

raised 205 bushel of Fife wheat from 14 bushels sown, or nearly 15 to 1. These facts show that, with careful cultivation, and the sowing of good seed, excellent crops of wheat can be raised in Nova Scotia, and in Colchester County in particular.—*Guardian*.

HEAVY WEIGHT.—The young thoroughbred Durham bull "Alfonso," imported from Ontario last spring by the Saint Andrew's Agricultural Society, Co. Antigonishe, and owned by Alex. Chisholm, Esq., Lower South River, turned the scales last week at sixteen hundred and sixty-one pounds (1661 lbs), when only twenty-three (23) months old.

The thoroughbred Short Horn Bull YORK, No. 34, bred by Edwin Chase, Cornwallis, and owned by Rufus C. Hendry, has been transferred to the Mutual Benefit Agricultural Society of Brookfield and Pleasant River.

It is an unaccountable fact that the raising of geese and ducks in quantity for the market is so much neglected by our American farmers, while Englishmen possessing only a few acres and access to a stream or pond, raise such large numbers with a good profit. Many readers of the *Maryland Farmer* have creeks running through barren parts of their land, near by which could be placed cheap houses for geese, as which no land or water fowls can be so easily raised, or at so good a profit.

Having once secured a good breeding stock of three or four geese mated to one gander, all large, fine specimens, the same flock can be retained for breeders for six or eight years at least. In summer they will thrive on pasture alone. The geese begin laying in February, and lay thirteen to fifteen eggs. Either a Turkey hen or a large Asiatic hen can be used for incubating, which requires thirty days; sprinkle the eggs with tepid water for ten days before hatching. Feed the young goslings "little and often" with hard boiled eggs, bread crumbs and scalded meal; they are soon ready to shift for themselves, and can be marketed without extra fattening as "green geese." Even the farmer who has no stream of running water can raise geese profitably by giving them plenty of fresh water for drinking, and a large tub or tank for bathing. The principal varieties of thoroughbred geese are the Toulouse, Bremen or Embden, and Hong Kong or China. Of these the Toulouse are the largest, having reached the maximum weight of sixty pounds per pair, at the Birmingham show in England. They are of a gray color, with white on the belly, and are a valuable variety. The Bremen geese are pure white in color, and hence are more

valued for their feathers, and are often as large as the Toulouse—the greatest weight ever known being fifty-eight and a-half pounds per pair. Their meat is very delicate, they are hardy, and good layers. The Hong Kong geese are much smaller than either of the preceding, but are the best layers known, often laying three or four litters in a season, and sometimes as many as thirty or forty eggs before sitting.—*W. A. Burpee in "Maryland Farmer."*

It costs no more to keep a good animal than a poor one, and generally not as much. A high grade steer, for instance, is ready for market from one to two years earlier than a scrub. The object in raising a steer is for beef, and how to get him to the block in the most desirable form, from the butcher's standpoint, in the shortest period after his birth and at the minimum of cost, is the leading question for the farmer or feeder to solve. The high grade steer is ready for market from one to two years sooner than the scrub can be put into that form. The former more easily digests and assimilates his food than the latter, and appropriates more of its nutritious principles. When ready for market the grade turns the scale generally at one-third more than the scrub, the meat is laid on where the butcher wants it, and is far better in quality, hence brings a higher price. Here is a difference in the cost of keeping of from one to two years—generally two—and a third heavier carcass, besides the difference per pound in the price of the meat. The truth is, it is impossible for farmers in the older States, not only in the East, but in the States east of the Mississippi River, to raise scrub stock profitably. The Western cattle men, whose herds are counted by thousands, are now "breeding up" their native stock—a fact that makes it imperative upon his competitor farther East to raise cattle that are well bred, and inherit a large capacity for consumption, digestion and assimilation of food, and mature in from two and a-half to three years at most.—*Thorley Journal*.

If the cows have to drink from any place other than brook or river, do not turn out more than two at a time. Many of our hired men expect a cow to drink like a horse, which they certainly do not. Lead a horse to the trough and he will drink immediately or not at all; but a cow will usually stand and look, wet her lips and sip a mouthful half a dozen times before she begins to drink in good earnest. Some cows, however will drink immediately. But, in case of either cows or horses, proper care cannot be taken of them till their peculiarities are well understood; and whoever undertakes to

make the most of his stock must make every individual one a special study. If cows are watered out of a pail, it may be found that one animal will drink only from a certain pail, and if a change is made it will be instantly detected.—*American Cultivator*.

The Milch Zeitung relates a recent experiment by Fjord:

"A quantity of fresh milk was divided into three portions, one of which was set in ice-water at once; the other two were allowed to cool an hour by standing at ordinary temperatures, and one of these was then set in ice-water; the third portion was carried in a wagon for three hours before being set in ice-water; all the samples were allowed to stand ten hours. Calling the quantity of butter yield by the first portion of milk 100 parts, the other two gave 70.3 and 73 parts respectively; or, in other words, there was a loss of 29.94 and 27 per cent. of butter in the two cases mentioned, as compared with what should have been obtained if these two portions of milk had, like the first, been put in ice-water at once. The loss was not in all cases so great as this; but the fact that it may occur, and may under certain conditions be so serious, is well worthy the attention of the managers of creameries; and no less worthy of their consideration is the simple method discovered by Fjord of almost entirely avoiding this loss, which consists in heating the milk, as soon as received at its destination, up to about 104 degrees. In the warm season the milk may be cooled as soon as drawn, so as to be delivered in a fresher condition at the creamery, where it may then be warmed as above. These experiments also yielded the important result that, with a good centrifugal creamer, no notable loss of butter was caused by this partial cooling of the milk before delivery; so that re-heating the milk is unnecessary when this method of separating the cream is followed."

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