

Farming.

A PAPER FOR FARMERS AND STOCKMEN

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Questions and Answers.

Feeding Cows for Milk.

To the Editor of **FARMING**:

Please inform me through your valuable farming paper as to feeding cows for a flow of milk. Which is the better, dry or dampened chop or feed quite wet? Also as to using hot or cold water during the winter months.

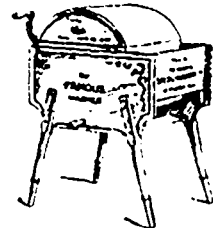
L. MOYER, Welland, Ont.

To produce a large flow of milk a cow should be fed liberally. About sixty per cent. of all a cow can eat is required to sustain her body and only after this amount is supplied can there be any return in milk. Some cows can profitably consume more feed than others, and the feeder should learn to discriminate between the individual cows in this regard. A heavy milker should have more concentrated food such as grain than one giving only a small quantity, and it will be an aid to the cow to have the grain reduced to fineness by grinding. The rule should be to feed nearly as much roughage as the cow will consume without overtaxing her; then supply sufficient concentrates to bring the digestible matter up to the required standard. A good ration for a cow is one having a nutritive ratio of 1 to 6. Bran and middlings form a good feed with roughage for a flow of milk. There are so many things connected with this question of feeding a dairy cow that we have not space to go into the subject at length here.

Experiments conducted along that line go to show that it does not pay to wet the feed for milch cows. From an experiment conducted at the Ontario Agricultural College Prof. Dean concludes that "this experiment would indicate that slopping is an expensive way to feed cows." Experiments conducted at the Wisconsin station, where water warmed to a temperature of 70° Fahr. was supplied to one lot of cows in opposition to water at a temperature of 32° given to a second lot. In the first trial the cows receiving the warm water gave six per cent. more milk than those getting cold water, while in

the second trial there is a difference of only one per cent. in favor of the warmer water. Experiments conducted elsewhere show that where water supplied was reduced from 79° to 38°

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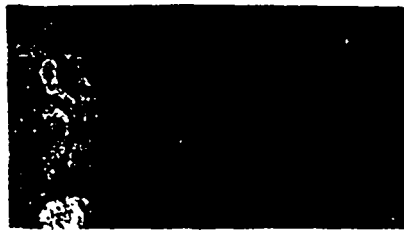
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