

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Veterinary.

AN OVERDOSE.

In your issue of April 7th, on page 506, in answer to question re indigestion in a mare, by J. C., I noticed the prescription reads 2 drams powdered opium; 4 ounces fluid extract of belladonna, and 2 ounces nitrous ether. This should read, 4 drams (half an ounce) fluid extract of belladonna. Two ounces would be a large dose if given by itself, and when combined with opium, in two-dram doses, about half an ounce only of belladonna should be given. V.

IRREGULAR STRANGLES.

Colt has distemper; at first it swelled under the jaws, but did not break. Breathing became difficult for a time, but is better now. He swelled on the breast and hind legs. I lanced the breast, and yellow pus escaped. R. M.

Ans.—This is a case of irregular strangles. It is always serious, as abscesses are liable to form any place, and many complications may arise. I advise you to employ a veterinarian. Abscesses must be lanced, and the cavities dressed with a five-per-cent. solution of carbolic acid, three-dram doses of hyposulphite of soda should be given three times daily, and complications treated as they appear. Difficult breathing has often to be relieved by inserting a tube into the windpipe. V.

YOUNG PIGS DYING.

I had a litter of young pigs five weeks ago, cross between Tamworth and York., and they have all died within this last week. The mother was fed one gallon of oat chop, night and morning; at noon, change of turnip and shorts. The mother had eight young ones come through, and they were rolling fat; in fact, you could not see finer pigs. They seemed to take ill all at once, and keel right over. The size of the pen was 10 x 12, and they had the run of it. What do you think was the matter with them. I am only a beginner in the pig business, and this is the first winter I have had any come. Anyone can raise pigs in summer, but it is a different story in wintertime. SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—Your pigs died through kindness, the cause of death being either apoplexy or thumps. More exercise and lighter feeding will avoid such trouble in future. Some people refrain from using barley for sows nursing pigs. In any event, give your brood sows plenty of exercise, summer or winter, and don't feed heavily with rich food during the nursing period.

Miscellaneous.

SOWING FALL WHEAT IN SPRING.

I have some four or five bushels of winter wheat, and as it is a nice sample, and clean of all weeds, would like to sow it this spring. Would it ripen same time as spring wheat? W. A.

Ans.—It would require several seasons, and a selection of seed, before fall wheat could be changed in its characteristics to resemble the spring sown grain. A few heads might ripen.

COLOR OF CROSS-BREDS—TURKEYS WANTED.

1. I purchased a Yorkshire sow, eligible for registration, bred her to a registered Berkshire hog. The pigs came with black spots on them. Is this any indication that the sow is not pure-bred?

2. I would like to correspond with breeders of pure-bred Narragansett turkeys. Perth Co. J. M.

Ans.—1. No.

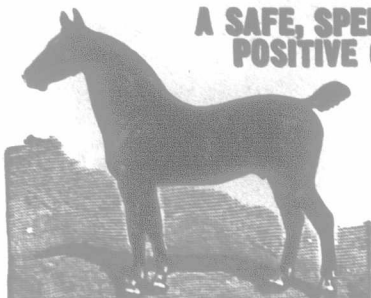
2. Breeders of turkeys should advertise

FEEDING CALVES.

I have fed ground linseed to my calves for some years past. I had it boiled and mixed with milk. Should the results be as good if it was fed dry with provender after the milk? This I would like to know, as it would save a great deal of trouble. J. A. P.

Ans.—For young calves, we would prefer steeping and boiling it, making a jelly; but as the calves get older and learn to eat chop, we would feed the ground linseed with other grain and bran and clover hay.

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CARE OF A HEDGE.
Will it injure a cedar hedge planted last spring, and a year ago last spring, to grow climbing flowers beside it, such as nasturtiums or sweet peas? M. W.

Ans.—No.

SALT ON ASPARAGUS.

How much salt is the proper amount to sow per acre on asparagus, and when is the proper time to apply it? R. S.

Ans.—Salt may be applied to asparagus to such an extent as to kill all weeds without injury to the asparagus, but as a fertilizer it does the asparagus little or no good. If used, we should apply it during the period when the weeds were most numerous. Manure should be applied in June and cultivated into the soil.

PLUM TREES BARREN.

I have some very fine blue plum trees, six years old, planted in rows with apple trees, in good rich soil. The first year they bore well, but since have had no fruit. What is the cause, and what would be a remedy? A SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—Your trees are probably making rapid wood growth, otherwise there is no good reason why they should not produce fairly good crops at that age. Try heading back, by cutting back half or more of the year's growth on the terminal shoots. Do this about the middle of summer. You say they bore well the first year after planting. If so, that is rather unusual, and it is possible they may have been injured by it. But as you say the trees are very fine ones, the first suggestion will probably answer.

TURKEYS DYING.

I had 25 little turkeys last year, and when they were ten days old, I greased their heads and in under their wings with lard to prevent lice, and in three or four days they started to die four or five a day, until there were only about five left. I fed them a custard made of fresh milk and egg and bread and cut up green onion tops every day for them, and kept moving their pen to have it on clean grass. Do you think this greasing their wings caused their death? If not, what do you think killed them? M. J. E. R.

Ans.—The greasing of the heads and wings would not kill them, but they may have been weakened by lice before treated. As they appear to have been well attended to, it is most probable they died of some internal complaint, or from the effects of dampness.

HENS DYING.

Our hens look well and are laying, but several have died this winter. They get dull and apparently weak, linger sometimes a few days and some a few weeks, but all die; have a good appetite, but don't drink heavy; don't usually scour. Breed, Plymouth Rocks, kept in a good new poultry-house, frame, cement floor, well bedded, large windows to the south, plenty of coal and wood ashes, also coarse sand. Fed on mixed grain, usually oats, wheat and barley. W. T.

Ontario Co.
Ans.—A variety in the food, such as raw mangel, cut clover, meat scraps, etc., would be beneficial. Let up a little on the grain. Give plenty of fresh air and exercise, and try one of the poultry tonics advertised in this journal.

ARTESIAN WELLS.

What size of pipe should be used in making a drive well? How many, and how large should the holes be? Is there any limit to the depth it may be driven? For a well 40 feet or over, what kind of pump should be used? C. W. B.

Ans.—Where there is a reasonable hope of the water rising within forty feet of the surface, pipe as small as inch and a half can be used; but if the water has to be pumped more than forty feet, nothing less than three-inch pipe should be driven so that the mechanism of the pump can be installed. Such pipe has a specially-made point, and is simply driven into the earth. There is practically no limit to which it can be driven. Through rock the well is drilled. The putting in of these wells requires some experience, and the person undertaking such a job would be able to give information regarding size of pipe, depth, etc. Frequently no pump is required. At other times the water rises quite near the surface, and requires some pumping. Consult a local dealer when the well has been driven.

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