

Farming for Profit

A Department Devoted to the
Practical Problems of Farmer and Stockman

GETTING VALUE OUT OF FARMERS' SHORT COURSE

"It is an interesting fact that most farmers who visit a demonstration train, agricultural fair, farmers' institute, or short course, lose a large part of the benefits that should be derived from these educational institutions," says Prof. S. F. Morse, Agriculturist of the Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station. "When examining exhibits, the tendency is to pass rapidly by, noting principally the most striking displays and neglecting charts and other exhibits with much printed matter attached. Much more would be learned if the farmer, after seeing the whole show, would return and devote some time to studying certain parts of it that especially interest him, and to asking questions."

"In farmers' institutes and other similar meetings, the usual mistake is that those in attendance do not ask enough questions; some farmers seem bashful and do not ask any questions at all; others do not follow up their first question with others in order to thoroughly understand the point in question. The lecturer is there to be questioned and the best way for farmers to get information adapted to their own particular farm problems is to present them to the lecturer for solution."

"Most essential of all is the practice of note taking. It is surprising how few persons take notes on what they have seen or heard, so that when they want to remember the details of a spraying mixture or a crop rotation, they are unable to, and the time spent in attending the exhibition or lecture has been practically lost. When it is a fact that a five-cent note book and a three-cent pencil is all the apparatus that is necessary for this laborious operation, it is strange that more farmers do not take notes. The writer has noted that in the majority of cases the farmers who take notes are the best ones in their respective communities. Every farmer should be sure to bring a note book."

HOG CHOLERA

Hog cholera has again made its appearance in Western Canada, one of the Edmonton papers stating that only last week a large herd of hogs were slaughtered near that city, and every now and again from different parts of the West reports come to hand of its ravages. This dread disease is very contagious and very deadly, and the owner of animals suffering from the disease is subject to a heavy penalty for not immediately reporting the same, besides losing the Government compensation for the slaughtered animals.

In a report of the Veterinary Director-General received some time ago there appears the statement that the government paid nearly \$16,000 last year as compensation for slaughtered hogs in the four Western Provinces. Even with this large sum paid out, the farmers sustained a loss of \$7,500. In the States, where slaughter is not compulsory, the disease is not so well in check.

In order to put owners of swine on their guard, the Veterinary Director-General has issued a plainly written bulletin, setting forth such information as should enable the ordinary reader to readily detect the malady and understand what course to pursue in the case of an outbreak in his herd.

The cause of the disease is a germ, and without the presence of the germ there can be no cholera. In other words, such things as bad feeding, neglect and filthy surroundings have no power to produce hog cholera. But when the infection is introduced among hogs under such conditions, the disease spreads with great rapidity.

The germ may be transferred in many different ways, such as on the boots of attendants, the feeding of uncooked garbage containing raw pork, which may have come from a diseased pig, wandering dogs, domestic pigeons, or in the water of a stream flowing through an infected pasture or yard.

The early symptoms are not characteristic of the disease and may not enable a definite opinion to be formed. The hog loses his appetite, partly or altogether, is sluggish, disinclined to move, and if compelled to do so may cough. These symptoms should arouse sufficient suspicion to warrant calling in the inspector.

The hogs suffering from the disease soon become thin and weak, walking with a staggering gait, especially with the hind legs. Sometimes hogs die within a few days, before they have had time to lose much flesh.

The skin becomes red in patches, the color turning deeper and more purplish as the disease advances. These patches usually occur inside the legs, under the body, or behind the ears, but may be seen anywhere.

A very characteristic symptom is the discharge of mucus from the eyes. The secretion becomes thicker and the lids may be gummed together by it.

The bowels are generally loose, and a profuse diarrhoea may occur, although in some cases there may be constipation.

The sick hog generally goes off by himself and is found lying in a quiet corner of his pen. If forced to rise, he does so unwillingly, standing with his back arched and his belly drawn up. When walking he moves in weak staggering manner and may fall over.

There are two types of the disease,

during the week of February 16 to 21, viz.:

Farmers' Short Course—Feb. 16 to 20.
Official Opening of the Agricultural College—Feb. 17.

Agricultural Societies' Convention—Feb. 18 and 19.

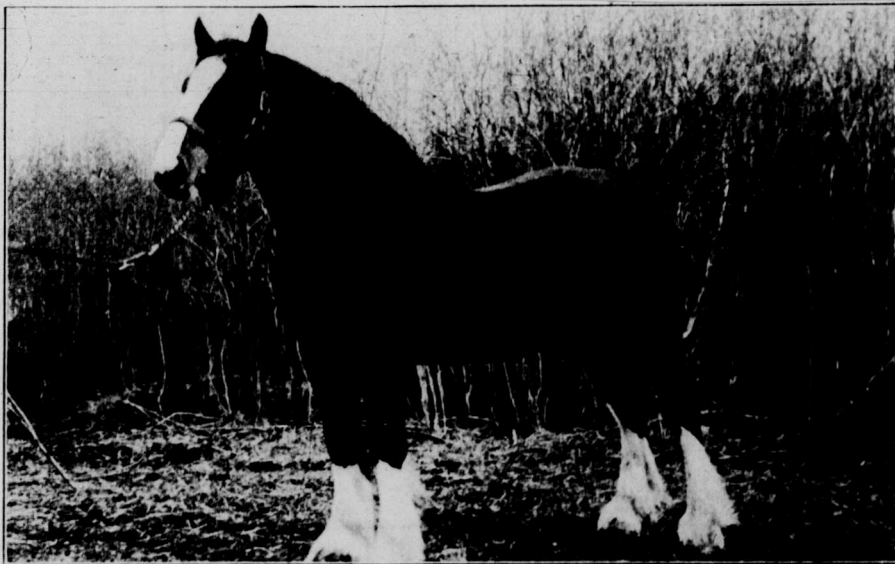
Provincial Seed Grain Exhibition—Feb. 17 to 20.

These Conventions and Short Courses are entirely free, and all interested in agriculture are invited to attend. Many prominent speakers will deliver addresses, and it is expected that there will be a large attendance. In previous years the attendance has averaged each day about 160.

Programs and prize lists are printed and may be had on application to E. Ward Jones, superintendent of Extension Section at Manitoba Agricultural College.

MEASURING ROUND STACKS

First find the distance around the stack, the circumference, at a height that represents an average for the base. Next find the height from the ground to the point where the sides begin to slope in to form the top. Then measure the slant height, or the distance from the point where the sides begin to slope in to the apex of the stack. This gives all the necessary dimensions. Take all measurements in feet. Now multiply the



"BARON'S HENCHMAN" (IMP.) 10015 (15062)
Sire, "Baron's Chief," Dam, "Daisy of Auchnafour." Owned and for sale by N. A. Weir, Oatton, Alta.

the chronic, in which the animal lingers for several weeks, becoming more and more emaciated, and dying from exhaustion, and the acute form, in which the hog dies in a few days. In the latter type the animal may suffer considerable pain. All cases do not end in death, but a hog that has recovered will continue to spread the disease though he himself is immune.

If the inspector upon arrival shares in the suspicion, all hogs are immediately slaughtered. If upon autopsy they are shown to be healthy they are allowed to be sold as dressed pork. Diseased animals must be disposed of by burning and the owner receives two-thirds of the value of the animals, at the discretion of the inspector, as compensation, after duly disinfecting the place.

When, owing to severe weather or other unavoidable cause, it is found impossible to cleanse and disinfect pens or yards formerly occupied by diseased hogs, such pens or yards should be closed up in such a manner as to prevent persons or animals obtaining access thereto until such cleansing and disinfecting can be properly carried out.

Short Course and Convention at Manitoba Agricultural College

The following meetings will be held at the Manitoba Agricultural College

circumference by itself, divide by 100 and multiply the quotient by eight; multiply this product by the height of the base plus one-third of the slant height. This gives the number of cubic feet in the stack.

The number of cubic feet to allow for a ton depends upon the kind of hay and the length of time it has stood in the stack. When ordinary hay has been stacked about thirty days it is customary to allow an eight-foot cube, or 512 cubic feet, for a ton; but when it has been stacked longer a seven and one-half foot cube, or 422 cubic feet, is usually called a ton.

MEASURING HAY IN MOW

There is no accurate rule in this matter. The rule usually followed, however, is to allow a cube of 7 feet each way (343 cubic feet) for well packed hay, and a cube of 8 feet each way (512 cubic feet) for loose hay, to the ton. In finding the number of tons in a bin according to measurement, a man has to use his own judgment as to its compactness, according to the above rule. Usually hay that is put up in the autumn is figured in the fall and early winter according to the 8-foot standard, and in the spring according to the 7-foot standard. In the above case it would depend largely on how long

the hay had been in the mow, and the question does not state as to that matter. However, we believe that 400 feet to the ton is a very fair calculation if sold late in the winter.

RHEUMATISM IN HOGS

Something goes wrong with your hogs; first they begin to go lame on one foot, then on another, till finally they lie down and refuse to move, or move about painfully and with great difficulty. Sometimes they eat and drink all right, sometimes they don't.

This state of affairs among hog raisers is frequently called rheumatism, and is chiefly caused by two close confinement and the hogs becoming too fat.

If this is the case, then give them all the freedom possible and cut down their rations, but, on the other hand, the trouble is also sometimes caused by a deficiency in bone, due to lack of bone-forming material in their ration, and to remedy this a dessert spoonful of phosphate of calcium per hog may be mixed with the feed.

WEAK LAMBS

Now that the season for early lambs is approaching it may not be out of place to give a few pointers on the course of treatment to be followed in the case of weak lambs, and the best and safest stimulant anyone can use when such is the case, is simply warmth, and this can be supplied by having good quarters, and the use of a piece of old woolen blanket, which has been warmed at the stove, and repeated when it cools off by a similar piece.

Sometimes dipping the lamb in warm water is resorted to, but this is not very expedient and not to be greatly recommended.

If a lamb is very weak, it may be necessary to feed it some of the dam's milk with a spoon, or, as the majority of old country shepherds do, take a little cow's milk, either fresh from the cow or warmed over the fire, and putting same in their own mouth, allow it to run slowly into the open mouth of the lamb, while if the little animal is too weak, a little whiskey or other stimulant may be added to the milk.

Weak lambs generally require help to get them to start sucking the ewe, and quite a lot of patience on the shepherd's part during this operation is sometimes required, as the lamb should be fed a little milk four or five times an hour during the first few hours, and the operation gets tedious and tiresome.

Sometimes the ewe is turned on her back to allow the lamb to suck her, or she has got to be held, especially if it is a first lamb, and she may not appear to take very kindly to her offspring.

The ewe and lamb should be kept by themselves for a few days, and it is not advisable to give them too much room, so that the ewe can get away from, but enough space so that she can lie down without danger of smothering the lamb, as some ewes, if weak, are not too careful in this respect, besides, in limited space the ewe and lamb become better acquainted with each other, and, if care is taken to see that it suckles the dam, allows the lamb to grow strong and able to take care of itself before being put with the rest of the flock.

WINTER HATCHING

Hatching chickens in winter months must always be attended with many risks. Those who work against the laws of nature will have many battles to fight, but artificial hatching has been brought to such a state of perfection that it can be successfully carried on at all times of the year. Still, for amateurs in winter there will be many disappointments.

At the present time there are numbers of good machines on the market, but new beginners should seldom be tempted to purchase a second-hand incubator. Oc-

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