

Making Charcoal for Pigs

Where wood is plentiful charcoal can be made. Cut into four-foot lengths, stand on end around a pile of shavings or kindling until you have a cord or two. Cover with leaves or straw, then cover with dirt to a depth of three inches, making small openings around the bottom. Drop some coals of fire down into the shavings. Wait until the fire starts to burn, then close the hole at the top. Be careful not to allow any new holes to form around the sides or on top until it is nicely charred. Then re-cover and pile on one side, being careful to suppress all signs of fire. A first-class article can be made of corn cobs alone. All feeders of swine should positively have a supply all the time. It need not be fed carelessly, but once or twice a week.—*Ex.*

Use Judgment in Training Dogs.

When training your dog to do tricks or otherwise, do not kick or abuse him. A gentle tap will do more good, and he will more willingly obey your commands than by lashing, kicking or abusing him.

If a dog cannot be taught by kindness, he cannot be taught at all. Often by striking a dog on the head you are liable to effect the brain, and again it will cause him to become cowed and unfit for any purpose. Teach him one thing at a time, and be sure that he knows it well before you start him on another.

A little piece of meat after he has done your bidding will do a great deal more good than the whip. He will get so he will like to do it for you, and will not start at it as though his life depended upon it.

It doesn't look well to see a dog obey a command in a sneaking manner. It takes half the intelligence from the trick. Have patience, and above all do not lose your temper for a moment, or you may entirely ruin your dog.

Look to the sheep's feet without delay. After the winter there will be need for some treatment of feet that have been injured by tramping in foul pens or in muddy yards. The feet should be thoroughly cleaned, all traces of manure removed, and a wash of some antiseptic preparation should be given. Otherwise in a short time there will doubtless be sheep going about on their knees. The soles that may be turned under should be pared off, and the toes shortened. A washing in a solution of blue vitriol and a dressing of foot ointment will then put the feet in good shape for the summer.

Provision should be made without delay for those of the ewes which may need care when their lambs are dropped. There will always be such a necessity. Some small pens secluded from the rest of the flock should be in readiness for such of the ewes who

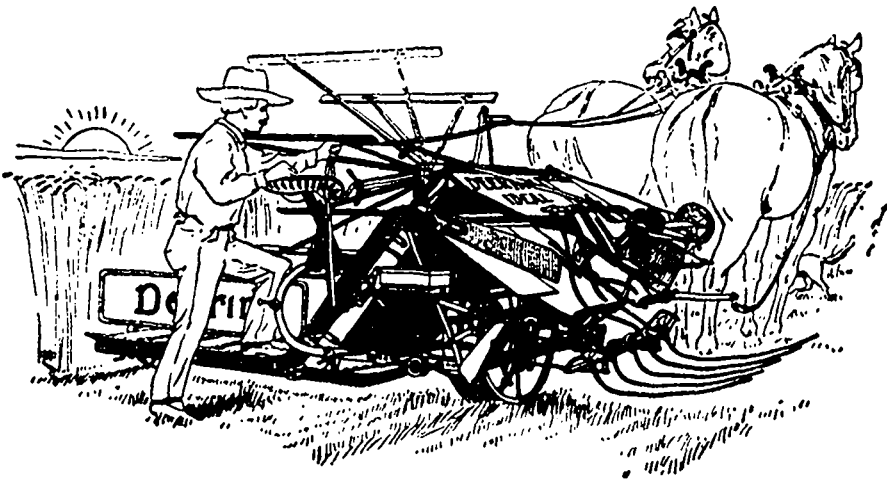


When the paint is all on you begin to learn how much it is worth. There are only two ways to tell whether paint will stand wear and tear, whether it will protect your property from decay, or not. One way is to wait and see what happens. That is the experimental way, and it's expensive. The other way is to buy paints with a reputation built on years of unflinching success—such paints as

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neglect their lambs, or which may be in need of such attention. It is the small farm flock which needs this most, because of the very common neglect to have things in readiness for the occasion. If every farm flock were managed with the forethought and preparation practised in the large flocks, there would be twice the profit made by the more careful owners.

Every flock should have a stock of roots of some kind prepared for the winter. The yellow Aberdeen turnip is better than any of the white kinds.

The rutabaga is hard, but good every other way, and will keep well until next July. But the roots, if fed, should be ground to pulp or shredded in thin strips by some suitable machine. Half a peck of sliced roots (equal to a quarter of a peck of pulped ones) will be a sufficient food daily for a full grown ewe. For making mutton there is nothing better than such feeding as this, for the root-fed mutton is tender, sweet, and has the flavor of venison. The mutton feeder should study the question of feeding for the market from the point of this kind of feeding.