

The lambs were then fed for eighty-five days on the following : clover hay, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per lamb per day or 106 lbs. for the period. This at \$5 per ton would be $26\frac{1}{2}$ cents for each lamb ; grain, ground, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per day per lamb or 127 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. for the period, worth at 80 cents per cwt. \$1.02. Turnips 10 lbs. per day per lamb or 850 lbs. for period, worth at 6 cents per lb. 85 cents per lamb.

From this I deduce the following :

Cost of feeding one lamb eighty-five days.

106 lbs. of hay at \$5 per ton	\$.26 $\frac{1}{2}$
127 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of grain at 80 cents per cwt.	1.02
850 lbs. of turnips at 6 cents per bus.	.85

Total cost, $\$2.13\frac{1}{2}$

Adding to this the cost of each lamb \$2.50, we find the total cost to be \$4.63 $\frac{1}{2}$.

At the end of the fattening period the lambs weighed 134 $\frac{1}{2}$ each and the price I received was 5 cents per lbs. or \$6.72 $\frac{1}{2}$ each and, therefore, the profit per lamb was \$2.09 and on the 40 lambs \$83.60. From this the price of pasture for probably two months should be deducted.

I find it profitable to cut the hay. In feeding in racks the lambs pick off the leaves and heads and waste a great deal of the best feed, but when it is cut they eat it up clean.

I find that sheep are the most profitable part of farming, and if in answering your letter I have been of any service to you I shall be very much pleased indeed.

Respectfully yours,

WM. RICHARDSON.

Vandorf, Ont., Dec. 23rd, 1898.

Swine.

BACON PRODUCTION

TO THE EDITOR OF FARMING :

We have read with great interest the articles appearing in *Farming* from time to time on the above subject and among others those from the pen of Wm. Davies, C. C. L. Wilson, F. C. Fearman, and others. M. Davies speaks in the Exhibition number of the brutal treatment which the hog is subjected to before reaching the slaughter house. We are sorry to say that we, too, have seen the poor brute lying covered with marks, bruised and bleeding, and must before long if living be a mass of

scabs and sores. We do not think this necessary with properly constructed pens and also with proper methods of loading and unloading at the shipping stations. The buyers could tax the marks found on the animal and in this way reduce the evil very materially. Mr. Fearman's letter gives very positive information as to breed and feed and a great deal of it is valuable, but like the cow with the " mullen," we must reject some of it. His absolute prohibition, " Do not feed corn " or " avoid corn " in the light of Professor Day's experiments, does not obtain. It does look unreasonable that sweet, well-matured corn with a mixed ration of mangels or sugar beet, barley or oats, etc. (which by the way I would advise instead of turnips because it is more palatable), could possibly make anything but sweet and nutritious bacon, providing the hogs have been kept in thrifty condition.

No doubt Mr. Fearman when advising out-door exercise for the hog was right when the weather is not too inclement, as the animal requires it in order that he may develop muscle or flesh instead of fat. It is also beneficial for health, and without health we cannot have growth for thrift. We do not agree with Mr. J. L. Wright when he says, " To allow hogs to range at will would simply spell ruin to farmers foolish enough to be led astray by such talk. " We never had hogs do better than when fed in a clover or lucerne pasture and finished there, and we are convinced that Mr. J. L. W. would find his profits much larger if he adopted the more sensible plan of feeding his hogs and finishing them too while ranging in the clover or lying, stretching and growing in the orchard, for at least six months of the year. We have made a practice of penning only when we must. It must be understood that we do not allow the pigs to run everywhere or anywhere, but confine them to their own plots. It is important that further experiments be conducted at the O. A. C. with regard to result of feeding corn, as we have found a mixture of corn, shorts, and mangels or sugar beet a profitable ration in so far as growth is concerned.

A. READER.