

LOSS OF POWER IN HOGS.

Please answer, through the ADVOCATE, what causes hogs to get weak in the feet so their hoofs spread apart and become useless. Give cure for same.

F. K. MARSTON.

York Co., N. B.

[It would have proved a very great help to us in answering this question to have known the age of the pigs, and how they have been housed, fed and cared for. The trouble would seem to be a mild form of paralysis, due to digestion troubles. This is generally caused by too concentrated food, too much confinement, and the like. For treatment, see Dr. J. H. Reed's reply to Thos. Conway re Partial Paralysis in Pigs in this issue.]

PARTIAL PARALYSIS IN PIGS.

Will you kindly let me know what is the trouble with my pigs? They are about thirteen weeks old. After weaning, they were fed middlings and milk until about two weeks ago, when I have fed boiled potatoes with milk and oat and barley meal ground very fine. They have the run of a small yard. Their backs seem to cave in at times, and they go down on their bellies to the ground, their front legs bending under them. They do it when they are walking, every step or two.

Oxford Co., Ont.

THOMAS CONWAY.

[Your pigs are suffering from partial paralysis, caused by digestive derangement. Give them sufficient Epsom salts, common salt or raw linseed oil in their food to cause a free action of the bowels. Turn them out where they will get plenty of exercise and grass, and the symptoms will soon disappear. Diseases causing various symptoms in young pigs are caused by faulty digestion, which is usually produced by want of exercise and green food. Where conditions of this kind are unavoidable, trouble can usually be prevented by feeding a few roots or something to take the place of grass, and feeding regularly enough of the following mixture to keep the bowels acting freely: equal parts of sulphur, Epsom salts and powdered charcoal.]

J. H. REED, V. S.]

WORMS IN SOW.

I have a sow, in good condition, with pigs about ten days old. Recently she passed two large worms. One measured 11 inches in length, about 3-16 of an inch through at middle, and tapering to a point at each end. The color almost too light to be called pink. The sow still looks quite heavy, appears to be well, and has great appetite. What can I give her that will clear out the worms without danger of injuring the animal?

2. What are black teeth in little pigs? Do they harm the pigs?

J. H. DEEKS.

Monck Co., Ont.

[At the end of 12 to 16 hours' fast, give the sow a tablespoonful of spirits of turpentine in two quarts of milk. Six hours later commence to feed her regularly with slops, putting into each pail of slop a tablespoonful of turpentine, and once a day add about a pint of hardwood ashes. Also occasionally throw into her pen a shovelful of charcoal. Some hog raisers consider that pigs are more liable to have worms when fed largely on shorts.]

2. Black teeth are small sharp teeth, black or dark brown in color, found in the sides of the mouths of pigs when born. They continue growing for some time, and drop out of their own accord. They frequently grow in such a manner as to cut the tongue so that they cannot eat, and starvation and blood-poisoning results. Some hog-raisers make a practice of examining all newly-born litters, and when these teeth appear they are pulled out or broken off with a pair of pincers. This we believe to be safe and good practice, as nothing but benefit can arise from the operation.]

FOUNDERED PIGS.

Last March I purchased nine three-months-old Tamworth pigs. Kept them in a roomy pen for about three weeks, and fed about 9 lbs. chop composed of 1 part each of peas, barley, oats and shorts, twice a day, or 2 lbs. to each hog per day. They also got slop, roots, and charcoal. I noticed a number of them becoming stiff or apparently foundered, so I let them out, and they have been out ever since, on red clover pasture, and are also getting the aforesaid amount of chop, slop, and charcoal. Some of them have got stiff from time to time since letting them out, and by cutting off the feed they seem to get better slowly. What I cannot understand is how pigs fed and handled as they were would become foundered, as we have fed the Berkshires twice as heavy without any ill results. I have been told that there is another disease in which the symptoms are similar to founder, and would like to know if it is so? The pigs have always been thin, even for Tamworths, and are large enough to finish; but I am afraid to feed heavy for fear of bringing back the disease. What do you think ails the pigs, and how would you advise us to proceed to finish them for market? Would you advise me to keep the best pig in this litter for a brood sow, or would her pigs be liable to the above disease?

Simcoe Co.

[It does seem strange that pigs built on the lines of the breed named should be knocked off their pins with such reasonable feeding, and we can only account for it on the supposition that some of them have been more greedy than others and have eaten more than their share, thus impairing their digestion and heating their blood unduly. Such changes in their food as will tend to keep the bowels loose and cool their blood should bring them round in a little time. A little Epsom salts

in their food will help. For this purpose the clover pasture and exercise, together with warmer weather, should be effective, but we would delay the heavier feeding for finishing until the pigs have fully recovered from the ailment. We would not fear to retain the best of the litter for breeding purposes, as the trouble is probably only temporary and from local causes.]

Miscellaneous.

NURSERY STOCK—GRAFTING CLOTH, ETC.

1. Will you kindly inform me, through your valuable paper, were I can get peach, plum and cherry stones, also apple and pear, or any kind of pips suitable to start a nursery?

2. Where can wild yearling stock for grafting and budding be got?

3. Is it necessary to crack cherry stones before planting?

4. Where are the machines made for cracking peach and plum stones?

5. Where are the drills for drilling seeds, that are drawn by horse, manufactured?

6. What is the usual size of wild stock that is budded and grafted?

7. How is the cloth prepared used for wrapping grafts with?

8. Would it be advisable to get seeds from canning factory?

W. J. C.

Halton Co., Ont.

[I have attempted to answer the questions to the best of my ability, and believe any of the dealers mentioned are honest and responsible. The gentleman seeking the information should be more experienced in the work than his questions warrant before he invests a great amount of money in the nursery business, unless he intends hiring good reliable assistants that have had considerable experience. There is money and pleasure in the nursery business if a man understands the work and carries it on properly.]

1. Of late, nurserymen in this country do not start plum and cherry stock from "stones," nor apples and pears from seeds; at least, the extensive nurserymen do not. Our climate is not suitable for such a process. The summer or growing season is too short. Peaches only are grown from "stones," for nursery purposes. Of course, in order to originate new varieties, we must resort to seeds, but I understand that general nursery work is meant. As a rule, the large growers of nursery stock import peach pits from the United States. They are handled in immense quantities by some dealers in the South. The inquirer could purchase pits from the following: Marble City Nursery Co., A. A. & M. E. Newson, props., Knoxville, Tenn., U. S. A.; J. H. H. Boyd, Gage, Sequatchie Co., Tenn., U. S. A. Of course these pits have to be procured in the fall, buried over winter, taken out the following spring and cracked. This process softens the shells, and a large percentage will turn out already cracked.]

2. The most of this stock is imported from Europe. Among other extensive growers of such stock, the following are honest and responsible: Louis Leroy, Angers, France. Stock from this gentleman can be ordered through Aug. Rhotert, 26 Barclay street, New York, or direct. Pierre Sebire, Ussy, Calvados, France. An American dealer is D. S. Lake (Shenandoah Nursery), Shenandoah, Iowa.]

3. Of course it would be, but as has been stated before, cherries are not started from stones here, but are budded onto seedling stock that has been imported.]

4. These crackers are manufactured in the United States, and could be purchased of Irving Rouse (Nurseryman), Rochester, N. Y.]

5. This question is not exactly clear. If the inquirer has reference to an ordinary seed drill, he can get one from many of the agricultural implement manufacturers. If he means a drill for sowing the seed of peach, cherry, plum, etc., I have never seen one. Peach seed is always dropped by hand in this section. Probably he could get information about such a drill from some of the large American seed dealers, such as Peter Henderson, of New York. However, peach seed, to be planted evenly, should be dropped.]

6. Something like a quarter of an inch through, some a little smaller and some a little larger.]

7. The cotton is cut in long strips from four to six inches wide. The grafting wax is melted in a large receptacle, and kept warm enough to remain in a liquid state. The cotton strips are then drawn through this liquid wax, and then passed through or between tight rollers. An old clothes wringer is a splendid thing for this work. By doing this the wax is pressed evenly into and over the cotton, and also thinly. Now, all this has to be done in a place warm enough that the wax does not get hard, and that the cotton remains flexible and soft. These strips are then cut up into small pieces about a half to three quarters of an inch wide, cutting across the original strip by laying on a smooth board and using a sharp knife. It must be remembered that all this work, as well as the grafting and wrapping, has to be done in a warm room, about 100°.

8. There is always danger of getting peach seed infested with "yellows." Seed from the South is guaranteed free from this disease, and it is more even in size, and being grown in a warm climate, is properly matured and ripened. The most of the extensive nurserymen secure their seeds from the South.]

The inquirer could get seeds of ornamental and forest trees of A. LeCocq & Co., Darmstadt, Germany; J. M. Helms' Sons, Grosstabarz, Germany. Wentworth Co., Ont. JOHN B. PETTIT.]

SWEET CLOVER (*Melilotus*).

I enclose plant which has come up in lucerne sown a year ago. Will you please tell me, in your next issue, what it is, and if it is a bad weed, as I thought it might be sweet clover?

X. Y. Z.

Lambton Co., Ont.

[The plant in question is melilot (*Melilotus*)—sweet clover. It is a very strong-growing plant, reaching four to six feet high, and is very tough in the stems. It is useless for fodder, as stock refuse to eat it. It is recommended as a valuable crop for green manuring, and is not difficult to destroy by cultivation.]

BEDDING REQUIRED FOR FEEDING CATTLE LOOSE.

I should feel greatly obliged if some who have experience in feeding cattle in loose stalls could give me some information as to the quantity of bedding required. I am about to rebuild my stable, and am thinking of having pens to hold about six cattle each. I am told that unless an enormous quantity of straw is used it is impossible to keep the animals clean. If this is so, I shall have to return to the old method.

F. RANSOM.

Wentworth Co.

[We have interviewed many persons who have wintered cattle loose in box stalls, and we believe from one fifth to one quarter more straw is needed than with tied cattle to keep them equally clean. Some feeders use no more for their loose cattle, head for head, than for tied ones, but, as a rule, they are somewhat dirty before spring, which, after all, may not be a serious objection, provided the animals are comfortable and the pen well ventilated. We will be glad, however, to hear from readers who have tried both plans regarding this question.]

FARM WATER SUPPLY.

I want an increased supply of water at both house and barn, which are about 180 feet apart. How can I get one good well in such a position as will suitably supply both? Can the well be put near enough to the barn so that I can pump water with windmill on barn, which could then be used for other power, and have the water supplied to the house nice and fresh, or would I have to have the well at the house and pump the water to the barn? By letting me know the most economical and convenient way of supplying both house and barn from the same well you will greatly oblige.

A CONSTANT READER.

[We understand that "Constant Reader" wants a power mill on his barn. This being so, put down the well outside, but as convenient to the barn as possible, at a point sufficiently raised so that there will be no surface drainage into it from the yard. If more than 25 feet deep, you will require to use jerk-rod or wire to pump, but if under that depth, the water can be forced up direct into elevated tank over well. Erect first a round wooden tank about 6x6 feet; then place in the center of it and resting on the bottom a galvanized steel tank 18 inches in diameter and 6 feet high. The water must be pumped up into the steel tank, and by having it one or two inches higher than the wooden tank, the water overflows into the latter. Pipe from the small tank to the house. To complete the job put good roof, with tar paper under shingles, over the tank, to exclude heat. Some surround them with boards as well. If you do not want a power mill on barn, dig the well near house, and with pumping mill raise the water through a small elevated tank in the house (drawing off water with tap for domestic use), and from thence by gravity to barn, emptying into a round outside drinking tank 10 feet across and 3 feet deep. If tank in house be high enough, you can carry the water into troughs before your stock in the stable.]

FALSE FLAX (*Camelina sativa*).

Enclosed you will find a sample of weed which is getting into our meadows around here, which, I think, is a bad weed. I think it came in the grass seed. Some say it is wild flax. I would like to hear your opinion on it?

Middlesex Co., Ont.

PHILLIPS BROS.

[In our July 2nd, 1900, issue we published a good illustration of this plant (false flax) along with a description of it. It grows from 18 to 20 inches high, is much branched, and closely resembles shepherd's-purse. The blossoms are small and of a pale yellow color, and are borne on the tops of the branches. After the blossoms are past, the upper portion of the plant consists mainly of stems and seedpods. These pods are pear-shaped, about the size of plump wheat grains, and having a small-pointed projection from the upper end. The seeds are numerous, brown, and about the same size as timothy seed. It flowers during May, June, and July, and commences to seed in June. It grows in all sorts of soil and infests winter wheat, rye meadows and pasture. Infested fields should be shallowly gang-plowed and harrowed immediately after harvest, and as soon as the seeds begin to sprout, cultivate; repeat the cultivation and rib up the land the last thing in the fall. Put in a hoed crop the following spring and cultivate it thoroughly throughout the growing season. Two or three spring-grain crops should be grown on the land before seeding down, and great care should be given to the fall cultivation, and the soil should be cultivated and harrowed in the spring before sowing. It may be wise to grow another hoed crop before seeding down to meadow. The objects should be to avoid growing crops that the weed infests, to avoid allowing plants to go to seed, to induce germination of the seeds in the soil as far as possible, and to destroy the plants while young.]