

Veterinary.

Worms in Horses:

EDITOR CANADA FARMER:—Please give me some remedy for worms in horses.

READER.

Reply by Dr. A. Smith, V. S.

Of worms inhabiting the intestinal canal of the horse, there may be said to be several kinds. The lumbricoides or round worms are very common, and are frequently seen in the faeces of horses, which are kept the greater part of their time in the stable. These worms have a resemblance to the common earth-worm, but are rather thicker in the middle, and gradually tapering towards either extremity; and they vary in length from three to twenty inches.

Another class of worms, much smaller than the former, are often found in great numbers in the large intestines. These are small, and vary in length, from half an inch to an inch. Other varieties have also been noticed, such as the oxyures, which are usually found doubled up in the form of a double comb.

Worms are frequently blamed as a cause of a great many diseases of the digestive organs, such as colic, inflammation of the bowels, etc., but the exciting causes of these diseases, however, are more frequently due to sudden changes of food, etc., than to worms. No doubt, when they are present in large numbers, they give rise to irritation and to disease.

Horses in which these parasites are numerous, are generally in a poor unthrifty condition. Their muscles, instead of being hard and firm, are soft and flabby, and they perspire easily on the least exertion. In some cases, the verge of the rectum and anus are covered with a yellow-colored incrustation, which, as a simple means of diagnosis, should not be overlooked.

A great many different remedies are recommended for the removal of worms. An old and excellent remedy is oil of turpentine in doses of from one to two ounces, combined with four or five ounces of raw linseed oil, to be given every second morning, an hour or so before feeding, and to be continued until three or four doses are given. Another very good, and perhaps a safer remedy than turpentine, is tartar emetic and powdered gentian, of each one drachm, to be given every night until eight or ten doses are given, after which a brisk dose of purgative medicine should be given.

Assafetida and aloes in small doses is another very good vermifuge. When the horse is under medicine, he should be carefully and moderately fed on easily digestible food. One good dose of purgative medicine, as six to eight drachms of aloes, will frequently be sufficient to remove worms without anything else.

For Bloat or Hoven in Cattle.

EDITOR CANADA FARMER:—A couple of handfuls of salt well stirred up in a bottle of water, and turned down the animal's throat, relieved one of my oxen a few days ago, in a very short time; and, being followed in about an hour by a dose of Epsom Salts, opened the bowels, and he has worked as usual ever since. I have repeatedly seen both oxen and cows cured, by taking about a pound or two of fresh butter or lard, wrapping it in thin paper and placing it down the animal's throat as far as possible, so that it had to be swallowed. The animal can hardly be considered safe till the bowels are opened. In the West of England a tube for relieving choked or bloat cattle was formerly manufactured, but it required so much care and skill in applying it, that I do not believe it was ever extensively used.

SARAWAK.

A MONSTROSITY.—Mr. J. T. Laing, of Puslinch, Ont. writes us that a sow of his was, on May 24, delivered of a remarkable pig with eight legs, two heads, four ears, two mouths, two tongues, one throat, two distinct hind parts up to the middle, then joined together as if locked in each other's arms. They were full grown, and it was with difficulty that they were extracted. However, by fastening two pieces of tape around the hind-legs, one at the feet and one above the joint, he was successful in taking them whole.

Cow with Ingrowing Horn.

EDITOR CANADA FARMER:—Referring to the enquiry in the last number, with the above head, a friend of mine told me he once had a very beautiful heifer in Ireland, but her beauty was marred by an ingrowing horn. He said to his herdsman that he would willingly give a pound to have her horn like the other. A few days after the conversation, his man asked him to look at the heifer, when he found, to his delight, that her horn was changed and stood up as the other. The man told him he had taken a loaf of bread hot from the oven and thrust it on the horn, and left it there for some time, and then turned the horn up. I give the story for what it is worth,* but I could depend on my friend's veracity. If "X. Y. P." should try it and succeed, he might let you know of it.

A SUBSCRIBER.

*So do we [Ed. C. F.].

Cows Bleeding to Death after Calving.

DURING the last twelve months I have lost two valuable young Shorthorn cows from bleeding from the womb occurring about eight days after calving. Both were heifers with their first calves. Both were previously in good health, in fair condition, feeding on grass and hay, allowed plenty of exercise, not pampered or in a gross, overfed state, the bowels in a perfectly normal condition. Both carried their calves the full time, which I take as 285 days. Neither had severe or protracted labours; no instruments or undue traction were employed to hasten delivery; the calves born were sound and healthy; nothing peculiar was observable during parturition excepting that in each case rather more blood passed than is usual. The placenta came away of its own accord within a few hours after the calf. The calves remained with their dams, any superfluous milk being removed from the udders night and morning. The heifers made perfect recoveries. No unusual discharge, no dulness, want of power of the hinder extremities, or feverishness, was observed. The one animal calved at midsummer, the other a fortnight ago.

Just eight days after her calving I was summoned to the hovels, and found the heifer bleeding rather freely from the vagina; the blood was bright crimson arterial blood. Presently it came away in still fuller stream, mixed occasionally with clots; there were no uterine pains. Rugs wrung out of cold water were applied over the back and loins, in the hope that, by reflex action, constriction of the flaccid, open uterine vessels might occur. Cold water was injected with an ordinary clyster-barrel syringe into the uterus. Acetate of lead solution was also injected. As a general astringent about an ounce of chloride of iron solution in a pint of water was given and another dose prepared to be swallowed in half-an-hour. Ice was sent for to be introduced into the uterus; but it did not come in time. Steadily the life-blood ebbed away, and in little more than half-an-hour from the bleeding being observed the red heifer died. The more recent case—a white heifer, just three years old—nine days after calving, without any premonitory symptoms, was seized with hemorrhage during the night, large quantities of blood were found in clots, and saturating the litter of the stall, and the animal lying in a comfortable natural position was discovered in the morning dead.

The uterus in both cases was rather flaccid and relaxed, its walls, as might have been expected, were soft and blanched. The clot formed at calving, and acting for a week as a sufficient plug, had apparently melted away, leaving imperfectly closed the large vessel or sinus. I failed to discover any fatty or other degeneration in the leaking vessel or in the uterine walls. I doubt whether the accident is traceable to any mismanagement during gestation. Cases of this description, although very rare amongst cattle, are not unfrequent amongst mares. The practical lesson which, as a stock-owner, I have learned from these two losses, is to watch for any undue flux of blood during calving, and wherever such bleeding is observed to keep the animal quiet for a fortnight, and administer during that period as an astringent half-ounce doses night and morning of chloride of iron solution or of sugar of lead. Moderate quantities of digestible unstimulating food should be given. Three days after calving I shall probably inject daily into the womb a cold solution of oak bark or of chloride of iron in the hope of constringing relaxed vessels or soft flaccid uterine walls. —*Corr. North British Agriculturist.*

BLIND STAGGERS IN PIGS.—Prof. Law gives the following.—When the hog is attacked, dash bucketfuls of cold water over the body, throw a purgative injection into the rectum, composed of six ounces of sulphate of soda, and one or two teaspoonfuls of spirits of turpentine in ten

ounces of water. Setons saturated with turpentine may be inserted under the skin behind the ears, or the back of the neck may be blistered by rubbing in the following mixture: Spirits of turpentine and liquid of ammonia one ounce each, with powdered cantharides, two drachms.

Mange, Itch, &c.

Mange, itch, &c., in cattle, hogs, dogs, and all other animals, are caused by little insects in the skin. To get rid of these you must drive them out by the internal use of sulphur, or kill them by the external application of soap-suds, quacksilver, nitric acid, &c. No insect or worm can live in the abdomen or skin of an animal while its system is under the influence of sulphur. It is a sure preventive of worms in hogs, mange in cattle, dogs, &c., ticks on sheep, lice on horses and cattle, and all skin diseases to which animals, including birds, of all kinds are subject. Hence I call it my universal remedy.

There would be but few diseases among stock if they were kept under the influence of sulphur; besides it is worth almost as much as it costs for food. It aids digestion, prevents costiveness, and acts like a charm upon the bowels and kidneys. It would pay any farmer who has one dozen head of stock, much less we who have 200 or 300 head, to use a little sulphur daily in their salt or food.

It has often been said that sulphur is dangerous in cold and wet weather. This is a mistake. I have often used it in large quantities on horses, cattle, hogs, and sheep, while they were exposed all day to the rain and snow. However, it is better, when used externally with grease, to apply it on a warm day, when the sun is shining, or, if the weather is inclement, to keep the animal under shelter. It is not to the interest of the owner to expose his stock to inclement weather, be they sick or well.

I have been breeding and dealing in stock about ten years, and owned from two to three hundred head annually, and have not yet had one die of disease, if I am not mistaken, except a few hogs of the so-called cholera. My secret has been prevention. If you would be successful in the breeding of stock, let me suggest that you never own a scrub. Get the best of pure-bred cattle, horses, hogs, sheep, &c.; take good care of them by providing good warm shelter and an abundance of good nutritious food, and use prevention for all diseases. Fine stock is less subject to disease than scrubs, and yield a larger per cent on the money invested.—*Cor. N. Y. Times.*

Scab in Sheep.

The following is from the transactions of the Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland:—

It is clearly ascertained by scientific men that the scab in sheep, like the itch in the human being, is connected with and propagated by certain minute insects belonging to the class of acari, which inhabit pimples or pustules. But the question naturally arises, how came it first into existence? This problem is very difficult of solution, and puzzles the most eminent physiologists. But, as I have already said, I have never known it to break out spontaneously among a flock of sheep, properly managed, during thirty years' experience as a shepherd in pastoral districts. Various and conflicting opinions exist as to what extent the disease is infectious. Some affirm that it requires sheep to come in contact with the diseased before it can be communicated, while others maintain that the disease is propagated by the mere travelling on the road, such as a public drove road, from large markets or fairs. I, however, do not think the disease is so catching as the latter advocates affirm. For example, I acted as shepherd for sixteen years, on various farms, where the drove road from Falkirk to the South passes through the sheep pasture, and every year some of the lots of sheep were more or less affected with scab, and during all that period not a single sheep of which I had charge caught the disease.

The cure of scab lies in the destruction of the insect, but the important question is, what is the best composition or infusion for that purpose. The remedies that are commonly applied are numerous, but the most effectual, with the least danger of injuring the animal, that I have ever seen applied, is the common spirits of tar; and, if properly applied, will penetrate and destroy the insect concealed in the pustules, or buried beneath the skin. The quantity applied may vary according to the condition and age of the sheep, but for hill, or ordinary breeding stock, one bottle of spirits of tar, mixed with twelve times the quantity of water, is sufficient for twelve sheep; or one common wire glass of the spirits of tar, mixed with twelve times the amount of water, is sufficient for one. If mixing for a hundred, six gallons of water with six pounds of common soda ought to be warmed to the boiling pitch, then add the spirits of tar.

FOOT ROT OR FOUL IN CATTLE.—Says a correspondent of the *Rural New Yorker*—The foot rot can easily be cured by simply taking a tarred rope, drawing it smartly through the split in the hoof a few times, when it will give out a bad stench, remove the rope and fill the raw wound with fine salt. One application is all that is necessary generally; keep the animal from the wet barnyard—which is a fruitful cause of this disease, have had six or eight so afflicted at once, always effecting a speedy cure by using the means described above.