

WOULD LICENSE THE SCRUB STALLION.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I am a reader of "The Farmer's Advocate," and enjoy reading men's different opinions on stallion license. I am not in favor of taxing owners of pedigree stallions by licensing them, as I think it would be of no benefit for the farmer to have such an act in force; and then what about the man that has paid a goodly sum of money into the purchase of a pure-bred horse? I think they are the men to protect, for good horses are scarce, and bad and unsound as he may be, he is better than the scrub.

I say license the scrub, and make it a good heavy license fee, not less than fifty dollars for any horse not holding a registered pedigree, and fix a fine of twenty-five dollars for anyone using a scrub horse without a license. In this township we have only one pure-blooded horse and about ten scrubs, which charge bull fees, from \$1 to \$2.50 to insure. It is impossible for the good horse to pay expenses and buck against all those scrubs, no matter how good he may be. For instance, I have a colt one year and a half old, from the pure-bred Clyde horse, that I can get \$125 for at any time, and he is only from a pony mare, and I can show you colts from good mares and scrub stallions that their owners are offering for \$70, and can't sell them. It is high time to put a stop to such work among white people, when they are too blind to see the folly of it themselves. Give the pure-bred horse a show.

R. J. C.

Algoma District, Ont.

GOVERNMENT HORSE-BREEDING.

The horse-breeding work at the Colorado Experiment Station is progressing very satisfactorily. The stallion Carmon was bred to 26 mares in 1905, and got 24 in foal at the first service. His first crop of foals came last spring, and, while it is too early to pass an opinion on them, it can be said that they prove the horse to be a good investment as a sire. The stud has been increased by the purchase of two mares in Kentucky—one an inbred Mambrino King mare, and the other by Chester Dare, out of a daughter of Harrison Chief. They have already some Harrison Chief blood among the mares in Colorado, but this is the first introduction of that of Mambrino King, unless the claim can still be made that Mambrino King was a grandson of Mambrino Chief, whose blood is here in considerable abundance. The female line from Harrison Chief is one of the most valuable known for the production of quality, style and good conformation, and Mambrino King was one of the handsomest horses ever seen in an American show-ring. For these reasons these mares should be of great value in the breeding work.

Work in breeding Morgan horses, in co-operation with the Vermont Experiment Station, was begun in June, with the purchase of seven mares and two fillies in Vermont and two mares in Kentucky. The object of this work is to prevent the loss of the Morgan blood and preserve the type, at the same time increasing the size over that of the old Morgan. The mares were bought by a board composed of Prof. C. F. Curtiss, Director of the Iowa Experiment Station; Mr. Cassius Peck, of the Vermont Experiment Station, and Mr. George M. Rommel, the animal husbandman of this bureau. The board was very fortunate in securing mares of good size, uniformity and quality, and strongly bred in Morgan line. The mares purchased in Vermont were sired by General Gates, Denning Allen, Bob Morgan, Young Ethan Allen (a full brother of Daniel Lambert), Rocky Mountain and Gillig. Those bought in Kentucky were sired by Harrison Chief, out of Morgan dams, and give a combination of blood lines which is of the greatest value.—[Rider and Driver.

THE FIRST-PRIZE ESSAY.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Regarding the improvement of the horse industry, I have read all the letters in "The Farmer's Advocate" for three or four months, and if I were to be the judge, I would give Mr. S. J. McKnight, of Grey County, first prize for his letter, in your recent issue. He points out the only practical way of improving the trade to both the breeder and the stallion owner. It is only fair and just that the stallion owner should make a living profit if he gets a fair fee and provides a first-class horse. He will then be sure of a fair profit, without which he is likely to fall behind; and, by giving him a good fee, we will retain the best in the country, whereas, if we do not pay the price, the best horses will be sold out of the country, and the scrubs will be left for us to breed to. Let us pay the top fee, and so obtain the best that is to be had, for the best is none too good for us Canadian breeders.

Grey Co., Ont.

A BREEDER

NAVEL ILL IN FOALS.

Hundreds of newborn foals are lost every year through neglect to disinfect the navel string early on the day they are born, and three or four times daily till it is shrivelled and dried up, washing the end of it often with a solution of one part formalin to ten parts water; or, carbolic acid, one part to twenty parts water. It has been discovered that the germ which causes navel ill and joint-ill in colts and white scours in calves

enters the system by way of the navel opening very soon after birth, and as prevention by the means above indicated is simple, a note should be made of this now. Prevention is cheaper and better than cure, and should be attended to promptly. Be prepared to use prevention promptly.

LIVE STOCK.

RAISE MORE BACON HOGS.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

During the past season there has been a great deal of agitation amongst prominent leaders in agriculture to induce Ontario farmers to raise more bacon hogs. This is a very important subject, and one on which speakers and the press cannot lay too much stress. It is important alike from a Provincial and an individual standpoint. "Raise more bacon hogs and fill both pockets," is the urgent appeal to which every farmer should respond this coming summer.

The average farmer, on the other hand, is rather skeptical in taking up this line of agriculture on a large scale. He is governed too much by custom. His father raised a few fat hogs, keeping them in a small pen until they weighed 300 or 350 pounds, and then sold them at \$15 to \$20 each, and the money looked big. If they were satisfied with the fat hog, then why should I not be? Perhaps 75 per cent. of the farmers of Ontario do not raise more bacon hogs for this reason. Do not forget that the fat hog then may have been in demand, but now Canada has gradually worked up a paying bacon trade with Great Britain, and because of the quality of bacon we produce, she is willing to pay a big price for it; but not so for the fat hog. The day of the fat hog has passed, and let us realize that the day of the bacon hog has come. Forget the fat hog and raise the real bacon hog, possessing the real bacon type. There is money in it.

Many of our farmers believe that there is not enough money in it to pay for the extra labor and trouble when gone into on a large scale. It has been shown time and again that, with average prices, and under ordinary circumstances, the bacon hog is a good investment, but if careful feeding and good judgment is used from the time the baby pig has learned to care for itself until it is landed into the butcher's hand, bacon-raising is a Cobalt.

PASTURING HOGS.

Last spring, on the first of May, I had in my possession thirty small bacon pigs, four weeks old. I fed these entirely on skim milk, with just a little grain. They were all kept in small yards and furnished with suitable shelter. In four weeks, however, as the strong, thrifty little fellows had rooted their yards to such an extent, I found that I would be obliged to enlarge their yards. Instead of doing this, however, I fenced off with woven wire two acres of unbroken pasture, where the brakes and ferns were very abundant. In their new quarters they were very contented, and immediately set to work digging up roots. I soon discovered they were only taking about half of the skim milk from my thirty cows since they obtained so much food from the pasture. I at once bought thirty more little fellows four weeks old, and put in with them. As the sixty grew very fast, they demanded more food; so, to meet this increasing demand, I increased their grain ration, and added water to the skim milk. Occasionally alfalfa, or green peas and oats, was thrown in as a variety. Later on a few small roots or unripe corn, stalk and all, was given to them to sharpen their appetites.

On the first of September I selected thirty of the largest and most thrifty-looking shoats and brought them to the pens. By limiting them to small yards for a few days before shutting them into small pens, their appetites were not injured by the change, and a steady growth, without any setbacks, followed. This, I may say, is a very important factor, and one which is very often overlooked. If hogs are taken off pasture and confined at once to small pens, they will either lose in weight, or stand still for a few days, rather than thrive and continuously gain in weight.

These hogs were then forced to their greatest capacity, by giving them all they could eat, without impairing their health or wasting food. A mixture of boiled turnips, skim milk, ground wheat, barley, peas and oats, made thin with hot water, was fed them twice a day. Once a day they were given whole corn on the cob. On this feed they were ready to ship in four weeks. The thirty weighed 156 pounds each, making a total of 4,500 pounds of pork. Pork was then worth 64 cents live weight, giving me a total income of \$280 for the first lot. The cost up till the time they were put in pens was very small. They were then fed entirely on home-grown products, which also reduced the cost considerably. The other thirty were then brought in from the pasture, and a complete record kept of the total gain and the amount of grain fed, which afterwards proved a very interesting experiment.

A PRACTICAL EXPERIMENT.

This second lot were very thrifty and uniform in size. They were fed on the same ration as the first lot. Upon being put into pens each hog was weighed, and the total weight in each pen recorded. The weights were as follows: Pens 1, 2 and 3, 1,474 pounds, and pens 4 and 5, 1,154 pounds. This gave a total weight of 2,628 pounds.

In 26 days they were all sold, and weighed again. Pens 1, 2 and 3 weighed 1,973 pounds, making a gain of 499 pounds; and pens 4 and 5 weighed 1,537 pounds, making a gain of 383 pounds. This made an aggregate gain of 882 pounds in 26 days, or 1.1 pounds gain per hog per day. To make this gain, 2,812 pounds of grain was fed, which I valued at \$1.30 per cwt.; this made a total cost of \$36.55. Thus, you will find it cost me four cents to put on a pound of gain. During the 26 days 5,000 pounds of skim milk was fed, which is worth at our creamery 10 cents per cwt. This made a cost of \$5.00 extra, which brings the cost of production up to 4.7 cents per pound of gain. With pork selling at 6½ cents per pound, does this pay?

Many will argue that 1½ cents per pound is not much profit, but you must consider that the grain fed is raised by yourself, and, by feeding this home-grown grain, you are selling it for \$1.30 per cwt. and reaping the manufacturer's profit of slightly over 1½ cents besides.

In connection with the same experiment, it might be of some interest to note that pens 1, 2 and 3 were situated in a well-sheltered shed, but exposed to the cold October nights, while those in pens 4 and 5 enjoyed a home in a well-heated stable. In both cases the pens averaged slightly over one pound gain per hog per day. I would not have you think by these results that hogs will do just as well in a cold place as in a warm one, under all conditions, but the point is, give a pig plenty of bedding (long straw preferred) in a pen well sheltered from draughts, rain or snow, and extreme cold, and he will gain as rapidly, if not faster, than the one shut up in a warm, stuffy, poorly-ventilated stable.

In conclusion, I would strongly advocate that every farmer fence off this spring two acres of his roughest unbroken pasture, and place within this enclosure two young bacon hogs for each cow that he possesses. At the same time plant a small piece of sugar beets or turnips to boil in the fall, tops and all, to feed the young hundred-pound shoats when they are taken off the pasture. Then feed them well in pens for four or five, perhaps six, weeks before shipping. Then, when you see what large, strong-boned, thrifty fellows that pasture has produced; what a clean, well-manured and well-plowed pasture those hogs have produced; what a nice, easily-earned bank account you possess, and if you could foresee what a great benefit our Province and our Dominion would derive from so great an increase in her bacon trade, I am confident that when the next spring arrived you would be ready to raise bacon hogs on a still larger scale. Try it, and prove it for yourselves.

A PRACTICAL FARMER.

Carleton Co., Ont.

STOCK WATERING SYSTEM.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have read with much interest the articles published in your valuable paper on watering stock. I think I have a complete system, which cost me \$200, and for the five years I have been using it, it has cost me only \$5.00 for repairs.

The pumping power is obtained from a thirteen-foot windmill, with which I do my grinding, straw, hay and corn cutting. The water is brought from a well a distance of about 100 feet from the barn, thereby getting pure water, with no barnyard soakage. The water is then forced into a tank, buried in winter in a hay mow in the barn, which keeps the water from freezing and at a fit temperature for drinking purposes.

From the tank in the mow four pipes run, one to each row of cows (the cows facing each other, with an alley between them), one to the separator room, where the milk is cooled in the summer on hot nights and on Sundays, and one to the calf pen, where the calves and young cattle are watered. The cattle in the stable are watered from a square wooden trough, which has been in use fourteen years, and is sound and tight yet. The trough is 1½ feet from the bottom of the manger, and each cow has a recess of one square foot, with a sliding door, to drink from. The door keeps the trough from being filled up with feed, etc. When the cattle are to be watered, the taps are turned on and the doors slid up. When the cows are through drinking, all the surplus water is drained off by a waste pipe in the end of the trough, and then it is ready for a fresh supply of water.

In the summer, when the cows are in the pasture, they are watered in the daytime by a running creek, and when they come home to be milked at night, they are watered at a trough into which the water from the cooling tank is let off, thus forming a current of cool water where the milk