

The common or inferior calf, that floods the market in the spring of the year is a scrawny specimen, carrying comparatively little flesh and that of inferior quality. The high price of milk in recent years gives many the impression that it is too valuable to feed to calves in its whole state, with the result that after the first few days the calves on many farms get little more than skim milk. They are then turned over to the first buyer who will take them at whatever price they will bring. Before the days of meat inspection, no calf was too young for the market, but the risk of confiscation has largely put a stop to the marketing of very young calves. While much of the 'bob' veal went into cans a large quantity was sold over the counters of meat shops, marked in many cases at so low a price as to be readily taken by the poorer buyers. Then there is the skim-milk calf.

Inferior veal whether from very young calves or those insufficiently fed is a poor article of diet. It is from eating such that veal has become to many a very undesirable food. True it is that cheap veal in the spring months is a blessing to many of the very poor in larger cities who are not able to pay the usual high prices for beef, pork and mutton prevailing at that season of the year. It is also true that if much of the lean veal sold were properly fattened the demand for it would greatly increase and this would at once enhance the value of good calves that would then assuredly pay for the milk and other feed that would be necessary to fatten them.

Elgin Co., Ont.

E. L.

O. P. V. Silage.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Nova Scotia is not an ideal corn-growing country. The nights are too cool for that heat-loving plant, and, as a consequence, the farmers who try to raise corn for silage are often disappointed. The Nova Scotia Agricultural College believes in succulent feed for stock in the winter, and in looking for a substitute for corn silage found that oats, peas and vetch sown together yield a big crop, and when put in the silo make excellent silage. This material has been used with success by several farmers in the neighborhood of Antigonish, N. S., for some years.

In 1914 the Agricultural College seeded something over five acres with oats, peas and vetch at the rate of a bushel and a half of oats, three-quarters of a bushel of peas, and half a bushel of common vetch per acre. This yielded on the average over eleven tons of green feed per acre, and on three acres in the piece the yield was fifteen tons per acre.

This O. P. V. silage kept perfectly in the silo, the cattle ate it well and it kept them in good condition. The same year five acres of corn grown, yielded only eight tons per acre. The season was cold and backward, and the conditions that made a heavy crop of oats, peas and vetch gave a light yield of corn, with practically no ears formed. An analysis of the silage from the two crops is given below:

Constituents.	O. P. V. Silage.	Corn Silage
Dry matter.....	28.15	20.00
Protein.....	2.31	2.37
Carbohydrates.....	23.42	15.33
Fat.....	.83	.88
Ash.....	1.59	1.42

It will be seen from the analysis that the oats, peas and vetch contained 8.15 per cent. more dry matter than the corn. Comparing the amount of dry matter obtained per acre from the two crops we find that the oats, peas and vetch gave 6,418 lbs., and the corn 3,200 lbs., or only half as much. When we consider further that the labor of growing the oats, peas and vetch is less than half that required to care for a crop of corn, we see that for a cool country there is no doubt as to which will pay better.

In 1915 these results were practically duplicated, although the crop of oats, peas and vetch was not quite so heavy and the corn a little better than in 1914.

In order to get a heavy yield of oats, peas and vetch the mixture should be sown on land containing a good deal of fertility. A light crop will fill up the silo very slowly.

We sow as early in the spring as we can get the soil in proper condition. In Truro this is generally about the last week in April. The oats, peas and vetches are mixed together in the proper proportion and sown with the grain drill at the rate of about 3 bushels per acre, using the scale given on the drill for oats. The last two years we have used two bushels of oats, three-quarters of a bushel of peas and one-third bushel of vetch per acre, and find this mixture about right. It is cut for the silo just when the oats are coming into the dough stage, when there is only a little yellow color beginning to show on the straw. If left until the oats get too ripe it will not pack solid in the silo and is liable to mold. When cut in the field with a mowing machine, it is loaded directly on the wagons and taken to the silo at once. It should not be allowed to dry in the field, as that would interfere with solid settling in the silo.

We have had no trouble in getting it to keep in the silo when put in and kept level and tramped in the same way in which corn is usually handled. It can be cut with an ordinary cutter, and elevated with carriers, or put through cutter and blower.

We have put it in the silo the first of August

and finished filling the silo with corn in October. Before starting to put in corn the oats, peas and vetch that had spoiled on top was thrown out. The corn on top was fed until April and when the oats, peas and vetch, in the bottom, was reached it was in perfect condition.

N. S. Agricultural College. JOHN M. TRUEMAN.

Grade or Pure-bred for the Farmer?

The question as to whether farmers in general should attempt to establish pure-bred herds or continue with grades cannot be answered by the fact that one class of stock is superior to the other, the deciding factor is the man. At the outset we wish to record here, that if any young, ambitious agriculturist will start in a modest way with pure-breds and pay attention to the principles of breeding and the commonsense rules of caring for good live stock he will be making a move that may alter his whole farming career and substantially increase his revenue. If one is to continue in the way of indiscriminate breeding, crossing breeds, mating with any kind of a sire because it is convenient and on the whole operating in a cheerful haphazard manner, he has no business looking a pure-bred in the face. On the other hand, the live-stock industry of this or any other country depends upon the quality and numbers of the pedigreed animals on the record books, and if any careful and ambitious farmer starts in the pure-bred business and keeps abreast of the time in the application of ideas and the assimilation of information concerning his chosen breed he has a bright future before him. From one viewpoint it is less expensive to grade up a herd or flock of animals to a certain degree of excellence than to purchase pure-breds, and so far as the production of milk or beef is concerned the results in the two cases are comparable. However, many of our breed association herd books are closed to the short-pedigreed animal, and a breeder, after even a quarter century's work is unable to have his stock recorded, though it be right in type and conformation and has a sufficient number of top crosses to ensure the transmission of its good points to the progeny. These animals and their get, be they ever so good, must continue to sell at prices they would command in the market for beef or milk production. Without utilizing space here to laud or condemn this system it must be said that a careful breeder scarcely meets with his just reward, in this regard, for his many years of toil. On the other hand the concession, if granted, to register short-pedigreed animals might militate against the best interests of the breed; consequently we must accept the rules as we find them and do the best possible under the circumstances. The man who will breed up grade cattle so they should qualify for registration would be a valuable asset to the country as a breeder of pure-bred stock.

It now appears that a fairly good class of pure-bred females can be purchased at a reasonable cost and at a price not beyond the average agriculturalist. Any young farmer whose heart is in the work and is determined to put forth every effort and avail himself of all opportunities to improve his farm animals should, if possible, start a pure-bred herd but, at first, only in a modest way. One female and future success is preferable to a brilliant start, but a poor finish. Don't over-feed or pamper the pedigreed animal and bring about sterility at the beginning. Many amateurs fail in this very direction. A succulent ration that will induce thrift is preferable to heaping measures of grain and meal. The good herds of cattle have been for generations in the same families and few have been established by breeding in less than 20 years, so one should not aim at a high standing in only a short period. The pure-bred requires a little extra effort, a little extra ability and a little extra care; if these are not forthcoming don't meddle with the pure-bred.

These Fall Pigs Were Profitable.

Fifty-seven fall pigs fed at University Farm, St. Paul, last winter and marketed recently, left a margin of \$4.56 a head to cover cost of labor, risk, interest, profit, etc.

R. C. Ashby of the animal husbandry division at University Farm, began a series of tests two years ago to determine whether raising fall pigs is profitable in Minnesota. The margin of nearly five dollars a head is the result of the test.

Eleven sows farrowed fall litters for the tests, and the pigs were weaned December 16. They were put on feeding tests two days later. The records kept cover all feeds consumed by sows and litters from farrowing to weaning and from the time the actual feeding test was begun until it was finished.

The total cost of feed for the sows and pigs up to weaning time was \$186.81. From weaning time to the time of marketing the feed cost \$577.88, making a total cost of \$13.42 a head. The feed was counted at these prices: Shelled corn, 75 cents a bushel; ground barley, 65 cents a bushel; shorts, \$26 a ton; tankage, \$55 a ton.

The pigs averaged 191½ pounds when sold May 6. They were sold at \$9.65 in South St. Paul, a price equivalent to \$9.40 at home. The selling price of \$17.98 left a balance of \$4.56 each. No account of manure is taken in these figures.

The pigs were fed in five lots, three lots from self feeders and two lots fed by hand. Those in the lots in which the self feeders were used did better than those in the other lots. The corn-fed lots required

about seven bushels of corn, forty pounds of tankage, and from thirty to forty pounds of shorts for each pig from weaning time to the close of the test.

The pigs were fed grain alone. They were given no milk and did not have access to the cattle yards. Mr. Ashby thinks that when milk is available or when the pigs can pick up after cattle the margin will be correspondingly increased.

Big Returns.

A York County subscriber writes that one of his neighbors has six ewes which raised thirteen lambs which sold for \$145 in the fall. This besides the wool was a pretty fair return. The flock was fed on ordinary farm feed and the lambs weighed when sold 1,480 lbs. The return in lambs was over \$24 per ewe. Our subscriber wants to know who can beat this. Of course the sheep were grades and the lambs were sold to the butcher. The wool from the ewes netted \$12.

THE FARM.

A Run for His Money.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Owing tae the somewhat unsettled state o' the weather during the past few weeks, an' mair, I hae got intae the habit o' gangin' intae toon an' spendin' pairt o' the day wi' ma friends an' acquaintances there an' discussin' the war an' sic like matters that will aye be comin' up for settlement. But the last time I wis in I met a young friend o' mine wha has lately gone intae the dry-goods business, an' wha is full o' enthusiasm an' new ideas as tae how tae get yer share o' the public's attention an' money. He's an unco' wide-awake chap, an' I'm minded tae tell ye some o' the things he said the day I wis talkin' tae him aboot his plans an' prospects. "In the first place, Sandy," says he, "ye don't want tae try an' mak' ower muckle money out o' ony o' yer customers at one slap. It's a case o' killin' the goose that lays the golden eggs. The chances are that he'll find oot aboot it, an' yer business relationships will be at an' end. Gin it ever happens that I mak' a mistake an' sell a customer an article for maybe less than it cost me, it doesna worry me ony, for I ken that I'm no' likely tae lose trade by it onyway, but when the mistake is the ither way an' I hae charged him mair than I should, I never ken how muckle I may lose by the transaction. The chances are he may leave me an' tak' some o' ma ither customers along wi' him. It has aye been ma aim tae mak' people think that by dealin' wi' me they were makin' money; gettin' increase for themselves as well as for me. It's this increase o' life that everybody is after, an' the mon that helps them tae get it is the mon that they are willin' tae reward for his services. Ane o' the best thinkers o' the last century said that gin a mon made a guid mousetrap or a guid jack-knife the world would wear a pathway tae his door, even though he lived in the woods. An' there's something in it. Ye become a centre o' attention as soon as ye let people ken that they will better their condection by dealing wi' ye. What helps tae gie the impression o' wealth an' increase tae yer customer will help tae increase yer ain wealth. An' the one way tae mak' the ither mon believe in yer ability tae help him is tae believe it yersel'. With-out faith in yer ain power tae succeed ye willna' hae muckle effect on ither. Ye maun show yer confidence in ilka action. An' dinna' forget that it is by increasing the prosperity o' oor friends an' neebors that we oorselves can maist easily become prosperous. There's eneuch material in the world tae mak' us a' rich, gin we only gae tae wark in the richt way an' get it. We dinna' need tae compete wi' ane anither for it. What we want is mair producers. The men wha speculate on the price o' wheat in oor stock exchanges are competing wi' ane anither, an' ilka dollar any o' them makes is taken frae some ither man, an' wi'oot giving him onything in exchange for it. But the producer o' wealth, as the farmer or miner or lumberman for instance, is warkin' for the hale community as well as himsel'. He is makin' the world richer, while the mon that tries tae mak' money simply by a rise in the value o' something or ither, adds naething tae the wealth o' the community, an' mair aften than not leaves the ither chap the poorer for the transaction. Society is made up o' three classes o' individuals, the producers, the distributors an' the parasites. I dinna' think ye can pit yer finger on a son o' Adam that willna' fit intae ane o' these groups. Oor farmers, miners, fishermen, lumbermen, doctors, teachers, preachers, an' so on are a' producers. Oor merchants, railroad companies steamship companies, an' all classes o' middlemen an' dealers are the distributors, while the stock-dealers, speculators, gamblers an' tramps are the parasites. They get a living oot o' the community but add naething tae its wealth.

"Sae ye can see by this that tae mak' a financial success o' life, that is, something that will be permanent an' real, ye must wark for the benefit o' yer fellowman as well as yer ain. We must gae on the principle o' the mon wha said, 'what I want for myself, I want for everybody.' As a matter o' fact oor interests are sae mixed up wi' those o' oor neebors that ony ither policy is foolish an' short-sighted. But some people dinna' see it that way yet, though they hae been gettin' object lessons along this