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Judging Shire Stallions, Royal Show, Norwich, 1911.

Just so with the townspeople. They would much rather patronize farmers and gardeners who haul their produce to them in attractive wagons and with well-kept animals. Appearances go a great distance in this age, and serve either to ruin a business or cause it to flourish. Give the horse a chance to advertise your farming business by keeping him well fitted and the necessary trappings and outfits in a condition to help him carry out the purpose. If horses and wagons are profitable advertisements for city men's business, they surely can be made so for the agricultural occupation.

Watering Horses After Feeding.

It is generally understood that a horse should not be permitted to drink an excessively large quantity of water immediately after being fed, and more especially after a feed of grain. Most people believe this to be true, but few stop to ask themselves why it is the case. The horse's stomach is, comparatively speaking, quite small, and the result of its being filled with water when it is already holding the food material, much of which is only very imperfectly masticated, is to flush some of the grain out into the duodenum or small intestine, without its having first been acted upon by the digestive juices of the stomach, or being even reduced by the action of the stomach, so that the intestinal juices can exert their digestive action to the fullest extent. The opening from the horse's stomach is directly into the small intestine, and thus the food has not so many and so good chances of being digested as is the case with ruminants. It is necessary that the food remain some time in the horse's stomach before being passed on to the intestine, if anything like all the nutriment is to be obtained from it. The physical action of the stomach, together with the digestive fermentations which take place therein, requires time to be properly accomplished, and, as the stomach is the seat of the digestion, the intestinal juices being chiefly concerned in acting upon any partially-digested material, or any material that may have escaped the juices of the anterior and middle portions of the alimentary tract, it is important that it gets sufficient time to do its work properly. The intestinal juices are next to powerless when it comes to acting on whole or poorly-masticated grain which has been hurried through the stomach by the flow of water to the intestines. Water is not held in the stomach long. After feeding, the horse's stomach is usually full of food, which crowds the water out into the intestines, and with it undigested grain is often carried. Even if the grain is poorly masticated, if the stomach has time it will partly digest it and prepare it for the action of the ferments and enzymes in the intestines; but where the stomach is not permitted to do its work, much of the food material is lost. A little water some time after feeding is not very harmful, but large quantities very shortly after a grain feed are believed to be harmful and wasteful. It is better to water before feeding.

LIVE STOCK.

Pastures, which stood the severe drouth remarkably well up to the middle of June or thereabouts, yielded the ghost to the torrid blasts of early July. Cattle which had been doing fairly well shrank rapidly in condition, milk flow, or both, and those who failed to cut green stuff for stable-feeding will pay dear for their neglect.

The British Board of Agriculture having confirmed the report of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease at Hounslow, Middlesex County, England, a Ministerial order was issued at Ottawa on July 5th cancelling all permits for importation to Canada of cattle, sheep, and other ruminants and swine from the United Kingdom, except such animals as were actually on the water at that date.

A mower in a field of grain will soon cut a swath or two sufficient for a liberal evening and morning feed of the stock. The saving on close-gnawed pastures is considerable, while much more important is the superior condition and thrift in which the cattle are maintained. Much larger returns are thus derived than by skipping the stock in midsummer, in order to have the privilege of paying big threshing bills and millers' tolls, with a large stack of fibrous, indigestible straw to regale lean stock which goes into winter quarters showing the effect of midsummer privation. The stockman who cannot, by one means or another fill his animals' bellies twice a day should acknowledge himself defeated, and strive to plan better another season. A summer silo will aid the solution for some.



Longhorn Cows at the Royal Show, 1911.

Calves which are running in paddocks where there is little or no shade should have a small shelter made for them in a corner of the plot. The scorching sun during the heat of the day makes life very uncomfortable for these youngsters if they have nothing under which they can get and be away from its direct rays. All that is needed is a covering of thin boards, which can be supported on two sides by the fence, if need be, while a stake at the remaining corner is sufficient to hold it in place. This covered portion, with the sides all open, allows of free circulation of air, and the calves will be found taking advantage of this luxury throughout the greater part of the hot summer days.

Don't forget that the calves will often require more to drink while the weather is hot than the allowance of milk given them. A fresh, cool drink of water is often relished by them when the grass begins to dry up as a result of the heat. Try the calves with a pail or two of water at the noon hour, and it is more than likely that you will not have to coax them to drink, but you may have some trouble to keep them from overturning the pails in their efforts to get the largest share of the cooling liquid. All it costs is the work of placing it before the calves, which is but a trifle, as very often the calf pen or paddock is passed on the way to work, and the water can be taken to them without extra steps.

This is perhaps one of the heaviest portions of the breeding season, and as it is a very busy time on the farm, it is often to some extent neglected. It is indeed a singular circumstance where it is advisable to use a grade bull; in fact, one should take time to consider the matter, and if this is done, the chances are that the pure-bred will get the preference every time. If you have not a sire of your own, do not patronize a scrub or inferior animal of no particular breeding, simply because it is handy. Better lose a half day than run chances of getting a scrub calf. Pure-bred animals are available in most localities, and a man that is keeping a high quality of bull, with a good pedigree back of him is deserving of your support, and, while he is reaping a benefit from the trade, his patrons are receiving a much larger benefit in the great improvement of their stock.

A very satisfactory method of summer-feeding shoats is to place them in a movable pen located in a grass or clover field. A little straw placed in a covered corner of the pen serves as a comfortable bed, and the fact that the pen is moved as soon as the grass becomes short or stale, insures fresh green feed for the pigs at all times. The pen can be made of very light lumber, and three or three and one-half feet is high enough so that two men can easily move it whenever this is required. A pig is clean if he is given half a chance, and care should be taken to keep the bedding always in the same end of the pen. A very little straw is required for this purpose. The covered corner need not be very large, and a few boards answer for this purpose. It serves as a shelter from the sun, which might otherwise burn the pigs, especially when they are first placed outside. This method also insures ease in feeding, it being easy to keep the pen close to the buildings.

If you take the trouble to watch the sheep carefully for a short time on one of these bright, sunny days, you may see a few individuals that stand perfectly still for a short time, with the