

### Treatment of Calves.

Most farmers do well to make calculations to raise one or more calves each year to keep up their herd, especially those beyond the limits of the milk supply of our great milk markets. It often costs more to raise than it does to buy, but then it is to be considered that they can generally raise better animals than they could buy at low the prices at which heifers generally rule. We know it costs considerable to raise up a heifer well to the age when it is proper to have her come in, but notwithstanding this fact, we are satisfied that it is often better to raise enough to keep up the herd.

The calf to select to raise ought to be from a well bred mother that is fully matured, not less than three or four years old and not over nine, a cow that is known to be a good milker. The bull or the father of the calf ought to be fine bred, not less than two years old and care ought to be taken that he comes from a good milking stock. It is desirable that it should be an early calf not later than March, and if as early as the first of March all the better. An early calf gets a better start in the spring than a late one, and if it is properly taken care of it will go through the summer stronger and come up in the fall larger and better developed and will be more likely to come in at two years old making a larger size cow than the late calf. We like to have the heifer that is designed for the dairy come in at two years old rather than three. We want her to form the habit of making milk early, while her system is plastic, easily influenced, so that by proper feeding, we can develop the mammary system to its utmost capacity. It makes a great difference in the actual value of a cow, whether her organs of secretion are brought into action young when they are forming and developing with the other organs of the body.

For the young calf there is nothing so good as new milk and for the first few days it is quite essential, but it is not very essential that it should be continued beyond two weeks of age, and where milk is worth from three to six cents a quart it soon gets to be too expensive to follow it up longer than is necessary. It is advisable to teach the calf to drink as soon as possible, say at two or three days old, and after suckling two or three days, if it is left without an accustomed meal it will generally take hold very readily. We never had much difficulty in teaching a calf to drink and we have acted the part of tutor for a good many juveniles of the bovine persuasion. But keep up the new milk from the cow, its own mother, if possible for a fortnight at least, and then it may be mixed half and half with skimmed milk, and if a little oatmeal is at hand a slight mixture of that will be useful. Never feed too much at a time but feed often, say three times a day at regular hours. Four quarts is enough at a time. At three or four weeks old the calf will begin to nibble a little at some early cut hay or rowen, when slices of roots may be offered and soon shorts or oatmeal may be added regularly to its drink. The oat is great at forming muscle growth, and does not cause the animal to run to fat; the tendency to run to fat for a calf destined for the dairy must be avoided. A good thrifty growth, making the animal straight and healthy, is vastly more important than fat.

Some farmers try to cheat their calves with hay tea, porridge and other slops and take off the milk too early. There is no economy in this, and if a farmer cannot afford some milk till the calf is old enough to live on more solid food, it is better not to try to raise it. We should say pure, new milk never less than a week, and not less than two weeks is better, and after that half new milk and half skimmed till the stomach is strong enough to digest solid food. Indeed those calves that have more or less milk till three or four months old, do better than those that are deprived of it young. If a calf gets its food regularly and is not allowed to go too long, so that its appetite becomes so ravenous as to make it take its food too rapidly, it will usually escape difficulties of the bowels, costiveness and looseness. And a little salt in the food as often at least as once a week, and that will help to keep the digestion regular and right. Scald the milk if looseness comes on and that will generally check it.

At four months the calf can shirk for itself, but it ought to have a good sweet pasture, and if the water is not plenty and pure, keep a trough of water where it is easy of access. The young animal is a tremendous drinker. It is desirable that the calf pasture should be near the house so that the little ones can often be seen and visited.

A heifer ought to be kept growing thriftily but not fattened, till she comes to milk, and if possible

she ought to drop her first calf just before going out to pasture in the spring, or say ten days or a fortnight before. There will be less danger of trouble with the udder at that season. And after she is well brought to milk, say a week or ten days after calving, she should be liberally fed on milk producing food, if she is not on grass. The first season of her experience as a milker will have a good deal to do with her usefulness and profit as a dairy cow. Milk her carefully and regularly, till the next calving time, and if she will hold out well quite up to this time, we think it better to encourage this tendency the first year. It will fix the habit of holding out well.—*Mass. Ploughman.*

### Proposed Points for Jersey Cows.

1. Head small, bony, and rather long	2
2. Face dishd, broad between the eyes and narrow between the horns	1
3. Muzzle small, encircled by a light color	1
4. Nose black, with large nostrils	2
5. Eyes full and placid	2
6. Horns small, crumpled, and amber color	6
7. Ears small and thin	2
8. Neck slim, rather long, with clean throat and light at the shoulder	4
FOREPART, 20.	
9. Shoulders sloping and lean, withers thin, and breast broad	3
10. Back level to the setting on of tail, and strong across the loin	5
11. Body capacious, bony, hooped and deep at the flank	10
12. Hips long, and of good width between	2
BODY, 20.	
13. Udder capacious and running well forward	5
14. Udder well up behind, broad and deep	7
15. Udder free from hair and not fleshy	3
16. Teats good shape, large and well apart	6
17. Milk veins large and irregular	10
18. Mirror high and broad, and full on thighs	10
UDDER, 40.	
19. Thighs thin and wide apart, with legs standing square	3
20. Legs short, small below the joints and flat	3
21. Color of skin, udder and inside of ears yellow	7
22. Hide mellow and thin, with soft, fine hair	3
23. Tail slim and long, reaching to the hoof, with good brush	2
24. Disposition quiet and good natured	1
25. Size medium, color good	1
Perfection	100

### How to keep Hogs Healthy in Pens.

Our correspondents often mention the fact that their hogs, kept in pens are not healthy, seem often to lose their appetite, etc. Mr. G. F., near Bloomington, Ill., asks us: "What can be done to keep my hogs healthy, confined in pens. They have plenty of corn and water, and are kept clean; yet they often have a miserable appetite, and do not gain as fast as they should. They have sometimes appeared feverish, and on butchering last fall found livers not quite healthy. Can you give me any remedy?"

This brings up questions of great importance on pig feeding. The first mistake to be corrected, is the prevalent impression, that the pig can be healthy on concentrated food alone. Corn meal, or corn unground, is in too solid and compact a form as it reaches the stomach, the gastric juice cannot properly circulate through it, and perform its digestive function. The hog requires a certain proportion of coarse food to be given with the grain, in order to maintain it in health.

We experimented with six pigs of the same litter, fed three wholly upon corn meal, wet up in cold water, and the other three were fed upon corn meal mixed with double its bulk of green cut clover. At ten months old they were slaughtered, and those fed upon meal and clover dressed fifty per cent. more than the three fed upon meal alone. The symptoms of those fed upon meal alone were quite similar to those mentioned by G. F., while those fed upon meal and clover were always healthy, and ate, in addition to the clover, as much corn meal as the others. An experiment in winter with meal alone, and meal and clover hay cooked, resulted the same; and from these and various other trials, we became satisfied that much of the disease among pigs is occasioned by feeding wholly on concentrated food.

### Variety of Food.

Farmers overlook the necessity for variety in the diet of their pigs. All our domestic animals require a great variety of food to supply all the wants of the system. We have no doubt but that this confinement to one kind of food for a long time is the frequent cause of disease in pigs. Green clover in summer, besides giving bulk and lightness to the

food, furnishes a larger proportion of muscle-forming matter, and phosphate of lime for the bones. In winter, when green clover cannot be had, the next best green food is beets, carrots, turnips, etc., and when these are not to be had, short cut clover or other hay boiled with meal, well answers the purpose and will be eaten greedily. Several different kinds of grain should be ground together to give variety, and this can usually be done by the farmer without inconvenience. We have an acquaintance in Wisconsin, who has found it profitable to feed large numbers of pigs and hogs, in winter, on barley and corn ground together, mixed with an equal quantity of short cut clover hay, all boiled together. Upon this diet their thrift has been remarkable and their health perfect.

### Experiments of Lawes and Gilbert.

The great English experimenters have met with the same obstacles in feeding corn meal alone to hogs. Some thrived passably well, others became diseased, had large tumors and swellings about the neck and shoulders, with difficulty of breathing, etc. They made and administered the following compound: twenty pounds of finely sifted coal ashes, four pounds common salt, one pound super-phosphate of lime, all well mixed together and put into a trough where the hogs could eat it at will. They say of the result:

A trough containing this mineral mixture was put into the pen at the commencement of the second fortnight, and the pigs soon began to lick it with evident relish. From this time the swellings or tumors, as well as the difficulty in breathing, which probably arose from pressure of the former, began to diminish rapidly. The three pigs consumed of the mineral mixture described above, nine pounds during the first fortnight, six pounds during the second, and nine pounds during the third.

The improvement made in the health of the pigs was owing, first, to the antiseptic properties of the mixture, absorbing and neutralizing the gases in the stomach, caused by indigestion; and second the assimilation and digestion of small portions of the phosphate and sulphate of lime and chloride of soda, these making up for some of the deficiencies of the corn meal. But a ration of green clover, carrots, or beets with the meal, would have prevented the disease.

A better remedy than that of Lawes or Gilbert, would be finely ground raw bone and wood ashes, saturated with diluted carbolic acid. This mixture should be kept where the pigs can eat it at will. The pig, unless a breeder, will stand confinement remarkably well, if given the proper food.—*Buffalo Live Stock Journal.*

### Pedigrees of Swine.

When Short-horn breeders so carefully avoid grades, why it is that grade hogs are so popular, or rather, have been so popular? The Poland-China, Chester White, etc., are breeds recently home-made and of origin from common stock crossed with the Suffolk or Berkshire, and are only grades. They may at any time breed to their common stock. In fact the growing unpopularity of these breeds arises from the fact that they are such uncertain breeders. Had we a Hog Herd-book on the basis of the Short-horn Herd-book such breeds as the Poland-China, etc., would not be entitled to admission. We should then be obliged to acknowledge that the only thorough-bred hogs in this country are the Suffolk and Berkshires.—*Victor in Western Rural.*

SAWDUST.—The London *Field* says of sawdust: I litter the horses on it to a depth of nine inches, raking off the damp and soiled surface every morning, and spreading evenly a little fresh, removing the whole four or five times a year. Its advantages appear to be many, of which I will state a few which give, in my estimation, its greatest superiority over straw. It is much cleaner, and more easily arranged; and, of course, much cheaper at first cost, making in the end excellent manure. It is peculiarly beneficial to the feet, affording them a cool, porous stuffing, a substitute for the soil of earth we always find in the hoofs of a horse at grass, and presents the nearest resemblance to the horse's natural footing—the earth. We never had a diseased foot since the introduction of sawdust in the stable now some years since. Horses bedded on sawdust are freer from dust and stains than when in ordinary litter, simply because sawdust is a better absorbent, perhaps, and testify their approval of it by frequently lying down for hours in the day. It has also the recommendation of being unsteady—an advantage which all in charge of horses with the habit of eating their litter will admit."