

be sown in a cornfield at the last cultivation, or in oats or barley, and no better feed can be made.

By the time the youngsters are a month or six weeks old, the ewes should be given a little grain in long feed troughs where the lambs may get a taste of the feed. As soon as they have developed a taste for grain, a separate pen should be provided with a "creep" through which the lambs may pass. In this pen a feed trough should be placed, and here the lambs may be fed twice daily, beginning on shelled corn and gradually decreasing the bran until it forms not more than one-tenth of the ration by weight. When the lambs are weaned the grain ration should be increased until the youngsters are getting all they will eat up clean twice a day. Fed in this manner, they will make rapid gains and will also be ready for slaughter by the time they weigh from 90 to 100 pounds.

In conclusion, we see that sheep may be fed more economically and profitably on grass and grain than on the dry lot, that they may obtain gains can be secured on bluegrass pasture alone where such pasture is good; that lambs should not be allowed the run of bluegrass pasture if sheep have pastured on the same in preceding years; that alfalfa and red clover are the most satisfactory early pasture for lambs; that rape makes satisfactory late pasture; and that corn is, as a general rule, the most economical grain feed that can be used in fattening sheep on pasture.

Three Things in Hog Raising

To produce a robust, money-making hog, three things (in addition to proper breeding) are absolutely necessary. They are: (1) quantity of food, (2) quality of food, and (3) cleanliness.

By quantity we mean not to give at any one time more food than just what the hog will eat up clean with an appetite. Food should be given to young pigs four or five times a day, or often, for a while. Then, as they grow older, they can be broken off to three feeds or even two feeds a day, but never put so much feed in the trough that they will leave to take a rest and come back to finish it up. Test this by making the trough saw a saw with a litter of thrifty pigs lie coaxing them to come and have some more when they wanted to quit? More frequently she will shut them off before they are full, and the sow is pretty hard to improve upon as a caretaker of young pigs.

Then as to quality. In this particular we must be guided to a certain extent by the food we have available, but if this is not of a light, easily-digested nature, it will pay to go to some expense to procure what is suitable to give the pigs a good start. I think the ideal food for the first month is a thin mash of the oat-milk, with shorts or middlings, with a small quantity of finely-ground oats from which the hulls have been sifted. But if the milk is not plentiful, use water, and make up for the milk by adding just a little of the oatmeal. Do not, however, keep them on the same ration every day; vary the mixture frequently, and as they get a little older, other grains may be added or substituted. From the first do not neglect to give some pulped roots, or tender weeds and grasses, the leavings of which should

be gathered up and thrown out of the pen as soon as picked over.

When we have plenty of skim-milk, the difficulty of providing good food is largely overcome, but too much milk is not good. Avoid sour milk, or sour food of any kind, and if you are obliged to feed any grain that is not ground very fine, it is much better to feed it dry and give the drink by itself. Some say soak it, but I prefer to feed dry, as this insures better mastication, and consequently better digestion. I find that in most cases where soaking is attempted, the grain is not sufficiently soaked, and if the weather is warm it is often soured instead.

If the pigs are confined in pens, as is generally the case with "weaners," they should be provided at all times with all the charcoal they will eat. They should also have sulphur three times a week and a little bit of salt in their food. If any sign of constipation is seen, change the food at once and increase the sulphur.

As to cleanliness. Too much can

never be said on this point. The old idea that if we give a hog enough to eat he can live in any sort of place, is played out. If a hog will thrive in dirt and wet, he will certainly do much better on the same food if kept clean. If you educate him to be clean, by having a corner or place for him to go to to drop his manure, and have that place where it is convenient to throw it out, and see that it is thrown out regularly, you will not only save yourself a lot of work but will have better pigs. Have the dirt-room partitioned off with a plank so the hog can step out of it on to a clean, dry floor. Have the floor where the animal feeds and also where he sleeps, clean and dry.

If this last rule is attended to you will see how your hogs will appreciate your care by keeping clean, and making you less work and more pork. But if you break this one commandment of cleanliness, you have gone a long way toward undoing all the others.

F. W. S.

THE DAIRY

The Cream Gathering Creamery

The cream gathering creamery has of late years become a leading feature of the butter-making business of this country. It has several advantages over the whole milk creamery, such as the lower cost of hauling cream instead of milk, bringing cream from a wider area than it would be possible to haul milk, leaving the skim-milk on the farm in a clean and sweet condition for young stock, not to say anything of the less expensive plant required to make the butter.

This system of butter-making is about the only one followed in the large butter-making centres of the United States. In Canada progress has, perhaps, not been so fast, though the number of whole milk creameries is gradually getting less. Outside of Quebec there are few that follow altogether the whole milk plan. In Western Canada the cream gathering plan has been used for several years with marked success. Cream is shipped by team and delivered by wagon many miles to the creamery. The butter made from this cream is of quality and a large quantity of it has been exported every year, chiefly to the Orient and the Yukon.

This system has been condemned by men in the trade because the butter made has not been suited to the export trade. There has not been uniformity in quality and the butter has been lacking in that fine flavor so essential to good butter. While this has been true to a certain extent, the fault lies not in the system but in the way it has been managed. There is nothing inherent in the cream gathering plan to prevent good butter from being made. Here are creameries to-day operated in the best way that make as good butter day in and day out as that made by any other system. In many cases those operating creameries have become careless and have allowed cream to be delivered twice or three times a week, so when it should have been delivered four times or every day. Then the patrons have not

been instructed how to handle the cream properly. This coupled with infrequent delivery has resulted in every and all kinds of cream being delivered at the creamery and making it practically impossible for the maker to get the finest quality of butter from it.

The farmer should be able to care for cream as easily as he can milk. In fact the much smaller bulk of the former should enable him to take better care of it than of the milk from which it is taken. The difficulty so far as the care of the cream is concerned could therefore, be largely overcome by educating the patron how to handle it properly. This no doubt, will take time, but it should be no more difficult than educating the patron of a cheese factory to take care of his milk, a task that has recently been undertaken in Ontario by the dairy instructors and inspectors. The cream gathering creamery should therefore not be condemned for lack of attention to these details. Improve the way of doing it and the system will be all right.

The system is especially suited to the needs of the average farmer and it is for this reason that it has become so popular and has spread so rapidly over the country. Whether he gets the milk from his herd or not, he more than makes it up by the lower cost of hauling cream than milk and the great advantage there is in having the skim-milk sweet for the young stock. The system enables cream to be gathered over a wide area and thus a saving is effected in the cost of buildings and equipment. Farmers living many miles away, with only a few cows each, can have the cream delivered at comparatively little cost. This is an advantage and one of the reasons why the system lends itself to the expansion of the export butter on a much larger scale than we have had heretofore. By this means butter-making can be carried on in the most desirable and to places where dairying is not made a specialty and the country's total output of butter thus largely increased. To so great an extent has this been the case that the extension of our export trade in butter will depend largely upon how the cream gathering system is handled and

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