

wait for us to refute this wrong assertion, any more than to put to profit the advice of the master. The breeders, justly roused, founded a Percheron Society, a Percheron Studbook, and several Racing Associations that organized on their hippodromes special races for Percheron horses. The Percheron Society protests with energy against the affirmations of M. du Hays. "He is greatly mistaken when he says that the Perche was open to all the big mares, and that the breeders supplied themselves in other countries to enlarge the Percheron. It is necessary to rectify these voluntary mistakes of a writer who has been mistaken by false information. Not only have we never crossed them with other breeds, but we have never sold as Percherons horses of other breeds. It is possible that at certain times, when the demand was bigger than the offer, that unscrupulous agents provided themselves in Brittany, in Picardie or in the Pays de Caux with stallions or mares, afterwards sold as Percherons to ignorant purchasers. But the breeders of the country have nothing to do with this, and we could not let people say, without protesting, that Percheron breeders, to realize bigger profits, and to reproduce quicker, used other elements than their own, and especially that they used the scrofulous breeds of the North. It would have been indeed penny wise and pound foolish, as, in exchange for an immediate profit, they would have annihilated for a long time the quality of the Percheron breed, and compromised for all time their universal renown. We ask ourselves who can have given to a man whose competency is unquestionable, such information? And it is regrettable that, before recording it, M. du Hays did not consult the breeders of the time, who could certainly have protested against such an affirmation. Happily, the latter did not have for the Perche the disastrous consequences that one might have been afraid of. The proof of this is the ever-increasing trade of the Percheron horse since that time.

In what concerns the degeneration, when it comes, it is by itself that a breed has to recover its vitality without cross-breeding. The Percheron is particularly suitable to this kind of transformation. By a judicious choice of the stallion and mare, one can produce a colt, of which one can in advance fix almost surely not only the size and color, but also the good and bad points. At the time of du Hays, this art (the word is not too strong) was not known like now, so it is not astonishing if certain horses born by chance of a stallion and a mare not suited would have appeared degenerated to our author. In searching the causes of this degeneration, he thought he had found them in the facts that we have related above, where he thought it resulted from a strange blood which had weakened the Percheron blood. No doubt that, trying to find the remedy, the shrewd connoisseur thought of regenerating the breeds by Thoroughbreds. The actual breeders do not need these means. They leave the subjects that are of use for breeding purposes, and sell them for agricultural works. They know the fault of a mare, and know to what stallion to breed to produce the best colts.

This breed astonishes even the connoisseurs, and M. du Pontavice, Director of the Government Breeding Stables, of which nobody could contest the competency in this matter, was himself stupefied, when he said: "These Percherons are incredible; order them a horse, and they will make you one."

(Concluded next week.)

LIVE STOCK.

Roots are one of the best feeds for the calf and young cattle generally.

Probably no other animals are more responsive to skillful treatment than are calves.

Nothing has yet been found which will promote the bloom and rotundity of a calf as will his dam's milk.

The calf should be receiving a liberal ration of grain and nice green, well-cured hay before being weaned. Do not be too hasty in cutting off the calf's milk ration.

Have you commenced feeding the cattle yet? If not, begin at once. Corn, silage, rape or roots will help greatly in keeping up the animal's condition throughout the autumn season.

Give the little pigs a chance to obtain other food besides the sow's milk. Pigs about three weeks of age usually show an inclination to eat a little food. A small trough should be placed in a part of the pen inaccessible to the sow, but easily reached by the young pigs. Sweet milk is good feed to start the young pigs on.

The young pig's capacity is small, and consequently he requires frequent feeding. The feed must also be kept fresh. This demands that the troughs be kept sweet and clean, and that under no conditions should stale feed be allowed to accumulate in them.

No matter how good a ewe looks, if she is not giving satisfactory returns, cull her out of the flock. It is this class of ewe that lessens the profits. Just before the winter sets in is a good time to dispose of the unprofitable ewes.

The real benefit of teaching the young pigs to eat is at weaning time. Pigs which have been fed before weaning, and have become thoroughly accustomed to getting regular feeds, do not receive any great check when weaned, as is often the case with pigs that have not been in the habit of getting a part of their nourishment from the trough before they are removed from the dam.

Anything which checks the pig's growth during the first two months of his age must be carefully avoided. It is said that a hog is half made when past the weaning period without a stunt. More injury may be done to the young pig's growth in a few days than can be repaired in as many weeks. Overfeeding, as well as too scant feeding, must be avoided while the youngsters are with the sow.

A friend who prefers to be known as a "Valued Correspondent," referring to the item in a recent issue about withholding of salt from animals at breeding time, says his father was very particular



Pansy 6th.

Yearling Shorthorn heifer. First and junior, and reserve grand champion, Ottawa Exhibition, 1911. Owner, A. Wallace, Kars, Ont.

about this, and would not let the horses or cows have salt at such times. He adds that the same custom prevailed among the old-time farmers, but that the present generation have evidently forgotten about it.

Fall storms are very bad for the flock. All live stock suffers when compelled to remain in a cold, driving rain, but sheep seem to show more ill-effects of this kind of weather than the other classes of stock. Warm showers do not hurt the sheep, but when conditions point to a heavy downpour, the flock should be housed in well-ventilated pens. Care should be taken to get the sheep in before the rain commences, as the close housing of wet sheep promotes such nasal diseases as catarrh.

By actual experiments carried on at the Iowa Experiment Station, it was found that in each instance the older sows farrowed more pigs at a litter, heavier pigs at birth, and their pigs made the most rapid growth. This should be evidence enough to induce breeders to keep their older sows as long as they prove useful breeders. Too often, the old, tried matrons are turned off for soap-grease before their period of usefulness is nearly over. There is too great a tendency among breeders to change their sows, and keep young, untried individuals in the place of the thoroughly-tested older animals. Do not sell your old sows until convinced that circumstances warrant their removal from the breeding herd.

Treat the Sheep for Ticks, Lice and Scab.

That some treatment of the flock for ticks and vermin should be regularly practiced, is conceded by most sheep breeders. It has been found profitable to dip at least once a year, and in most cases twice. Where there is no sign of vermin in the flock, it is always well to treat the sheep as a means of prevention. Ticks, lice and other parasites are quite common in many flocks, and few, indeed, are the flocks that are entirely free from the former. Scab also crops up from time to time. It is safe to say that the loss in mutton and wool caused by the ravages of this disease, and the various other sheep parasites, is many times greater than the cost of dipping. It is also safe to state that if every sheep-owner in the country would treat his sheep thoroughly at proper, regular intervals with some good dip, such troubles as scab, ticks and lice would soon be unknown.

Sheep-breeders cannot afford to spend their valuable time in preparing homemade dips. The proprietary dips on the market can be produced at small cost, because they are manufactured in large quantities. These dips, also, are the outcome of considerable study and work, and, used according to directions, are safe and effective, as well as economical.

Directly after shearing of the ewes is a good time to dip the lambs, because at this time most of the ticks will be found on them. A little later, the entire flock, ewes and lambs, should be dipped. It was formerly believed that fall dipping was injurious, but this belief has been superseded, and now all the best sheepmen practice dipping before their charges go into winter quarters. Because no signs of ticks or scab are visible, is no reason why they should not be dipped, as the pests may develop during the winter, causing much loss of wool, and also keeping the sheep low in flesh. It is, therefore, of greatest importance that dipping be done just previous to the cold weather.

Two methods of treating the sheep have been and are common among sheepmen, dipping (actual immersing in a vat), and pouring, which can be done by the use of an old tea or coffee pot. The latter method is more economical of material, but will require more time to accomplish the work than the former. To do it properly requires three men, one to hold the sheep, one to open or "shed" the wool, and another to pour the liquid.

The wool should be "shed," and the liquid applied at intervals of five or six inches over the entire body of the sheep. This will insure thorough work. This method is very good where small flocks are kept, and from 50 to 70 sheep may be treated by three men in a day. A quart of solution is enough for each sheep, if carefully applied, and it will run more freely on the skin if applied warm.

A flock of twenty-five sheep is, however, large enough to warrant the preparation of a small dipping plant. The vat, like the dip itself, can often be bought cheaper than it can be made, although a plank trough can be easily constructed. Sheep can be handled much faster this way than by the pouring method. It only requires that they remain in the dip about two minutes, after which they are placed in the dripping pen, which should be a pen with a water-tight bottom slanting to a drain back to the tank. This conservation of the drippings is a great saving on material. Care must be taken that the sheep are not allowed to get out and distribute the dip on grass or other forage upon which they are feeding, or trouble may follow. The solution should be squeezed out of the wool while the sheep are on the dripping-board. Where shallow vats are used, say, about 2½ feet deep, it is necessary to dip the liquid and pour it over them; but in the deeper vats, about 5½ feet deep, no dipping is necessary, as the animal's fleece becomes saturated with the liquid. The larger, deep vats are used where large flocks are kept. Warm days should be selected for the operation, and a bright sun is a