

APRIL 2, 1914



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Please mention "The Farmer's Advocate."

Questions and Answers. Miscellaneous.

Tuberculosis in Fowls.

My hens have some disease. They appear quite healthy and are in good flesh; heads red, and laying well. For a few days before they die they refuse to eat and want to get away by themselves, and in the morning we find them dead. Opening their bodies, we find the bowels full of blood, and the liver enlarged to three times the normal size. It appears just like clotted blood, and the part of the liver that was not like blood, was covered with white spots. Am feeding my hens once a day on barley and once on oats, with a soft mash of potatoes and provender at noon. They also have raw turnips to pick, and I keep them supplied with gravel and oyster shells. Please prescribe. A. M.

Ans.—From the symptoms herein set forth, we judge that your fowls are suffering from tuberculosis. This disease has been mentioned in almost every number of the paper, and by referring back, you may notice recommendations for freeing the flock from it. However, there is really no measure that can be adopted, by the use of drugs, that will destroy this disease. You must relentlessly clean up the pens, isolate all affected birds, and if possible divert their runs from those which they have recently inhabited. After thoroughly cleaning the pen, whitewash it, or spray it with a whitewash mixture containing a five-percent. solution of carbolic acid. Some writers have claimed success from burning sulphur in the pens with the doors and windows closed. We cannot see what direct advantage can accrue from this operation, but it is worth trying along with the other remedies.

Distemper in Horses.

1. A two-year-old mare coughs a great deal, and there is a discharge of matter from her nose. There is a lump beginning to form under her jaw. Is this distemper?
2. What treatment would you advise?
3. Are the other horses in the stable liable to catch it? If so, would there be any way to prevent them?
4. Are horses subject to colic? We feed oats only, besides the hay.
5. Would you advise us to add bran with the oats?
6. Are those remedies for colic you see advertised, of any use? P. D. C.

Ans.—1. The symptoms are those of distemper.
2. Treatment in ordinary cases consists in placing the patient in a comfortable, well-ventilated stall; steam the nostrils well two or three times daily by holding the head over a pot of boiling water; rub the throat twice daily with equal parts raw linseed oil, oil of turpentine and spirits of ammonia, for two days. In the meantime, apply warm poultices an hour after each rubbing, and do not allow them to get cold. Feed on soft food, and as soon as abscesses form, lance, and allow escape of pus. Give internally twenty drops carpus. When complications occur, or the disease appears in what is called irregular strangles, in each case requires treatment according to symptoms, and this can be given only by the personal attention of a veterinarian.
3. It is contagious, and the other horses in the same stable are quite likely to contract this disease. In fact, it is almost impossible to prevent it. The only way to do so would be to put the diseased horses or the healthy horses in separate quarters and keep them entirely separate, also not allowing them to drink from the same tank, or in other ways be associated.
4. All horses are not subject to colic, but treatment or improper feeding sometimes bring about digestive troubles which result in colic.
5. A mixture of bran with the oats would have been advisable indeed, and if they are working horses, on heavy feed, it would be wise to give them a bran mash on Saturday night and Sunday morning. Start a part of your grain ration Sunday noon, and by Monday morning have them up to the regular ration again.
6. We have never tried them.



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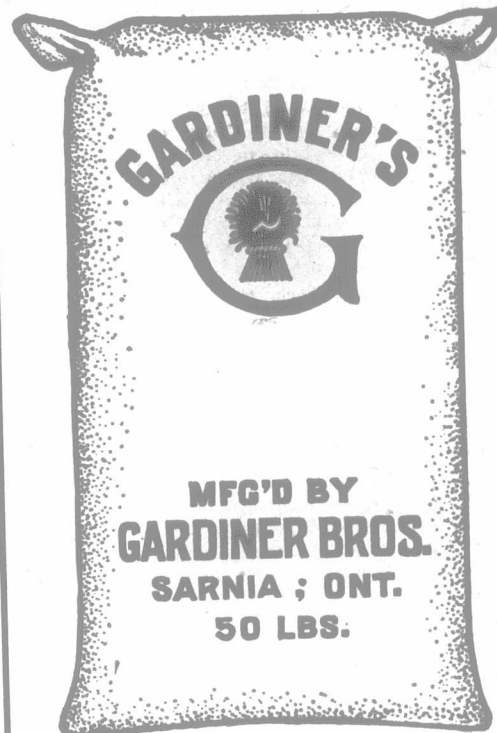
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