

more money out of pigs farrowed in March or April, than from those farrowed in October or November, at one dollar per hundred higher price. Some one may be able to tell me how to raise pigs as cheaply in winter as in summer, but I have not yet been able to find it out. Out-of-door life, with a variety of pasture, makes cheaper pork for me than anything I can find in winter. I admit that a farmer who only runs over a few pigs and has the usual variety of offal from house or dairy to feed them may be able to do as well as he could in summer, but the writer is speaking of wintering the progeny of ten or twelve sows on an ordinary farm.

My system of late years has been to get the young pigs started to feed at a trough by themselves at from two to three weeks old. A little sweet skim milk is, of course, best of all, but when this is not available they will start nicely on a little skimmed water. Then, continuing near weaning time, some very fine ground oats may be added to this, but the troughs should be thoroughly cleaned out regularly to avoid anything sour. My experience has also been that where the sow can be spared to the litter until they are nine or ten weeks old, the pigs do much better than when weaned younger. After weaning they should be carried along for a few weeks without the addition of any strong grain, such as peas or barley. Of course, while they are with the sow, if the weather will at all permit, both sow and pigs should be allowed to run out. But at weaning time it is usually necessary to confine them for a while, and generally weaning takes place so early in the season that it is difficult to provide a green fodder that they will eat. But it is well to have a patch of rye or clover on which they can be turned as soon as possible, and in a few days they can be gradually changed to a small feed of oats and shorts to a small feed of any meal.

I find best results from putting this dry meal in a

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where the young pigs only get it by working the board and in small quantities. Then if there is running water for them to drink and wallow in, a shed or temporary shelter for protection from rain or sun, they will go along and make good progress at a very trifling cost for grain. A change of pasture every few weeks is very beneficial, in fact, I believe variety of foods is one of the great secrets of successful hog raising, a change of food frequently is about all the medicine a hog ever requires. Hogs fed during the early summer as above stated, and then given their liberty to glean the stubble and pick the fresh young clover, will come in the pens in September in prime condition to make good solid pork out of every ounce of grain given them. They will consume a lot of grain in a short time but that is alright, for they will lay on from two and a half to three pounds of flesh every twenty-four hours.

One of the best summer pastures I know of for brood sows and growing pigs is rye, which may be sown on the summer fallow. This, I believe, in sowing in drills to permit the scuffler being run through a few times to keep weeds down and stimulate growth. After the pigs are done with it, it is a most valuable pasture for sheep or young cattle up to the time the ground freezes.

In closing permit me to say that I think if more attention were given

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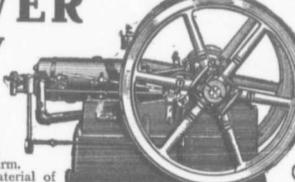
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to how economically we can produce our pork, we would find much less cause to wrangle about which breed of hogs comes nearest being the typical bacon animal. I think it is to be regretted that some of our agricultural papers devote so much space to discrediting our packers, and spoiling the farmers' confidence in our pork market. Could the same space and energy not be much better used, by encouraging our farmers to ask questions of one another through their columns, and thus obtain expressions of opinion, which would be of great value to all their readers? Let us hope for a more friendly and open discussion of this very important branch of Canadian farming.—A Carlton County Farmer.

Readey Resigns

Mr. J. C. Readey, B.S.A., Secretary of Agriculture for Prince Edward Island, has tendered his resignation to take effect July 1st. During the two years he has held that position he has proved himself to be one of the most efficient officials who has ever held that office. Mr. Readey intends going to the west.

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"Bill—"Did you have your head shingled when you were a lad?"
—"No, not my head."—Yonkers Statesman.