

this reason alone the average dog is an animal of doubtful value as a herdsman's companion, but the Collie is accepted as an alert and courageous watch dog as well. J. W. S.

What Breed of Sheep Do You Keep?

There is great activity among sheep breeders these days, and the business of sheep raising is on a better footing than it has been for some time. Information bearing upon the industry will therefore be helpful. For this reason we are asking our readers for replies to the following questions, and trust there will be a liberal response:

- (1) What breed of sheep do you keep?
 - (2) Have you found them profitable for mutton and wool production?
 - (3) How has the lamb crop been this season? Have you lost many lambs, and what has been the cause?
 - (4) Is the worrying of sheep by dogs common in your district? What means would you advise for lessening this evil?
 - (5) Does it pay to wash sheep?
- We shall be glad to have answers from our readers to some or all of these questions, and any further information bearing upon the sheep industry that they may care to send. A large number of replies would enable us to form accurate conclusions on several important phases of sheep breeding.

Lamb-Raising Profitable

Editor THE FARMING WORLD.

In reply to your questions, I would say:

- (1) South Downs and Leicesters mixed.
- (2) I found young lambs born in the spring and kept until the last of October very profitable and saleable. Realized good money out of them. I think they pay well. Wool has not paid very well these few years back. Prices have been low.
- (3) My lamb crop has been very good. Have lost two lambs. Nearly every ewe had twins. A good deal of the trouble at the lambing season is the fault in managing the ewes. They should be looked after and warmly housed, and not allowed to run out the much. If they get wet and dry the lambs that are dropped will not be chilled through. They require some nursing. Good clover hay and chopped mangels are very good feed if all things are right.

(4) The worrying of sheep by dogs is common in my district. Some farmers have become discouraged on account of the dog nuisance and have sold their sheep. The township council has by-laws enacted which, if enforced, are very good. I don't know as I could better them any. If the sheep industry is looking up and farmers want to make sheep pay in every sense of the word no farmer should be allowed to keep dogs. God speed the day.

(5) It does pay to wash sheep. My plan of washing sheep is this: I put my shipping truck on my wagon, dump my sheep into it and give them a ride to the water. I adopt this method on account of their getting dusty and dirty if driven back on foot.

Norfolk Co., Ont.

OLD FARMER.

In Great Britain a law recently came into force making it compulsory to dip sheep in districts where on the order of the Board of Agriculture, it is found that sheep scab or a suspicion of sheep scab exists. This implies, however, that the order will not be given unless there is a certainty that it will be carried out in its entirety.

Packers Must Pay More for Bacon Hogs

Does the Bacon Hog Pay?

The following questions are practical and to the point. We want every reader who keeps hogs to answer them. If you cannot answer all, reply to those you can. It will help you and provide a fund of information that will aid in putting the industry on a better basis:

- (1) What breed of hogs do you keep?
- (2) Have you found them profitable for bacon production?
- (3) What is your method of feeding for the bacon market?
- (4) At about what age are the hogs ready for market?
- (5) Do the buyers in your district give enough more for select bacon hogs than for lights and fats, to make the business of raising the bacon hog profitable? What difference in price, if any, do they make?

We shall be glad to have opinions on points not covered by these questions. Who will be the first to reply?

Buyers Must Discriminate More

Editor THE FARMING WORLD.

I noticed an article in your paper entitled "Our Bacon Trade in Danger." There is no doubt a good deal of truth in it; because we still find a large number of farmers who think that the Chesters and Poland Chins, and even the small Berkshires are more profitable than the slower maturing breeds. The buyer gives no more for the York, Tamworth or good Berkshire, and the farmer who believes in the thick, fat short hog, continues to breed the same, and some of the feeders who have been caught with a lot of large, slow maturing bacon hogs when the prices are tumbling down say they will get into the smaller breeds. On the other hand, there is a large majority of farmers who believe that from experience in feeding suitable hogs, there is more money in the bacon breeds, and these men will continue to produce the right type, although the buyers make no difference in price. The buyers should discriminate against the undesirable types and do their share in helping to build up the bacon trade.

ROBERT THOMPSON.
St. Catharines, Ont.

Packers Entirely to Blame

Editor THE FARMING WORLD.

In reply to yours of the 15th regarding the bacon trade, I quite agree with the view of the matter expressed in your editorial. It is certainly the fault of the packers in not paying a higher price for the export hog, and they will have themselves to blame when the scarcity of that kind of hog comes, as undoubtedly it will in the near future unless they are prepared to pay a premium for what is required for their best trade, for that class of hog costs more to produce and requires constant care from start to finish. It has always been a mystery to me why there should be such a difference in the price of export cattle and butcher's stock, and practically no difference in the price of export bacon hogs and common stock.

In reply to your question I would say:

- (1) We have always, since the bacon trade started, kept Yorkshires.
- (2) We think them best for producing the class that the packer wants, but I think the Berkshire will make weight quicker, and is a more docile hog.
- (3) At about eight months.

(4) Emphatically no, and in consequence the farmers are going back to Berkshires and Chester Whites, and other of the thick, fat breeds, as they think they are easier kept.

R. S. STEVENSON.

Amcaster, Ont.

Why Hogs are Scarce

Editor THE FARMING WORLD:

I have noticed in some of the agricultural papers the cause of scarcity of Canadian hogs, especially in Ontario. The packer says the reason is the scarcity of coarse grains. That is not the only reason, because there was more coarse grain in Ontario last year than the year before.

There are not as many hogs in Ontario now as a year ago, for the reason that there are not as many raised. Farmers who used to raise from 75 to 100 hogs a year only raise 10 to 25 hogs now, and many in my district have gone out of the hog business altogether.

The cause of the scarcity of hogs is really due to the action of themselves. They say that at the price they are now paying for hogs they lose one cent per pound on them. They did not think last fall when they were paying \$4.50 to \$5.00 per cwt. that the farmers were losing from 1 to 2 cents per pound, but the farmer does not say anything. Last fall the packers put the price of hogs down low because they were plentiful in the country. A great many farmers did not like this and went out of the business.

The packing companies of Ontario were glad when they closed the co-operating companies. The farmers are getting even now and will put the packing companies out of business if they do not handle the price of hogs better.

With present prices for grain and labor it does not pay the farmer to feed hogs at all. The price of corn is down last fall. If the packer will keep up the price of hogs next fall, I do not think they will have to import any next year. If they do not, I think they will have to import more. It is in the hands of the packer. If I do not want to import hogs let him keep the price of hogs up to a reasonable figure and the farmer at home will supply him.

I would make a suggestion that we hear the farmers' side of the bacon hog question next year at the Winter Fair, instead of hearing the packers' side of it.

Sparta, Ont.

W. B. ROBERTS.

Curing Scours in Pigs

A leading swine breeder of Pennsylvania gives his experience in treating pigs for scours as follows:

"My remedy for a sow with eight to twelve pigs has always been six raw eggs broken and stirred, shells and all, in the slop of the sow for the next three feeds. Six cases out of ten the scours are all gone in 36 hours and I have never had a case to go over 48 hours. Here is a remedy all farmers have, and it is no trouble to administer. Occasionally pigs three to four weeks old are attacked with scours. The remedy is just the same. Also, I occasionally find a pig eight to fourteen weeks old with the same trouble. I catch him, put him in a pen by himself and feed him just the same as before, only adding one raw egg, and in about three days he invariably recovers."

When salt is constantly in reach hogs will go to it very often and eat a small quantity each time.