Annual Live-stock Report.

The forty-fifth annual live-stock report of the Union Stock-yard and Transit Co., Chicago, covering the year 1910, has just come to hand. The total receipts and valuation for 1910 were :

Cattle	3,052,958	$188,740,722
Calves	499,941	6,409,215
Hogs	5,586,858	118,047,357
Sheep	5,229,294	29,346,532
Horses	83,438	14,601,825

Making a total of 14,452,490 head of stock, with a total value of $357,145,681, and making 251,080 carloads.

The largest number of sheep ever received at the yards in one day was 70,373, on October 10th, 1910. In the same year there was the largest number of calves and of sheep received in one year yet on record.

The range of prices for heavy native steers in 1910 was $5.65 to $8.75 ; for lighter natives, $4.85 to $8.85 ; for best cows and heifers, $3.00 to $8.00 ; for stockers and feeders, $2.90 to $7.10 ; for rangers, $3.90 to $7.75.

The range of prices for heavy hogs was $6.55 to $11.20 ; for mixed packing hogs, $6.60 to $11.15 ; for bacon hogs, $6.50 to $11.05. For native sheep the prices ranged from $2.00 to $9.00 ; for native yearlings and lambs, $4.00 to $10.25 ; for Western sheep, $2.90 to $9.30.

The average price for heavy-draft horses in 1910 was $200 ; for carriage pairs, $473 ; for drivers, $172 ; for bussers and trammers, $161 ; and for saddlers, $177. These prices for horses were higher in all classes, except carriage pairs, than they have been for the last seven years.

Heavy Feeding of Silage.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate" :

Practically, I feed my cows all they will eat the year round. When turned out on grass, about the 20th of May, until the middle of July, they don't care for it. From then until the first of October, they eat about 15 pounds twice a day, each ; during October, 20 pounds twice a day. Then, through the winter, our milking cows get 20 pounds each three times a day (60 pounds) until grass grows. Our dry cows get very little; in fact, none, if there is danger of running short in summer. Of my herd of 70 cows, there was only one that had an attack of indigestion last year. I attributed that to increasing her grain ration a little too fast after she freshened. I have had sour silage that I could not feed, with good results, without mixing with cut straw, then not more than about 30 pounds a day to a cow. My experience is, sweet silage is like good clover hay—harmless. We feed a little hay every day. An old saying is, "The proof of the pudding is in the eating thereof." So with the cows, the proof is the milking thereof. Have just totalled up my year's milk and cash for herd. I might say my cows are common grades of all sorts—no pure-bred or high-grade Holsteins among them—yet I think they make a very creditable showing, and that heavy feeding of silage has not hurt them. There are six two-year-old heifers in the herd. Total milk for 1910, 526,042 lbs. ; average pounds per cow, 7,515 ; twelve of the best averaged 10,426 pounds. I delivered my milk to the Canadian Milk Products Co., at Brownsville, for which I received $6,510.61, making an average of $93 per cow.

Oxford Co., Ont. S. A. FREEMAN.

Not Over 25 Pounds Silage per Day

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate" :

Corn silage is an excellent and cheap food for cattle, but considerable care and judgment should be used in feeding it. I have noticed cattle can more readily be put off their feed with silage than with any other kind of fodder. I have never fed more than 25 pounds to a cow in a day. I would not think of feeding 40 pounds, the amount you mention. Perhaps silage that has not much grain in it can be fed more heavily. Ours has been made from corn which has as large a percentage of ears as we used to grow for husking; and perhaps it is not so heavy as some, as we let it mature before cutting.

We feed twice a day, each feed being in bulk a good rounded-up half-bushel measureful. That would be the maximum amount for our largest cows when they are milking at their best.

I have made a practice, lately, of ceasing to feed silage to the cows for nearly a week after they "come in," and feeding bran, instead, then changing back to a small feed of chop and silage, and gradually increasing the feed. I have noticed that feeding liberally of chop and silage immediately after calving almost invariably results in crossed udders, if not in garget.

Middlesex Co., Ont. ADAM BATY

Good-doing Lambs.

Undoubtedly, there is good money to be made in lambs, by having them dropped early, keeping them going, and getting them to a good weight for an early June market. At the Ontario Agricultural College last year, weights were kept upon a number of the lambs, and the data we give here : They were weighed at 1 week, 5 weeks, at 5½ months ; they were dropped the first week of March, which made them 3½ months old about the middle of June. A few were also weighed at the first of October.

	Weight at				
No.	1 week	5 weeks	June 17	Oct. 1	Nov. 1
1	13	33	78	108	116
2	12¾	25½	77		
3	14½	32	70		
4	11½	28	69		
5	18¼	15	97	136	154
6	17	35	83	124	145
7	14½	32	69		
8	12	29	62		
9	16	34	78		
10	21	46	88	130	144

Nos. 1 and 2 were twins, as also were 3 and 4, and 8 and 9.

These lambs were produced from seven ewes. When the lambs were two months old, they all went to grass. Up to that time, the sheep and lambs had eaten 224 pounds bran, 560 pounds oats, 196 pounds oil cake, 1,648 pounds roots, 1,120 pounds alfalfa hay, which would be worth, approximately, $20. In the first part of May they were put on pasture, and by the middle of June, the 10 lambs averaged 77.1 pounds in weight, at which time spring lambs were worth about 10 cents per pound, or, individually, they would have been worth about $7.75 each. Not counting the cost of wintering the ewes, the lambs at that time would have netted $5 each.

There is a lesson in this for every farmer who raises lambs, marketing them in October at from $4 to $5 each. Without doubt, it pays to have the lambs come early, and to keep them going every day, thus getting them in readiness for an early market and putting them on it.

It is to be noted from the table that by fall the lambs are heavier than the market wants, and it may be remarked that the market is then flooded with that article, so that low prices prevail. It is also to be noted that as rapid gains are not obtained from the middle of June on, as previous to it, which would indicate an advantage for early lambs for an early market.

Nesting in His Wool.

One or Two Sows Per Farm.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Referring to "Berk Bacon's" letter on sows versus cows, there are some statements that will bear analyzing a little. We will take first the cost of feeding a sow for a year, which the writer says will not be one-third that of a cow, or according to his estimate, less than $10. I do not know how he arrives at this sum, but if he can feed a brood sow for twelve months, and rear two litters of pigs, as he says, he will confer a lasting benefit on a number of his brother farmers if he will sit down and write exactly how he does it. At the present time the writer has two sows running in an open shed, with free access to yard, and they are getting five pounds mixed chop, 5c. ; half a bushel of roots, perhaps rather more, 5c. ; and 10 or 12 cobs of green corn, say 2c.—a total of 10c., or 5c. per head per day. I have always figured the cost of feeding sows at 5c. per day in the winter. While suckling, a cow will eat at least 10c. worth of concentrates, chop, bran, shorts, skim milk, or what not, besides considerable roots or other green feed, worth in all, say, 12c. per day, or $3.50 per month. Now, how will this figure out on a year's feed ? We will suppose the sow is fed for two months with each litter ; some wean at six weeks, some at seven or eight, but, as she will be shut in a few days before farrowing, we shall be within the mark to say two months. She will not be on full feed the first week or two, so we will clip off $1, and charge $6 for the two months. Her second litter may come when pasture or stubble-picking is available, and this will lessen the cost somewhat. We will take off another $1 for this, and charge $5 only for the two months. We have left now two periods of four months each, one of winter feeding, at $1.50 per month, equals $6; and the other, at pasture, we will charge 50 cents per month, or $2. The account now stands as follows :

4 months' winter feeding, at $1.50	$ 6.00
2 " raising litter in winter	6.00
4 " pasture	2.00
2 " raising litter in fall	5.00
2 service fees	2.00
2 trips to stud, at 50c each	1.00
Total cost for one year	$22.00

Berk Bacon's estimate of value of two litters is rather under the mark of present values, but is a fair average, $35, which leaves a net profit of $13, less such sum as may be allowed for risk, or interest on value of sow.

His figures for the average cow we may assume as fairly correct, but there is this to say : The average cow is a very poor cow, and the yearly income per head can easily be raised to $55 or $60, and may go much higher than that. The profit from a fairly good cow should easily double that from a sow. Berk Bacon is undoubtedly correct when he says that a calf will not by any system of feeding give the owner as much profit yearly as a bunch of 15 hogs, but he should have added, "at the present prices."

Now, how about 10 sows to the hundred acres? Ten sows should give us 150 pigs in a year. It is generally considered that it takes 4½ pounds of grain to make a pound of pork ; it would take 900 pounds, then, to make each hog up to 200 pounds ; 900 pounds equals 22 bushels of mixed grain (barley and oats), hence we should require 3,300 bushels of grain to finish these 150 hogs. I do not know what the average grain production of the 100-acre farm is, but doubt if it is one-third of this amount. Where is the feed coming from to make up this deficit ? How are we going to feed our cows, our horses, hens and sheep ? Corn will take the place of some, and alfalfa will make a substitute for another part; skim milk and sugar beets or mangels also fill a useful place, but 150 hogs and 15 cows are rather a large order for the average farm, and, I might add, farmer.

How many hogs is it profitable to keep to each cow ? is a question not easy to answer. It all depends on the cow, whether she gives three gallons per day, or six. Also, on whether any calves are to be raised, or not. Perhaps the most profit can be made out of milk if we can feed about one gallon per head per day. Suppose our cows average 5,000 pounds milk in the year, and none should be kept that go much below this. That would give us, roughly speaking, 480 gallons of milk and buttermilk available for feeding purposes, or enough to feed four hogs one gallon per day for four months, which, with the addition of grain and other feeds, should bring them pretty close to the 200-pound mark, allowing that they are weaned at seven or eight weeks old. I like to feed some milk to the sow while she is suckling ; she comes through in better