

## Questions and Answers.

Miscellaneous.

### Urinary Trouble With Horse.

I have a driver about 20 years old which about four years ago had trouble urinating. One veterinarian said he had stone in the bladder and that he might be operated on successfully but his age was against him. Another veterinarian said there was no cure for him but he gave the horse some powders that helped at the time. Now his urine comes all the time in small quantities. Do you think anything could be done for him?

W. W.

Ans.—It would be difficult to prescribe for this case without a thorough examination. The age of the patient and the several years' effect of the disease would certainly militate against recovery. The veterinarian who administered the powders probably understood the case and it would be wise to procure more of the same preparation. It gave temporary relief and if the treatment were persisted in it might result in making the beast serviceable for a further period of years.

### Potash Soils.

Kindly inform me through "The Farmer's Advocate" what potash soils are and how to fertilize them.

G. E. J.

Ans.—By potash soils we infer that our correspondent means soils rich in potash. Soils are not generally classed under this heading as potassium, the valuable ingredient or part of potash, seldom enters into the composition of soils in sufficient quantities to make them anything but fertile and productive lands. As fertilizer, only two kinds would be necessary, viz., phosphates and nitrogen. Barnyard manure would be ideal under most circumstances. Phosphates could be supplied in the form of acid phosphate, basic slag or bone meal. Sodium nitrate or sulphate of ammonia would supply the nitrogen as would barnyard manure or green manures. We have no proof, however, that the soil rich in potash would not also contain sufficient phosphates already. Some field tests should be conducted.

### Cows Bloated.

Kindly inform me regarding the ailment of my cow. I milked her in the morning as usual, and she gave a dairy pailful of milk. She walked a distance of about three-quarters of a mile, and after a short time she became bloated. I put her on a meadow that had not been pastured for about five days. In about two hours time she was dead. She ran around the field with her mouth open, and seemed to be in great pain. We have another cow with the same trouble.

J. D.

Ans.—This is evidently a case of bloat to which ruminants are quite subject in the spring of the year when being changed from dry to green fodder. Our correspondent does not state, however, whether this was the first time the animal was on grass this season. Prevention is better than cure. On a rich pasture cattle should be allowed only a short time each day at first, and then when it is dry. They should also go out after a good feed in the stable. The animal in question probably died from suffocation or from the bursting of some internal organ. When a bloated beast is first discovered it is wise to tie a piece of a fork handle in its mouth which assists in the escape of gas. A dose of turpentine, 2 ounces, given in water, or better in 2 or 3 ounces of raw linseed oil, as a drench sometimes gives relief. Where no drugs are at hand one-half cup of baking soda given in a pint of water will often alleviate the condition. In extreme cases the animal should be punctured with a trocar and canula. The place to tap is the middle of the depression between the backbone and the hook bone. The trocar and canula are inexpensive and should be on every farm. This matter was discussed in the issue of May 4, 1916, under the title of "Dangers From Pasturing and How to Avoid Them."



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