

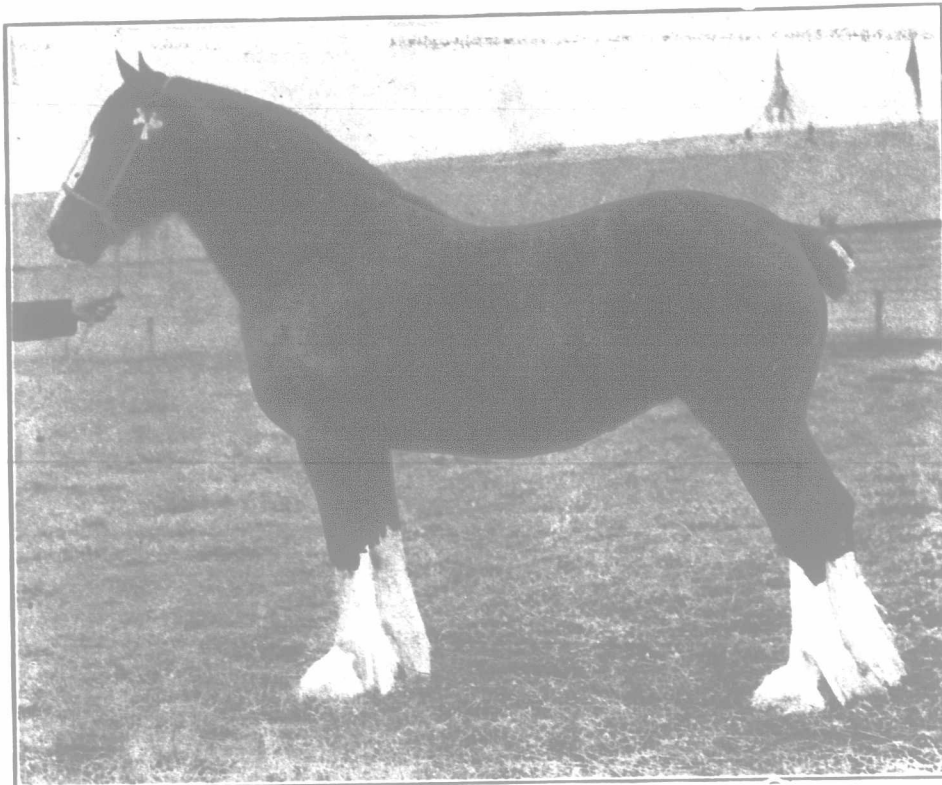
the spring, when the soil is loose, often wet and soggy, it makes very tiresome travelling for a burdened mare, and adds very materially to maternity risks. Such soil conditions are never met with in the late summer or early fall. I had my mare foal in the latter part of August or early September, and was able to use her up to that time whenever required. After foaling, I always allowed her four or five weeks freedom from work, running in the pasture with the colt. Some object to this, being the worst time for flies, thinking young foals suffer more than older ones, but I did not observe that to be the case. After the prescribed vacation, the mare always did her share of the fall plowing, and the colt, after a few days' experience, learned not to follow the mare constantly. Of course, wet or cold nights they were kept in the stable. When the season demanded it, I tied the mare in her usual place in the stable, and allowed the colt to run loose behind the other horses all winter. I raised three colts in different years this way, and never had one of them injured by the other four horses in the same stable; in fact, the other horses appeared to like to have the colt around. This practice could not be followed in all cases, as some horses would kick a colt to pieces, and, where possible, a box stall, with mare and colt running loose all winter, would be preferable.

Having more leisure in winter than in spring to care for stock, I gave the mare good attention, and the colt, by daily handling, became gentle and manageable, and thrived splendidly. I made it a point to have the colt weaned before the first of April, so that the mare would be in proper shape for the spring work. This gave the colt between six and seven months of suckling, which put it in prime condition, and I had no difficulty, with nourishing food, to maintain it so until it was time to turn out to grass. This I consider a decided advantage over the spring-born colt. How often during the long winter months, when the weaned colt is without succulent food, it becomes rough and stunted, while a fall colt at the end of its first year, is in much better shape, is more thrifty and larger in size than the spring colt when just a yearling, and its coat does not get shaggy.

Now, as to the disadvantages. In the first place, there is not the same choice of stallions in the fall as in the spring. In some cases it may be the best is nearest; in others, the best is not within reach, and one has to use an inferior animal. Again, it is probably more difficult to catch a young mare in season in the fall than in the spring, but with mares seven or eight years of age, and up, this would not generally be noted,

and I can say I got my mare in foal in the fall with less lost time and less running around than when bred in the spring.

Another objection that can be urged against fall colts is that the breeder is almost certainly barred from the prize-ring until the colt is well matured, possibly until it is three years old, as the older colts have the advantage. I took one of my fall colts to our local fall fair when two years old, but was beaten because it was smaller. The next year the same colt got second prize, and I think should have had first. However, the point is that the older colts have larger growth until



Boquhan Lady Peggy.

Clydesdale mare. Champion Highland and Agricultural Societies Show, 1910.

nearly matured, but there appears to me, from the experience I have had, to be no question but that a fall colt will grow and finally develop in the same length of time, under the same conditions, fully as well or better than the spring-born. I worked my colts in the spring of the year they were three years old, as I would had they been born in the spring, and they did the work as well; and, to show they were good colts, one sold, when three years of age, for \$180, and a two-year-old for \$140.

In conclusion, let me say I was well satisfied with my experience, and anyone who has to do heavy work with his mare in the spring will find it much safer to breed for a fall colt.

Northumberland Co., Ont. A. J. LACEY.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have raised quite a number of fall colts, all with good success, and could safely advise anyone raising two or more colts each year to try one fall colt; or, if you have only one brood mare, and she fails to get in foal in the regular season, try again for a fall colt. I never had any more trouble to get mares in foal in the fall than any other time. If my mare has a fall foal, I breed again in nine or ten days after she foals. If my mare is raising a summer colt, I wean the colt

about the time I want to breed the mare, and the chances are she will be in season in three or four days. Dry mares are, perhaps, not quite as sure to get in foal in the fall as in the spring, but you get quite a percentage of them, too.

The first fall colt I raised was partly as an experiment. My best brood mare did not get in foal in the earlier part of the season, so I tried again for a fall colt. This colt was foaled about the first of October. The weather was fine in the day time, but cool at nights. It was not long before she had a good thick coat; after that she could stand as much cold as any colt. I kept her inside on wet and stormy days; let her run with her mother in a box stall, and fed the mother three quarts of oats and some bran three times a day, along with some mixed hay, clover and timothy. Through the winter I let them out to exercise every fine day. I weaned the colt about the first of March, by which time the colt would eat bran and oats, and drink milk out of a pail. By the middle of March she would eat three quarts of oats and some bran, and drink five or six quarts of separator milk per day; was also given all the hay she would eat. This colt did very well on this treatment, and was turned on good pasture about the 10th of May, and did not get any more grain till the following winter.

This colt was never baled or stuffed, but when she was three years old she was a fine, well-developed mare. I sold her at the age of three years and four months old to a dealer. He pulled four of her baby teeth, and left her with me a month till the permanent teeth grew in, and put her on the market the 1st of March as a 4-year-old.

I have raised quite a number since, and they have all done well. Now, where I find the disadvantage is, it seems to be harder on the mares to have a colt sucking them in the winter than the summer, where, as it is in this district, we have no carrots to give our horses, but have to rely on hay and oats and bran. But, on the other hand, if you work your mares, I think you get more work; and having your mare on grass while she is carrying her foal, I think, is far better than to have her stabled and on dry feed, and less risk both on mare and foal. I have also raised many spring colts, as well as fall colts, with fairly good success with both kinds, and, in summing up results, I do not see much difference, but, if anything, it is in favor of the fall colt.

Elgin Co., Ont. SUBSCRIBER.

United States Percheron Importation Fees.

The Percheron Society of America, which recently presented extensive outlines for the work of inspection of infected animals at the port of landing, states that so far this work is confined to the matter of proper identification of the animals, and that the work is proceeding most satisfactorily. Since the more sweeping and expensive scheme of inspection is not likely to be undertaken for some time, a new schedule of fees for the registration of imported animals has been adopted, namely, for animals over four years of age fifty dollars shall be paid, and for those under four years twenty-five dollars, if recorded within three months after importation.

LIVE STOCK.

Good Money from Pig-feeding.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I am sending you this bill of feeding pigs. I saw last winter in "The Farmer's Advocate," where some others had given a statement of what profit there was in feeding pigs, so I thought I would try it, too, and this is the success I had:

Jan. 8—Seventeen pigs born.	
March 1—Seventeen weaned, at \$3.....	\$ 51.00
" 1—Half ton shorts, at \$26.....	13.00
" 1—400 lbs. low-grade flour, at \$1.45 per cwt.	5.80
April 30—Half ton shorts, at \$24.....	12.00
" 30—500 lbs. low-grade flour, at \$1.45 per cwt.	7.25
" 30—30 bush. mangels, at 8c. bush....	2.40
June 7—1,110 lbs. chop, at \$1.30 cwt., chopping, 50 cents	14.83
" 7—Skim milk, 500 lbs., at 20 cts. per cwt.	10.00
" 27—1,283 lbs. chop, at \$1.30 cwt., chopping, 60 cts.	17.27
July 3—1,300 lbs. chop, at \$1.30 cwt., chopping, 60 cts.	17.50
" 23—1,140 lbs. chop, at \$1.30 cwt., chopping, 50 cts.	15.32
" 30—585 lbs. chop, at \$1.30 cwt., chopping, 25 cts.	7.95
Total	\$174.22
July 27—Sold 8 pigs, 1,560 lbs., at \$9.40 per cwt.	\$146.65
Aug. 1—3 pigs, 536 lbs., at \$9.40 cwt....	50.88
" 17—6 pigs, 1,270 lbs., at \$8.50 cwt.	107.95
Total	\$304.98
Profit, \$130.76.	
York Co., Ont.	L. B.



Sailor Prince.

Hereford bull. First in class three years and over, and male champion, Royal Show, 1910.