

by proper inlets and outlets which can be partially closed or opened, according to the condition of the weather. Whatever style of piggery is constructed, convenience in the arrangement for feeding and an easy means of removing the manure should be given every possible consideration.

Where hogs are to be wintered in the small cots, they should be provided with swinging doors so that in the very coldest weather the doors can be dropped down to help to keep the sleeping place warm.

### CARE, FEED AND MANAGEMENT OF THE BROOD SOW AND LITTER

In raising two litters of pigs per year from a sow, she should be bred at least as early as some time between the dates of December 15th and January 1st, so as to farrow between the dates of April 1st and April 20th. If sows are bred to farrow this early, though, they must be given a warm pen in which to farrow or large losses will result. Yet in raising two litters it is necessary to get the first litter weaned fairly early so that the sow may be bred again in order to get the fall litter farrowed and started so that they will be old enough and strong enough to stand the cold weather when winter sets in, or else large losses of young pigs will be experienced through the winter. Brood sows will very often come in season at three to five days after farrowing, and some hog-growers prefer to breed for the second litter at that time simply in order to get them early in the fall. The wisdom of breeding so soon after farrowing is questionable, however, and it will usually be found more satisfactory in the end to mate for the first litter in the spring a little earlier, and then wait to rebreed the sows until immediately after weaning the pigs. In this way the fall litter can be farrowed by September 15th to October 1st, and this will give them a chance to get a fairly good start before the cold weather comes.

If but one litter a year is to be raised, the object will be to produce them as cheaply as possible and with as little care as possible, and they may better be farrowed from May 1st to 15th, as then there will be no danger to the young pigs from the cold weather and they will require much less attention than if farrowed earlier.

Brood sows may best be wintered largely out-of-doors and fed in such a way that they will be required to take considerable exercise. Sows will almost take care of themselves as far as feed is concerned if they are allowed the run of a straw stack. In the winter feeding of sows, care must be taken not to overfeed and allow the sows to get too fat. This frequently happens with sows that are wintered in large piggeries. They become accustomed to the warm piggery and simply will not go out to take exercise unless compelled to do so. The sow that is kept out-of-doors with only the protection of a straw stack