

The successful dairyman reads the farm and dairy papers, attends dairy meetings and farmers' institutes, in fact secures all the information he can to aid him in his work. Sentiment in favor of better methods on the farm and in the dairy is gaining growth all over the country.

The stingy feeder cheats himself as well as his cows; but on the other hand the dairy cow that will not repay generous feeding should be displaced at once.

The "cow with the crumpled horn" may be all right in poetry, but in a dairy she should be barred unless her horn is slender. Besides, even a slender horn is best dehorned. But a heavy horn is a sure sign of beefy characteristics rather than of a dairy type.

Don't try to put a bushel into a peck measure, nor a dairy cow's full ration into a cow with a little cramped "barrel." If your cow has not a large stomach and lung capacity there will not be much use for a large udder. Sell her for beef—and then dodge that butcher forever after.

Keep Small Flocks.

I think one requisite to success in poultry keeping, the importance of which is generally overlooked by most farmers, and perhaps by many fanciers, is to avoid keeping too many fowls together in one flock. There are several good reasons for this injunction, and the rule applies with equal force whether the fowls are kept in confinement or allowed to run at liberty, as they do on most farms. Increased liability to disease breaking out and destroying the flock should alone afford sufficient reason for keeping small flocks, but there are a number of others equally important.

Dairying and Hogs.

The above is the combination that is spelling prosperity for a large and rapidly increasing number of farmers in this country, and the hand cream separator is often a third element in the combination.

Not every farmer, of course, can make money out of this combination, but there is money in it. Whether a farmer can get it out depends upon himself. There is no magical charm about such a combination. Dairy and swine farming is high class farming, and it is a class of farming which requires skill and industry, and, perhaps most of all, love for the work.

Washing the Hand Separator.

Five minutes work at washing the hand separator in time, is worth 15 minutes work behind time. Immediately after the separating is done, is the proper time for doing this work, and the sooner it is done, the better, the easier and the quicker the job, and the cleaner the separator can be made. Before the machine stops, some water should be poured in to flush out the bowl, then if it is taken apart immediately and rinsed in warm water, the greasy substance will come off easily, and all objectionable odor will be removed. Every piece of the separator should be washed and scrubbed with a brush, and the bowl should not be put together but left open to thoroughly air.

Teaching Young America to Milk.

When young America for the first time picks up the milk pail, and goes to the barn to learn to milk, he should be favored with a few practical suggestions. His mother can do him a good service and be a great help to future dairy cleanliness, by accompanying him to see that he is properly broken in; that he forms

correct habits; that he gets into the habit of brushing the flank and udder before he begins the operation of milking, and that he forms the habit of milking with dry hands. If he gets into the way of milking with wet hands he soon becomes a slave to this habit and cannot be easily broken, and the filth that he will mix with the milk during his natural lifetime by milking with sloppy, wet hands would be enough to disgust the average mortal with the use of all dairy products. While it may be permissible to milk with damp hands, the sloppy hands that continually drip into the pail are abominable. The only way of being certain that the boys will milk right is to see that they start right.

Cows That Pay.

On some farms one half of the cows do not pay for their keep. The amount of milk a cow gives is about the poorest test of her worth unless the milk is sold whole. Most milk, however, is not sold in this manner. The amount of butter fat produced is, in most cases, the only way of determining the value of a cow in the dairy.

It was a good deal of a shock to a certain farmer when he found that his favorite cow produced so little butter fat that she had been kept at a loss for several years, and that another cow, which he had planned to dispose of, was the most valuable cow he had. Every farmer who milks cows should have a Babcock tester. That there is some "trouble" in using it is not a good excuse for not buying a tester. It is the kind of trouble that pays, and the trouble is largely in the imagination of those who have not used one of these valuable instruments.

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