

The management and feeding of sheep has such wide variation that rules cannot be set down to apply to all flocks. As soon as the lambs are weaned the ewes are carefully looked over and those which do not measure up to a certain standard are put out to fatten. Ewes can be kept as long as they raise good lambs and stay in fair condition under the same care as the rest of the flock, but it is not advisable to keep them older than 4 or 5 years if good young ewes are available to take their places. It is a general practice in this locality to breed the lambs the first year, but this is not good management. It partially stops the growth and makes it more difficult to get a good heavy individual. Let the lambs have their time to grow into good, big ewes.

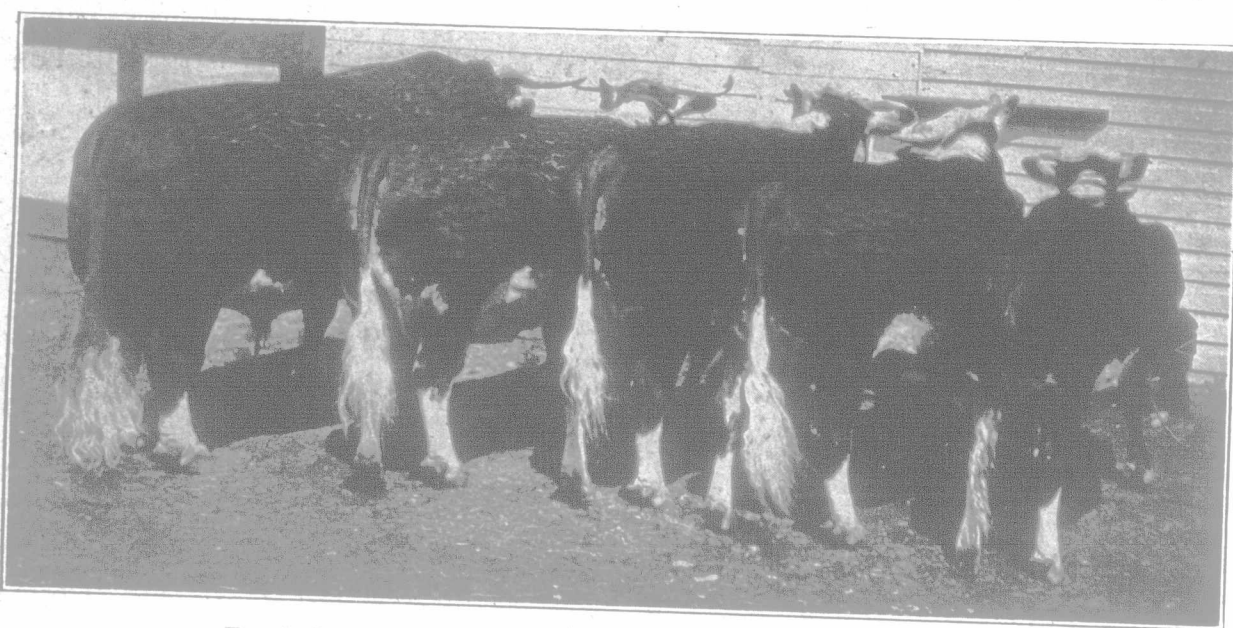
Ram lambs are commonly used as flock headers which is all right in some instances. Get an old ram for your flock header one which has proved his merits as a good sire.

Before mating time the ewes should be put on fresh pasture with some green feed provided such as rape or soft turnips. After this is used up there should be a little grain and turnips fed daily to keep the ewes in a thriving condition and in good flesh till after the mating

be provided with a place where they can get some grain, without being molested by the older sheep. This helps them mature earlier and is easy on the ewe. The ewes should be put on good pasture as soon as it is available to keep the milk supply high and insure quick growth of lambs. When the markets are ripe the wethers and poor ewe lambs should be sold; the remaining ewe lambs can be weaned, and care taken not to lessen their growth at this time.

There is one thing which is a very great hindrance to the progress of the sheep industry in Nova Scotia as well as other parts of Canada. That is the failure to castrate male lambs. Some of the reasons for castration are:

Unsexed lambs are more easily cared for not being so restless consequently do not need as strong fences. Drovers will not pay as much for ram lambs as wethers. Ram lambs sometimes get with the ewes and mating takes place which may be undesirable and productive of heavy financial losses. Castration is a very apparent sign of good shepherding, and lambs from a well managed flock find a ready market, even in times of temporary market depression. Winter feeding for mutton purposes



Frank Collicutt's Hereford Herd on the Western Show Circuit.

season is over. There are two reasons for getting the ewes in good vigorous, thrifty condition, at this time of the year. The first and greatest is that "flushing" the ewes, as it is called, puts them in condition to readily take the ram and to drop a greater number of twins than if they had been thin and in an unthrifty condition. Then too a sheep which starts into winter in a thrifty, healthy condition comes through much stronger and with less feed than one in poor flesh.

For ordinary Nova Scotia conditions where lambs are sold for meat it should be analyzed so as to have the lambs come in May and ready for market in August. However, if they can be put to market a couple of weeks earlier for a better price it would seem advisable to have them come in April and ready for first sale. This question is wholly based on surroundings, market, etc.

After ewes are safely in lamb they should have ample exercise. They should have good hay and roots which is all the feed necessary till about a month and a half before lambing time. A grain ration should then be added consisting of oats, oil meal and bran fed in large enough quantities to keep them strong and healthy and in good flesh although not fat, as fat ewes do not throw as strong lambs as ewes in good condition.

At lambing time give the ewes extra care and attention. Clean out the pen and put in an abundant supply of fresh bedding. A lambing pen should be used for weak ewes or ewes that have no milk. The shepherd should visit the pen late at night and very early in the morning to see that every thing is all right, in so doing he will often save a lamb and perhaps a ewe which is unable to deliver her lamb.

The ewes and lambs should not be allowed to stay out in storms at any time of the year. When the wool is long it takes up considerable amount of water and this has to be dried by the body heat which requires extra feed to produce it. Give the sheep a chance to get into a well-ventilated pen with dry, hard floors.

After the lambs are a week or two old they should

can be carried out more successfully with wethers than with rams. Wethers grow and fatten more quickly than rams. When about three months old the lamb realizes his masculinity and proceeds to worry the females in his company paying very little attention to feeding. These lambs should be fattening but in reality they are gradually losing their baby fat. A check in growth takes place and it takes a heavy grain ration to put the lamb in right marketable shape. There is a loss either by extra feed to put in shape or it calls for a lower price owing to the unfinished condition.

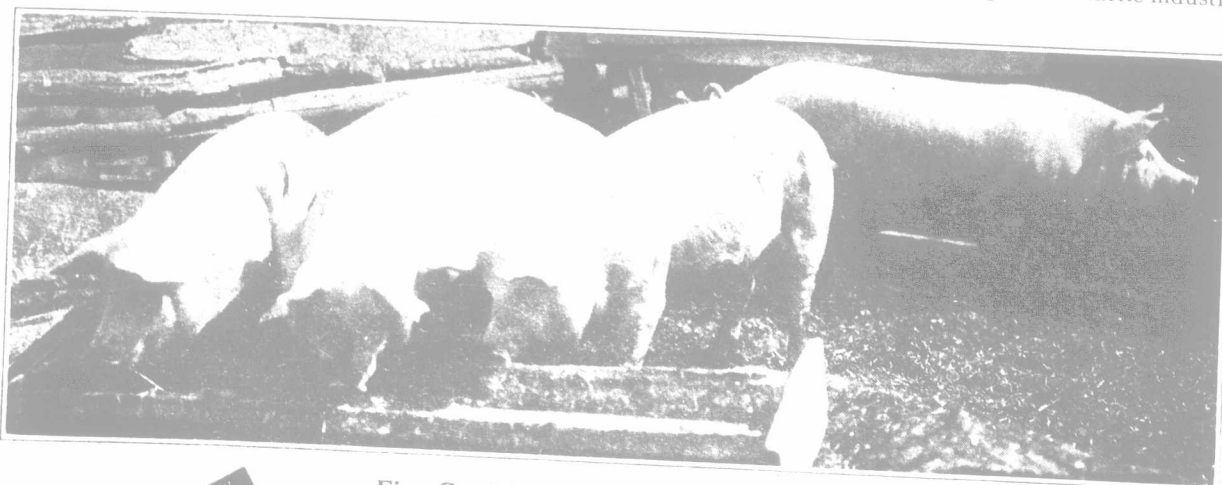
Nova Scotia.

LAWRENCE MCK. OGILVIE.

Foot and Mouth Disease Again Break Out in England.

During the past year there have been several outbreaks of foot and mouth disease in the United Kingdom, which has to a certain extent handicapped Canadian breeders purchasing stock in the Old Land. We are informed by F. Torrance, the Veterinary Director General, that the foot and mouth disease has recently broken out at Kingsbury, Warwickshire, England, and all outstanding permits have been cancelled. The importation of cattle, sheep, other ruminants or swine from any part of the United Kingdom is cancelled until further orders. The landing of fodders is also prohibited.

That cow which aborted should be kept away from the herd for a couple of weeks. Flush her out twice daily with a mild disinfectant and burn all discharges and bedding in her stall. One cannot be too careful as contagious abortion is a scourge to the cattle industry.



Five Good Porkers Ready for Market.

THE FARM.

Results of Experiments With Winter Wheat.

Winter wheat is one of the chief money crops of Ontario. Its market value for the Province amounted to over twenty-eight million dollars in 1917. This was more than one-half of the total value of the fisheries of the whole Dominion for the same year.

The harvest of the winter wheat plots at the Ontario Agricultural College has just been completed, with results as follows: Yield of grain per acre 43.9 bushels, yield of straw per acre 2.8 tons, and weight per measured bushel 60.7 pounds. The results for 1919 surpassed the average of the past twenty-four years by thirty per cent. in yield of grain, eleven per cent. in yield of straw, and three per cent. in weight per measured bushel. In only four years were the results for 1919 surpassed in either yield of grain per acre or in weight of grain per measured bushel.

Experiments at the College have shown that the best results have been obtained from sowing large, plump, sound, well-matured seed of strong vitality. Seedlings which have taken place from the 26th of August to the 9th of September have given better results than those of either earlier or later dates.

In the average of the past six years, the O. A. C. No. 140 variety of winter wheat, which was originated at the College by crossing the Dawson's Golden Chaff and the Bulgarian, has surpassed both its parents in yield per acre and in hardiness, and has proven to be nearly equal to the Bulgarian in bread production.

Five varieties of winter wheat have been distributed for co-operative experiments throughout Ontario in each of the past three years. The following table gives the average results in bushels of grain per acre for 1919 and for the average of the three years:

Varieties	Bushels per Acre	
	1919	Average 3 years
O. A. C. No. 104.....	28.9	26.1
Improved Imperial Amber.....	28.2	21.7
Improved Dawson's Golden Chaff.....	27.0	24.6
Yaroslaf.....	23.4	20.8
Kharkov.....	23.5	20.7

The O. A. C. No. 104 was decidedly the most popular variety of those under test, about two-thirds of the experiments giving it first place. This new hybrid wheat will be distributed this autumn in connection with the co-operative experiments to every person who asks for the experiment with varieties of winter wheat.

Distribution of Material for Experiments in Autumn of 1919.

As long as the supply lasts, material will be distributed free of charge in the order in which the applications are received from Ontario farmers wishing to experiment and to report the results of any one of the following tests: 1, three varieties of winter wheat; 2, one variety of winter rye and one of winter wheat; 3, spring applications of five fertilizers with winter wheat; 4, autumn and spring applications of nitrate of soda and common salt with winter wheat; 5, winter Emmer and winter barley; 6, hairy vetches and winter rye as fodder crops. The size of each plot is to be one rod wide by two rods long. Fertilizers will be sent by express for number 4 this autumn and for number 3 next spring. All seed will be sent by mail except that for number 4, which will accompany the fertilizers.

Agri. Col., Guelph, Ont.

C. A. ZAVITZ.

York County Crop Conditions.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

A very peculiar season has added much difficulty to the farmer this season. Spring was so late and wet that much grain was sown under very unfavorable conditions, and this "wet spell" was followed with three weeks of extreme heat and practically no rainfall. Fall wheat, new seeds and alsike came up fine, and got away to a very good start before the hot and dry weather was upon them. They came through very well. Pasture was plentiful until the middle of July, but since that time pastures have been simply burned up.

Barley, which is one of the first crops the farmer of this county sows, was put in in very poor shape, and is a very light crop, owing to the dry, hot weather just at maturing time; while a great deal of barley was sown after it was too late to sow the later-maturing grains, but this is very short, and at time of writing, August 8, is quiet green and not very promising, and, is in very great danger of rust. Oats are not a very promising crop, but just a little better than the barley. They have been affected, to a great extent, by rust. Spring wheat was sown under reasonable conditions and is a very promising crop; one of the "mortgage lifters" of the season. Peas are not grown extensively as a rule, but large fields were sown late just to fill in the late fields, and practically the whole pea crop in Markham Township has been totally destroyed by green lice, and is either being plowed under or cut for feed (which promises to be very scarce). Fall wheat is a very good crop.

Many fields which were too wet to work for spring grains grew up with alsike (self-catch) and was har-

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