



# PILES FOR FOUR YEARS

Only those who suffer from piles can know the agony, the burning, throbbing, shooting, stabbing pains which this ailment causes and the way it wrecks the sufferer's life! Zam-Buk is blessed by thousands who used to suffer from piles, but whom it has cured. One such grateful person is Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor of Greenwood Avenue, Toronto. She says: "For four long years I suffered acutely from bleeding piles. During that time I spent an immense amount of money on 'remedies' and doctor's prescriptions but I got no ease. Zam-Buk was different to everything else I had tried and it cured me. I am grateful for the cure, and as I have never had piles once since, I know the cure is permanent."

Another thankful woman is Mrs. A. E. Gardiner, of Caledonia, Trillium Bay. She says: "In my case Zam-Buk effected a wonderful cure. For 12 years I had been troubled with blind, bleeding and protruding piles. I had been using various kinds of ointments, etc., but never came across anything to do me good until I tried Zam-Buk which cured me! That this may be the means of helping some sufferers from piles to try Zam-Buk is the wish of one who has found great relief."

Zam-Buk is a purely herbal balm and should be in every home! Cures cuts, burns, bruises, eczema, ulcers, blood-poisoning, itch, cold-sores, chapped hands and all diseases and injuries of the skin, etc. All druggists and stores at 50c box, or from Zam-Buk Co., Toronto, for price.

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W. SMITH GRUBBER CO., Dept. F 23 La Crescent, Minn.

## Foundation Stock for the Piggery.

Attention cannot be given to the selection of foundation stock in any line of live stock production. Like beetles like, and he who starts along proper lines with animals of proper type, is the man who can most easily succeed. Dealing with this question, G. M. Rommel, B. S. A., of the Bureau of Animal Husbandry, has the following in Farmers' Bulletin, No. 295:

The first selection of breeding stock is of prime importance. The effects of mis-mating are always difficult to breed out of a herd, and the effect on a beginner is such that a mistake may completely discourage him. It is good economy to make haste slowly at this time. The start should be made with a few animals; five sows should make a large enough herd for the first year. They should be good individuals, and it will even be much better to buy one high-class sow than five poor ones. This would be real economy, and the development of the herd will prove its value. It will be well if a beginner can obtain the assistance of an old and successful breeder in making a start.

The expression "the male is half the herd" is repeatedly quoted. So far as our knowledge of heredity has developed, other conditions being equal, there is uniform prepotency in both sexes; the influence of the two parents on the offspring is theoretically equal. Therefore, if the boar is half the herd, the sows certainly make up the other half, and their selection is a highly important matter. They may be purchased, already bred, some time before the boar, and quite an item of expense will thus be saved. Then by the time the sows have been watched and studied for a season, and have each raised a litter of pigs, the owner will be much better prepared to select a suitable male, and he can then get one to use on both dams and offspring.

## INDIVIDUAL CHARACTERISTICS.

The sows selected should be nearly the same age, which should be about twelve months, and all should be safe in pig, preferably to the same boar. Their individual characteristics should, perhaps, be first looked to. While hogs do not show the strong differences of sex that we look for in a cow or a mare, sex characteristics always constitute a marked feature of a good brood sow. The smooth forehead and lighter, finer neck, are points of distinction from the signs of masculinity in a boar. The forehead should be broad between the eyes, the throat clean and trim, the neck moderately thin, and the shoulders smooth and deep; the back should be fairly wide and straight, and ample room for the vital organs should be provided by a good width and depth of chest, well-sprung ribs, and straight, deep sides—a deep, capacious body from end to end. Depth of chest and abdomen are especially important in a brood sow. Pinched chests and waists must be avoided. It is generally advised that sows with much length of body should be selected for breeding purposes, length of body being regarded by some as an indication of fecundity. It will certainly do no harm to select sows that are especially long, but care should be taken that quality goes with the increase in length. The loose-jointed, long-coupled, slow-maturing and slow-fattening type should not be allowed to get a foothold in the herd. The influence of length of body on a sow's fecundity is by no means positively known. Many very short-bodied prolific have bred to be wonderfully prolific breeders. The surest means by which to select prolific sows is to keep an accurate record of the herd and cull out all sows that do not yield a certain percentage of pigs annually. Each sow should have at least twelve well-developed teats, thus providing for the proper nourishment of large litters.

## UNIFORMITY OF TYPE.

These first sows should be uniform in type. Uniformity of type goes far beneath the surface. It includes every part of the internal organization. The reproductive system, the digestive system, the circulatory system, and even the nervous system influence uniformity. The breeder may often be disappointed in his

results from sows that he thought were of a uniform type. His pigs are a heterogeneous lot, unpleasing to the eye, unsatisfactory in the feed lot, and profitless to the pocket. In such a case a lack of uniformity in the powers of heredity may no doubt be assigned as the cause of these unfortunate results. It must be borne in mind that it is comparatively easy to select sows that are uniform in quality, constitution, and conformation. This may be done by any skilful judge of hogs. But our only basis for the selection of animals uniform in reproductive powers and heredity of type is the breeding record of their sires and dams and the standard of the herds from which they come. For this reason it is readily apparent why it is an advantage for the beginner to select his sows from one well-established herd. Whether the sows will be uniform in breeding powers can only be determined definitely by testing them in the herd, but to select them from the same herd or from herds of similar breeding will be a reasonable guaranty of good results. When a sow has shown herself to be a prolific breeder she should be retained as long as her reproductive powers are maintained.

Uniformity in a herd is the surest index to the worth of the stock and the skill of the breeder, and its advantages are obvious. A uniform lot of pigs will feed better, look better when fattened, and command a higher price on the market than a mixed lot. With a bunch of sows closely conforming to the same standard, whose reproductive powers are similar, uniform pigs may be expected.

## IMPORTANCE OF MALE.

The importance of the male in the herd should not be asserted at the expense of the females, yet the importance of a male of marked excellence must not be minimized. The boar represents 50 per cent. of the reproductive power of the herd concentrated in one animal; the sows represent an equal amount of reproductive force divided up among ten or twenty or fifty individuals. If, then, these females do not conform strictly to the same type, they are merely convenient machines for the birth and rearing of young—not what they might be, an influential force in furthering the plans of the breeder and raising the standard of the herd.

If there is a tendency at times to exalt unduly the influence of the boar and neglect that of the sows, the beginner should not permit himself to reverse things and entirely neglect the boar. A breeder can not afford to neglect the animals of either sex. The male has, perhaps, the greater influence on the herd, for the simple reason that every pig in the herd is sired by him, whereas they have not all the same dam. To achieve the best results a breeder should never allow the standard of his sows to be lowered, and should always couple them with a boar of a little better grade. A superior boar may be used on a herd of inferior sows with good results, but the use of an inferior boar on sows of high quality will have a disastrous outcome. The one method raises the standard of the herd; the other inevitably lowers it.

## MALE CHARACTERISTICS.

A boar with the male characteristics strongly developed should be selected, preferably as a yearling, or else as a pig that has been purchased at the same time as the sows and allowed to come to maturity before being used. He should have a strongly masculine head and a well-crested neck. His shoulders should be developed according to age but strong shoulder development in pigs under a year or eighteen months is objectionable. There is a common belief that the male parent influences principally the extremities and general appearance of the offspring, while the vital organs (the heart, lungs, and viscera), conformation, and size resemble those of the female parent. This theory is strongly questioned by some modern authorities on heredity, but so long as our knowledge of the subject is so limited, and this particular phase is in dispute, it can do no harm to select breeding animals according to the old ideas. The visible organs of the reproductive system should be well developed and clearly defined. A boar should not be bought with small, indefinitely-placed testicles. Avoid particularly a boar with only one testicle visible.

The boar should stand up on his toes

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There should not be the slightest indication of weakness in the pasterns of a young one; in a mature boar (two or three years of age) that has seen hard service it may be expected that he will be a little down on his pasterns, but a 6 or 8 months old pig that does not carry himself on upright pasterns is not a safe animal to select for a herd boar; the hind pasterns will be in much danger of breaking down with a little age and service. Look carefully to the set of the hind legs. The hock should be carefully set and straight. A crooked hock is as great a drawback as a weak pastern.

"Didn't I tell you to take the axe and cut wood enough to keep the house warm?"  
"Yes; but hadn't you been preachin' this long time 'bout the preservation of the forests?"  
And thereupon the old man wore out two fence rails on him, and told him he was too young to understand that politics don't mean all it says.

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