

sufficient to cause soft bacon. For fattening hogs in Manitoba, extensive use should be made of barley, as it is the most fattening grain we have. Hogs may be finished entirely on barley or some oats or peas may be used with it. The barley can be fed whole by soaking it for twenty-four hours before using, or it may be boiled and fed, or it may be crushed and soaked before feeding. During the fattening period, whether receiving green feed or not, pigs should be fed three times a day and fed just about all the feed they will clear up at each feed. Some roots may be fed, but they tend to produce soft pork. Pigs will fatten best if kept in groups of from six to twelve hogs in a pen, though where they are raised extensively and fed outdoors, they may be fed almost as well in large droves so long as they have plenty of room at the feed troughs. The spring litter of pigs can often be fattened by pasturing on a field of peas that have been allowed to practically ripen before the pigs are turned on to them.

FALL PIGS

When two litters of pigs per year are raised, the same principles apply to the care of the sows and pigs in every particular except that for the most part pasture will be out of the question, and greater difficulty will be experienced in getting the pigs to take enough exercise in the cold weather to keep them healthy. Also more grain will be required to produce a pound of gain, and the gains per day will be smaller than with the summer pigs, and more labor will be required to care for them.

The chief necessary precautions to insure success with fall pigs, are: First, to make sure that the pigs receive considerable exercise every day; second, to make sure that their sleeping quarters are kept dry and well bedded; third, to feed regularly small amounts of some laxative feeds such as oil cake or flaxseed or a dose of Epsom salts in the feed once every two weeks to keep their digestive systems open and loose. Some cut alfalfa hay or pulped or sliced roots will be very beneficial in this respect also.

Fall pigs farrowed from September 15th to October 1st should be ready for market at 200 pounds weight by the first of the following May.

THE MANAGEMENT OF THE HERD BOAR

Usually the homeliest and most neglected animal on the farm is the herd boar. Just why he should be so much neglected is hard to explain unless it is because he is so homely. In the selection of a boar it should be remembered that he will contribute at least one-half the characteristics to every pig produced in the herd, and it is, therefore, of the greatest importance to select a boar of the right conformation, good quality, strong constitution and the desired characteristics of the breed represented. Having selected a good boar, it will pay to give him proper care, which means to see that he is placed in quarters