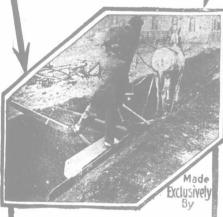


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Questions and Answers. Miscellaneous.

Roots Versus Silage for Steers-Arch for Bridge.

What is the relative feeding value of good mangels and good silage, pound for pound? Would it pay, when feeding fifty or sixty big steers, to feed roots with silage, when the main bulk of the feed is good silage?

2. What arch would be necessary in a fifty-foot span of a concrete bridge, in order to carry a load of twenty thousand pounds? W. L. C.

Ans. — 1. The average percentage composition of mangels is 90.6 of water; 1 of ash; 1.4 of crude protein; .8 of fibre; 6.1 carbohydrates, and .1 of fat Silage from mature corn averages 73% water; 1.7% ash; 2.1% crude protein; 6.3% fibre; 15.4% carbohydrates, and .8% fat. Silage from immature corn averages a little lower in these constituents. The digestibility of mangels is a little higher than that of silage. In feeding experiments silage gives a trifle higher value, pound for pound, than does roots, due possibly to the larger percentage of dry matter. It is possibly a little more expensive growing roots than corn, but roots add variety to the ration, and we believe it would pay to feed them.

Ans.-2. It would be advisable to consult a bridge builder in regard to arch, footing and strength of cement for a bridge of the width mentioned.

Feed For Horse-Value of Molasses Meal.

Some time ago I wrote The "Advocate" enquiring about certain things and everyone of the answers have either been put to practical use or soon will be. I have a few more questions I would be very pleased to have answered.

1. What is a good ration through the summer for working horses that are on grass at night?

2. Are mangels better feed than sugar beets for cows during winter? 3. Has molasses meal any feeding value for horses, cattle, etc.?

4. What is a summer ration for hens? 5. What is the best method of setting hens? How many eggs to a hen?

Ans.—1. Good quality oats and hay are the feeds preferred. A hardworked horse should receive daily a little over one-quart of oats for every 100 pounds of weight. When the work is decreased feed lighter on grain. Only a small quantity of hay should be fed morning and noon but more at night. Too often the grass is considered to be suffi cient feed for night and morning. Whether the horse is on grass at night or not he should be fed his allowance of grain and given a little time for eating hay Feeding and watering must be done regularly. Thorough grooming to keep the pores of the skin open is also essential in order to keep the horse in good

2. There is very little difference in

the feeding value of the two roots. 3. Yes. It also has a laxative effect molasses meal is fed there is claimed to be less danger from digestive troubles. It is sometimes used in fitting horses.

4. If fowl are allowed free range they require very little attention during the summer. They are usually able to gather all the green feed, meat feed, grit and oyster shell that they require, and only need to be supplied with clean water and grain. A handful daily of a mixture of wheat, oats and barley should prove satisfactory for the grain ration. If the birds are not on free range the other feeds mentioned should be fed,

and free access given to a dust bath.

5 Hens should be set where they will not be molested by other fowl By moving them at night they will usually take to a new nest quite readily. The nest can be made by putting straw and chaff in a box and placing it where desired. The hen should be thoroughly dusted with insect powder before being set. The number of eggs depends on the size of the hen. Thirteen or fifteen is the usual number. It is a good plan to set two or three at the same time so that there will be a number of chicks about the same size.

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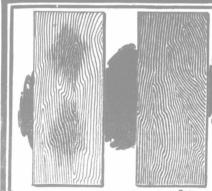
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