

fed, and if he will do his part properly, she will reward him by bringing her litter out with her at the proper time; otherwise she may take offence and carry them out, her constant fear being that this man will take away her young. Perhaps she may hide them in the snow to save them, as she thinks, and scores of young foxes are lost in this way."

Young foxes taken from early litters will be more apt to breed the first year, than young foxes taken from late litters; but the raiser of early litters generally has many a sad story to tell of loss occasioned by frost and cold. By early litters is meant March litters. Breeding foxes will give you less trouble if they bring forth their young between 10th April and 10th May.

The life of a fox is about twelve years and they will breed until they are about nine or ten years old.

When born the young are small and weak and about the size of kittens, but if all is well they grow rapidly, and when about six weeks old begin to come out to play and to lap a little milk or to take an occasional bit of solid food. If allowed to do so, they will continue to nurse for nearly six months. They breed the first season, when a little less than a year old, but usually produce only two or three young.

Foxes in confinement, as in their natural state, show considerable individuality. Some are much better breeders than others; some can never be induced even to mate, and others mate but do not produce young. Their wild nature dominates most of their actions, and it is rare