

time to spread out and to select their food. When sheep are being trailed from one range to another, they should be handled in such a way that they never become very hungry at any time. Before they begin to move they should be allowed to fill up. Each night, herders should see that the sheep are "bedded down" in the best pasture obtainable. Then in the morning good pasture will be near at hand and the sheep can begin grazing early. The action of the poisonous principle seems to be more rapid when the sheep are hungry and hot.

METHODS OF HANDLING TO PREVENT STOCK FROM EATING POISONOUS WEEDS

Eradication of the Poisonous Weeds.—Cultivation will destroy all the native poisonous plants. In localities where it is desirable or possible to cultivate, weed-infested areas may be broken and sown to some good grass mixture. The kinds of grasses used in the mixture will depend upon their suitability to the particular district.

In localities where it is neither desirable nor possible to cultivate, the plants may be grubbed or dug out. When poisonous plants are grubbed out, the work should be done thoroughly.

Fencing the Weed-infested Areas.—Weed-infested areas are sometimes enclosed, or are shut off from the rest of the range by means of a strongly built fence. Such areas may sometimes be used as pasture for animals not affected by the particular weed enclosed or shut off. For example, sheep and horses may be turned into a tall larkspur area even in the dangerous period with practically no danger of loss. The areas may be thrown open to all stock when the dangerous periods are past.

Herdng the Stock Away from Poisonous Areas.—Riders may be employed during the dangerous months to herd stock away from poisonous areas. If this method is used, riders should herd the stock carefully during stormy weather in spring and early summer.

Value of Salt.—All kinds of livestock require a regular and plentiful supply of salt. If an animal does not get its required amount of salt, it develops a perverted or depraved appetite, and will then eat poisonous plants that it possibly would not touch, if its appetite were normal. Animals should be supplied with salt regularly and abundantly. The salting grounds should not be near poisonous weed areas during the periods when the weeds are dangerous. The salting grounds should be changed from time to time, in order that the pasture near them may not be grazed down too closely, and only objectionable plants left.