



Diagram showing various cuts of a side of bacon and the average prices realized for each during 1898.  
Copied from R. S. A. Report for 1898.

Not: The value given in the cut are in English money and should be multiplied by two to obtain an American equivalent.

the year should come in fall months. I gave good reasons for this and need not further discuss on that point. Where cheese is the principal dairy product the separators begin running the first of November, when the pigs may be ready to wean, but where butter is the only product, it is not material in which of the fall months the litters come. Milk, in either case, will be the chief ration. At this age, that is when pigs are under one hundred pounds in weight, the pigs can profitably be given all the milk they will consume.

It is wasteful, however, to feed pigs on skim milk alone; wheat middlings is probably the one best meal food to mix with the skim milk and should be fed to young pigs under one hundred pounds, either in winter or summer, warm. Boiled potatoes are greatly relished by young pigs, mixed with milk and mill feed and, do you know that boiled potatoes and skim milk make a balanced ration for growing hogs? The winter dairyman will understand, from his experience with the cows that hogs will require as warm an apartment as his milk cows, but, unlike the cows, will urgently require plenty of room for exercising.

No effort should be made to force those dairymen's hogs too fast or to put them on the market at six months of age. Better a slower growth, so as to make them ready for market at eight months, or seven months at least, when they should

weigh 200 pounds more or less. In the first two months of a pig's life not much skim milk will be consumed as the pigs feed from the dam so that when two litters a year are obtained from each brood sow, the almost ripe hogs of the previous litter, farrowed six months previous, will consume the larger portion of the milk. The aim being to have the previous litter ready for market when the present litter is weaned.

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#### A CAPITAL SUGGESTION.

The United States Secretary of Agriculture, in his last report on the work of his department, shows the important manner in which it differs from others. He says that its appropriations should be regarded as investments, because they add to the wealth of the country by increasing the profits of the farmers as a result of investigations.

As a result of a close study of the foreign markets and improved methods of providing for, and reaching them, the exports to foreign countries during the last four years have exceeded that of the previous four by the enormous sum of \$884,000,000.

There is no reason why Canada should not emulate the United States as regards her agricultural products, and it is a short-sighted economy which would oppose any measure having this end in view.