yearly records are made by cows that have the character of persistency developed to a remarkable extent. This is why persistency should be encouraged in the heifer during her first milking season. Breeding and feeding should tend toward the development of this characteristic without, of course, injuring the constitution of the animal.

It is probably best to delay the second breeding period a little in order to give the heifer every opportunity to do herself justice, both in the matter of bodily growth, and also in the acquisition of good milking habits. It is possible with good milkers to have them become so persistent in their milking that it is difficult to dry the cow for a few weeks previous to the next calving. Generally speaking this is a good fault. It is one of the most encouraging indications. It is not a difficulty that cannot be overcome without any great amount of trouble.

There is a right way to go about drying off a persistent milker. Starving should not be resorted to. It is better to either reduce the quantity of milk drawn, so as to leave a little in the udder when the milking is completed, or to reduce the number of milkings. By using either one or both of these methods the assistance of nature is secured to bring about the drying off. If this is followed out the constitution of the animal is uninjured as it would be by starving, and the future milking usefulness is retained. It is important to develop the maximum milk production by the methods of handling during the first year or two of lactation and retain the vigor of constitution which is necessary to support a cow in heavy, persistent milk flow.—I. B. Henderson.

Grazing Crops for Hogs

No farmer who is to raise his meat this year can afford to neglect grazing crops for the animals. Those who neglect to reserve land for these grazing crops and depend upon corn alone and pen feeding only will find pork production quite expensive.

The cheapest pork is always raised when there are abundance of grazing crops and when these are supplemented by grain or other concentrates suitable to the growth and development of the animals. Grazing crops permit the animals to do their own harvesting and this reduces cost. When such crops of corn, potatoes, artichokes, peanuts, chufas, peas, soy beans, etc., are harvested by hogs considerable labor is saved. The hogs then have access to the feeds and can eat all they will consume.

One brood sow if given a fair chance on the farm will produce two litters of pigs per year and if cared for properly the pigs will produce enough pork, bacon, hams, etc., for home use. That is an average family may be supported with meat by one sow if she and her pigs are cared for properly.

The animal husbandry division of Clemson College, South Carolina, has prepared a list of crops with directions for planting and the length of time before they may be grazed. These are for conditions in that state, but the directions are suggestive to farmers in other parts of the South.

Following is a table of summer and fall-growing hog crops. The crop is given first, the time to plant second, quantity of seed per acre third, and number of days from planting to grazing time fourth:

Alfalfa, February 25 to April 1, 15 to 25 pounds, 75 to 90 days.

Chufas, April 15 to June 1, one-half to one peck, 120 to 150 days.

Cowpeas, May 1 to July 10, one-half bushel (drilled), one and one-half bushels (broadcast), 75 to 90 days.

Soy beans, May 1 to June 30, one-half bushel (drilled), one and one-half bushels (broadcast), 80 to 120 days.

Japan clover (despedeza), March 1 to March 15, 24 pounds, 60 to 75 days.

Oats, February 1 to March 20, one and one-half to three bushels, 75 to 90 days.

Peanuts, May 1 to July 1, one to two bushels (not hulled), 90 to 120 days.



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