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Questions and Answers. Miscellaneous.

Warts.

I have a two-year-old heifer which has a number of warts on her body. Otherwise she is perfectly healthy. What is a good treatment? S. W.

Ans.—Those which have constricted necks may be clipped off with a pair of shears, and the flat ones treated with butter of antimony, which should be applied once daily with a feather. The very large ones may have to be dissected out.

Meat for Hens.

I wish to keep a large number of hens this coming summer. At present I have a large quantity of fresh meat for them. Owing to the price of beef scrap being so high, I would like to preserve this meat for use next summer. Is there any method by which this can be done? D. C.

Ans.—If it were practicable the meat might be preserved similar to the way it is kept for home use, and then the brine soaked out before it is fed to the hens in the summer. We are not sure whether this would prove satisfactory or not. If you had the appliances, the meat might be ground and dried similar to beef scrap. It would require considerable drying to drive out the moisture so that it would keep. It is a difficult matter to keep the meat once warm weather sets in.

Feeding Ducks.

Last year we hatched a large number of ducks but had considerable trouble in raising them. We fed them on shorts. When about a month old and until they feathered out a large number sickened and died. Sometimes as many as seven would drop off in a day. They had plenty of water and shade. Was the mash of shorts too strong a food for them? What feed would you advise for raising ducks? J. R. H.

Ans.—Shorts are not a particularly good feed for ducks to be fed alone. They are more or less of a heavy nature. Equal parts cornmeal and bran, with plenty of green feed, makes a very good ration for ducklings. Poultrymen who make a practice of rearing a large flock of ducks prefer confining them in small yards rather than allowing them on free range. They supply water to them three or four times a day. Some claim that it is difficult to grow and fit ducks for market in a reasonable time when they have an unlimited water supply. In order to obtain the greatest profit, ducks should be fed so that they will be ready for market when ten weeks old. If fed longer than this the profit is usually materially decreased.

Crops for Light Soil—Engine Trouble.

1. I have a field with light soil which I purposed sowing rye on last fall but I failed to get it in. What could I sow this spring?

2. What seeds should be sown for hay and pasture on sandy soil? Is orchard grass satisfactory?

3. I have a gasoline engine which runs all right when empty but lacks power when put to work. What is the cause? W. H. D.

Ans.—1. It will depend considerably on the fertility of the soil and what crop was grown last year. The spring cereals should do very well, provided there is enough moisture. However, if it happened to set in dry, there might be a short crop. If you have a little manure to apply on it, or some commercial fertilizer, corn or potatoes might give a very good yield, as cultivation would tend to conserve moisture. Not knowing more about the quality of the soil, it is hard to state what crop would give the best results, as there are a number of circumstances which would have to be taken into consideration.

2. For hay and pasture crops there is nothing much better than clover and a little timothy. Orchard grass would give a very good yield, but it would have to be cut for hay at a certain stage of maturity, else it would become so coarse that the stock would not eat it.

3. The loss of power may be due to the spark being retarded too far, to a weak spark, weak batteries, dirty magnets, or poor compression, which might be due to a leak in the cylinder.

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