

In the Dairy

Dairying in Nova Scotia

Mr. F. M. Logan, government inspector of creameries, reports that there are 35 creameries and cheese factories in operation in Nova Scotia this season. Steady progress is being made, but the farmers of this Province have not yet thoroughly realized the great importance of the dairying industry. According to the census returns, the total output of the creameries is only \$100,000 worth a year, which is not sufficient to supply the local markets.

Little Variation in Quality of Milk

Prof. Clinton D. Smith, of the Michigan Agricultural College, after five years investigation of the milk question, publishes the following conclusions: "1. A cow yields as rich milk as a heifer as she will as a mature cow. 2. The milk is as rich in the first month of the period of lactation as it will be later except perhaps during the last few weeks of the milk flow, when the cow is rapidly drying off. 3. There is little difference in seasons as to the quality of milk. While the cows are at pasture the milk is neither richer nor poorer, on the average, than the milk yielded when the cows were on winter feed. 4. The milk of a fair-sized dairy herd varies little in composition from day to day and radical variations in this respect should be viewed with suspicion."

Why the Jersey Gives Rich Milk

The following from one of our English exchanges should prove of interest to Jersey and Guernsey breeders and to dairymen generally:

"The pastures on which these cattle graze in summer are orchards or small crofts, and from their birth none of the animals are allowed to roam at will, even in those small enclosures, but are always tended by children or tethered. This method of treatment, and the great care bestowed upon them at all times and seasons, have made the Channel Islands cows very docile and gentle, though it may be they are less hardy and vigorous than they otherwise would have been. The comparative want of exercise has, however, done more than affect the character and physique of the breed—it has influenced it also with regard to the exceptional richness of the milk. Where there is little or no exercise there is no hard breathing and consequently only a moderate degree of oxidation or combustion of carbon in the animal economy; and, as the hydrocarbons of the food the animal eats are converted into butter, the less exercise the animal takes the richer the milk will be in the fats of which the butter is composed. On the other hand, physical exercise tends to the formation of muscle rather

than of milk—that is, the food of the animal is in part diverted away from the production of milk, and especially of rich milk. Such being the case it naturally follows that animals treated and bred in the way the Jerseys have been for generations will acquire as one of their marked features the capacity to produce milk very rich in quality."

Is the above theory regarding the richness of milk borne out by experience? Has anyone tested the milk of cows brought up in a wild state and found it poor in fat content?

Feeding Dairy Cows

The Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station has been investigating the feeding of dairy cows. The results of this work are summed up in a bulletin recently issued as follows:

1. Select cows of dairy type: While pure-bred dairy animals will bring a higher price, they will also tend more to reproduce the dairy type, and are therefore recommended.

2. Take strict account of the cost of milk and butter from each individual cow of the herd, so that the unprofitable ones may be culled out.

3. Exercise and pure air are very essential to the best results from milch cows, but exposure to severe weather, especially cold rains, should be avoided.

4. Feed to get the largest amount of milk with profit. The yield of milk, and thereby the yield of butter, is greatly influenced by the amount and character of the feed, the percentage of fat remaining fairly constant.

5. Increase the amount and the length of the season of pastures, for they represent profitable gains in dairying.

6. Good roughness is essential in dairying, and the more palatable these foods may be, the more of the higher priced grain feeds they will replace. Of our coarse feeds grass, corn silage, alfalfa and clover hay rank high.

7. Study the profits in grain feeding in order to avoid giving more grain than the value of the resulting increased yield. Our leading grain ration is a combination of ground corn and bran. This ration may, under some circumstances, be bettered or cheapened by the addition of certain by-products of cereal and oil mills.

Nova Scotia Travelling Dairies

Miss Laura Rose and her sister, both of Guelph, are operating travelling dairies in Nova Scotia under the auspices of the local government. Miss Laura Rose has conducted a travelling dairy so successfully in that province during the past two years that it has been found necessary to have two dairies this season in order to meet the demand.

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