



Expensive Buildings not necessary for Housing Swine.

## Cost of Feeding Fall Pigs

**C** LIMATIC conditions in the three western provinces makes the question of profitable winter feeding of hogs rather a doubtful one. It is recognized that in order for pigs to give the maximum return for the feed consumed they should have comfortable quarters. This in many cases is not available on the average western farm. For this reason farmers are confining their attention to raising only one litter of pigs a year. Unless suitable pens are available the feeding of pigs through the long, cold months of the winter, it seems the part of wisdom to still stick to the practice of breeding so the sows will farrow in the spring and have the pigs on the market the following autumn before the severe weather comes. There may be cases, however, where conditions are such that the winter feeding of pigs would show a reasonable profit over the feed consumed.

Experiments conducted at the experiment station, Minnesota, on the feed consumed by pigs from October until the following May, when they were marketed, is interesting as bearing on this subject. The amounts of the different feeds are given, but we have adjusted the prices on these feeds in accordance with prevailing prices. Eleven sows farrowed fall litters, most of them in October. Complete feed records were kept from the time each sow farrowed. They had rye pasture early in the fall, but no milk was fed at any time. The pigs were all weaned on December 15, and were started on experimental feeding December 18.

Total feed eaten by sows and pigs from farrowing to weaning:—

|                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 115 bus. corn at \$1.75           | \$201.25 |
| 62 bus. barley at \$1.50          | 93.00    |
| 1169 lbs. shorts at \$2.20        | 25.71    |
| 922 lbs. flour middling at \$5.50 | 51.64    |
| 206 lbs. oil meal at \$4.00       | 8.24     |
| 989 lbs. tankage at \$60 a ton    | 29.60    |

Total cost of grain sows and litters \$409.44

At weaning the 57 pigs weighed 2,462.1 pounds, 42.8 pounds each, and on May 6 they weighed 10,903.6 pounds, or 191.2 pounds each. Average daily gain per pig was one pound.

From weaning to date of selling the pigs consumed:—

|                               |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| 431 bus. corn at \$1.75       | \$754.25 |
| 196 bus. barley at \$1.50     | 294.00   |
| 1.35 tons shorts at \$44 ton  | 59.40    |
| 1.06 tons tankage at \$60 ton | 99.60    |

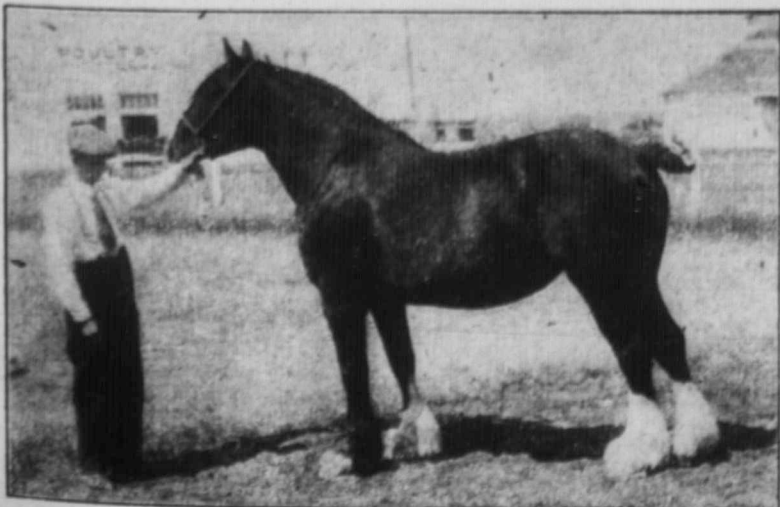
Total grain, pigs alone \$1,207.25  
Total grain, sows and pigs 409.44

Total feed cost \$1,616.69

It cost \$1,616.69 to produce 10,903.6 pounds of pork, or a little more than 14.8 cents a pound. If these hogs were sold for 18 cents per pound they would be worth \$1,962.64, which would show a profit of \$345.95. This is not a particularly big showing, as no mention has yet been made of overhead expenses such as interest on the capital tied up in the 11 sows, building and equipment, to say nothing of labor and risk. Further, it must be borne in mind that this was under conditions prevailing in Minnesota, which would be more favorable for winter pork production than found in either Manitoba or Saskatchewan.

Considerable work has been done at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, in connection with the cost of producing pork; 297 hogs were fed on a ration consisting of barley, peas, oats, corn, middlings and bran together, with skim milk and roots. In addition there is an item of \$77 for miscellaneous feeds such as pasture, etc. Valuing the pigs at \$10 at weaning time, skim milk at 30 cents per cwt. and roots at 15 cents a bushel, together with the \$77 for miscellaneous feeds, and deducting these from the gross proceeds derived from the sale of the hogs at 18 cents per pound, the remainder would represent the cash return for the meal consumed by the hogs. This would figure out that when selling at 18 cents per pound it would return about \$80.50 per ton for the grain fed.

In connection with these results it should also be remembered that they were fed, some of them at least, during the summer when pasture could be utilized and general conditions are more favorable than when fed during the winter. These statements are not given in order to encourage farmers to take up winter pork production or to give the impression that there is a big profit in keeping pigs at any time, as indeed the figures themselves do not indicate this. As previously mentioned, various items, all of which add to the cost, have not been reckoned.—J. P. S.



"Maggie Fleming," Champion Clydesdale Mare at Calgary Summer Fair, 1918. Owned and Exhibited by Thorburn and Riddle, De Winton, Alta.



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## Great Dispersion Sale

of Pure-Bred Shorthorn Cattle, Shropshire Oxford, and Hampshire Sheep and Yorkshire Swine

AT THE EXHIBITION GROUNDS  
LACOMBE, ALTA.

On Wednesday, 16th day of October, 1918

At 1 P.M. SHARP

Mr. George H. Hutton, Lacombe, intends to disperse the flocks and herds on The Paradise Stock Farm, and this sale will include:—

## 40 HEAD OF Registered Shorthorn Cattle

comprising cows, with calves at foot; two and three-year-old heifers; yearling heifers; calendar-year calves; and two yearling bulls. A number of the females are sired by "Royal Archer," imp., and all are the kind of cattle that will appeal to those who want well-bred, reliable sorts for breeding purposes. The majority of them have calves at foot, and all of breeding age have been bred again.

The sheep offering comprises:—

115 Shropshire Rams. 50 Shropshire Ewes.

30 Shropshire Ewe and Ram Lambs

All Sired by Imported Ram

15 Oxford Rams. 30 Oxford Ewes (All Yearlings)

20 Hampshire Rams. 35 Hampshire Ewes.

(Only four over four years)

350 High-Class Grade Ewes 90 Per Cent of them Young Ewes

20 Yorkshire Sows

All Registered. These will weigh 250 pounds at time of Sale; are a nice uniform lot and from one of the most prolific Prize-winning Strains in Canada.

This Sale is an unequalled opportunity to secure some of the highest class of prize-winning and breeding stock. Catalogs ready on day of Sale.

Watch following issues of The Guide for further announcements.

Auctioneers: J. W. DURNO, Calgary; C. F. DAMRON, Bentley; S. W. PAISLEY, Lacombe.

TERMS: Cash, unless previously arranged with Mr. Hutton. Strangers will please bring marked cheque, or bank reference.

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Lacombe, on the C. & E. Branch of the C.P.R., is 80 miles South of Edmonton and 114 miles North of Calgary. First-class transportation facilities.

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OVERSTOCKED—Will have to sell 30 head before November 1st. Eighty head to select from, of all ages. Two two-year-old bulls and three yearling bulls ready for service. Two bulls will be one year old in October; also three bull calves of 1918, all first-class stock. Write for particulars, or better still, come and select your wants.

### Bonnie Brae Stock Farm

OKOTOKS

JOSEPH H. LAYCOCK, Proprietor.

ALBERTA.