

Selling price.....	\$204.60
Purchasing price.....	\$95.93
Cost of feed.....	\$6.25
Total cost of hogs.....	182.18

Actual profit..... \$22.42

These figures show that with skim milk, comparatively high-priced corn can be fed to three cent hogs, with a profit.

I was not satisfied with the small profits, so determined to feed something approaching a balanced ration, for I was convinced that hogs putting on the second 100 pounds should gain at least two pounds per days per head.

Last fall, when hogs were high in the Kansas City market, I had twenty-four head that averaged 200 pounds each. The hogs were doing so well that I concluded not to sell them, but make them weigh 300 pounds. I had heard many times that it dinn't pay to put on the third hundred and was anxious to try it for myself. The hogs were fed forty-five days longer and consumed during the time 120 bushels of corn worth 25c per bushel, 1,000 pound shorts, worth 70 cents per 100; also a little salt, wood-ashes and four gallons of skim milk per day, worth 9 cents, and plenty of water. At the end of the forty-five days the hogs weighed 308.33 pounds each and sold for \$3.70 per 100. The result :

Selling price of hogs	\$273.80
Value at beginning of 45 days.....	\$199.20
Cost of feed.....	\$37.90
Total cost of hogs and feed.....	\$149.10
Actual profit.....	36.70

It will be noticed that in the forty-five days the market fell 45 cents per hundred—a speculative feature of the business which greatly reduced the profits of the operation.

By compounding this result with that of the first, these heavy hogs gained the third hundred pounds quicker than the light hogs gained the second, which is contrary to the rule. The first lot gained 1.8 pounds per day at a cost of 2.3 cents per pound and the difference in the price of corn was

only 3 cents. But why this great difference? How did we get such a remarkable gain? Was it chance? Far from that. An examination of the rations will disclose the cause. It was corn and cold water. It was corn to make the fat, shorts and skim milk to provide the protein which is absolutely necessary to produce the lean meat and muscle, and salt and ashes to produce the bone. The ration was as nearly a perfectly balanced ration as we can feed under farmer's conditions.

The writer believes that a great many things are to be learned from these two feeding trials, and the first of all is, that the farmer needs education. He must study the cost of production. The day is long since past, when the farmer could keep his stock in a field near a water hole, throw the animals feed occasionally, and make a profit. He must call to his aid, the different branches of science that pertain to agriculture, he should be "good in ciphering" in order to know exactly what he is doing. Let the farmer acquaint himself with balanced rations and feeling standards.

These test show a gain of nearly a pound of pork a day in favor of a balanced ration, as against the old method of feeding corn, corn, corn, and such slop as could be had from the kitchen.

The writer believes that skim milk, and other dairy by-products are very valuable things the farmer cannot well do without.

The gain on the first lot of hogs fed was nearly two pounds per day on skim milk and corn—not soaked or cooked corn, or the droppings from corn-fed steers, but dry ear corn. I firmly believe that if I could have fed forty gallons of skim milk per day to the second lot, instead of four, I would have produced pork at a cost of one cent per pound.

The dairymen of Kansas must study the feeding problem. They must learn to utilize the by-products from their cows and feed all their skim milk at home, instead of hauling it to the creamery, and allowing the "other fellow" to take it home and feed it to five cent hogs. Let us feed all our skim milk, and there will be fewer unsettled accounts, and more happy homes.—M. L. DICKSON, in "Dairy Age."