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CARE AND HANDLING.

In handling the brood mare about the stable and in the field it must be remembered that she has a more sensitive disposition than the average lazy gelding and must at all times be handled kindly, without the use of loud, abusive language or abuse with the whip. Kind treatment is worth as much as good feed.

In feeding it should be remembered that besides the food required to maintain her own body the mare requires additional food for three purposes, to do work, to produce milk for the foal, and to build up the foetus for the next foal. Consequently she requires not only a great deal of food but such food as is highly concentrated and easily digested. During the time she is working she should receive a heavy grain ration and not too much hay, as the hay requires a great deal of the energy it contains for its own digestion and assimilation. No absolutely fixed amounts can be quoted because some mares will handle more feed than others. The average farm mare of 1,400 to 1,500 lbs. weight will require somewhere in the neighborhood of 20 lbs. of grain and 15 lbs. of hay per day.

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