

should be accurately graduated. It is not so necessary to be accurate in the measurement of the acid used in each test, but 17.5 c. c. is the amount ordinarily measured out.

With inaccurate Babcock glassware it is impossible to say who is getting cheated, the man selling or the man buying the milk, but certainly someone is being deceived, and an effort should be made to locate and destroy any test bottles or pipettes that are not absolutely correct.

E. H. FARRINGTON.

Wisconsin Dairy School.

Report of the Dairy Cow Demonstration at St. Louis.

TEN DAYS, FROM JULY 5th TO JULY 15th.									
	Total milk.	Average milk per day per cow.	Average fat test.	Total butter-fat.	Average butter-fat per day per cow.	Total solids not fat.	Average solids not fat per day per cow.	Total solids not fat.	Average solids not fat per day per cow.
Jerseys (25 cows)	11,279.7 lbs.	45.1 lbs.	4.37	492.9 lbs.	1.97 lbs.	965.5 lbs.	3.86 lbs.	602.2 lbs.	4.01 lbs.
Holstein-Friesians (15 cows)	7,720.8 lbs.	51.5 lbs.	3.6	277.9 lbs.	1.85 lbs.	844.7 lbs.	2.95 lbs.	184.4 lbs.	4.1 lbs.
Shorthorns (29 cows)	10,212 lbs.	35.2 lbs.	3.5	360.5 lbs.	1.24 lbs.	184.4 lbs.	4.1 lbs.		
Brown Swiss (5 cows)	2,143.9 lbs.	47.5 lbs.	3.4	78.1 lbs.	1.62 lbs.				

POULTRY.

Separating the Sexes.

Upon many poultry farms it is customary to see the chickens of both sexes running about together, and little attention seems to be paid to the fact that when pullets and cockerels are separated both thrive infinitely better. Of course, keeping them apart may involve a certain amount of work, but any extra labor is well repaid by the improved growth and the better stamina of the chickens of both sexes. The age when cockerels and pullets can be distinguished varies considerably with the different breeds, and it is impossible to lay down any hard-and-fast rule as to the exact time the sorting should take place. The lighter breeds, chiefly those of the laying or non-sitting variety, can usually be distinguished when nine or ten weeks old, whereas the heavier breeds, as the Orpingtons and the Wyandottes, require perhaps a month longer.

There are several reasons for advocating the separation of the sexes at as early an age as possible, and it will be found that both the cockerels and pullets thrive much better when such a plan is adopted. When they are permitted to remain together the cockerels will worry the pullets a good deal, besides which they will fight amongst themselves for the mastery of the yard. When the cockerels are by themselves they will all live in peace, and little difficulty will be found in keeping large numbers together; but, on the contrary, when there are any pullets present they will fight, frequently causing one another a great amount of harm. Especially is this the case with birds that are to be kept for stock purposes, as, should the comb or wattles become damaged or deformed through fighting, it may seriously affect their sale. It is important to separate the sexes immediately they are large enough to be distinguished, because once the cockerels have commenced fighting they will continue doing so, even after they have been taken away from the pullets.

A great mistake is made by many poultry-keepers in retaining the cockerels too long. Those that are not intended for stock purposes should be killed immediately they are large enough.—[Ex.]

Encourage the Boys to Exhibit.

There are few farms so situated that an opportunity is not afforded to visit a fall fair. In fact, the fair has been seen so often by most people that they frequently fail to take an interest in it. What is required in such cases is for more people to take an interest in the fair by exhibiting some of their own products, and there is no better object to commence an exhibition with than a pen or two of fowl. These are easily raised and fitted for show, and the increased value of the flock gained by the winning of a few prizes is no inconsiderable amount. The raising and exhibiting of poultry is a branch of farm operations that peculiarly lends itself to the tastes and capabilities of the younger members of the household. Such work is



A Flock of Southdowns near Victoria, B. C.

the very best to encourage a liking for larger farm operations, to develop an observant mind, and to give practice in such business transactions as one requires to be familiar with in every-day life. This fall let it be noticed that the poultry classes at the fairs are fuller than ever, and let it be the case that many new and young fanciers have entered the ranks of the exhibitors.

Market the Cockerels.

Just at this season of the year there are a lot of full-grown cockerels ranging over the farms that should be shut up in a closed pen and fed for about two weeks and marketed. There is no further use in keeping such stock after they have reached maturity, for to do so only adds to the cost of raising them. Select a number of the largest and enclose them in an unused box stall, or a part of the henhouse, and feed them liberally on ground, sifted oat chop, skim milk, and a little corn. If preferred, use the regular fattening crate; it will be a little more trouble, but the returns will be greater. At any rate, do not market the young poultry stock without at least two weeks of liberal feeding, and then prepare them neatly. Do not remove the head nor the large feathers, but pluck the small feathers as soon as the bird's neck is broken. Birds that are fattened as soon as they attain their growth are not only less expensive to raise, but their flesh is finer, and they are more uniform in size and character.



A British Columbia Strawberry Plantation.

GARDEN AND ORCHARD.

Abolish the Apple Barrel.

The following is from the Commercial Intelligence, London, Eng.: "The shipments of apples from Canada in the season just closed were on a very large scale, but although we were short, owing to the almost complete failure of home orchards, Canadians have not reaped the golden harvest they should have done out of our necessities. Many thousands of barrels of fruit have been sold here at a figure that would not cover freight and charges, without reckoning prime cost, and it is doubtless the fact that shippers have in many cases netted a loss on their consignments.

"The Federation of Grocers' Associations of England have passed a resolution calling on exporters to change the present style of packing, and if the advice is followed Canadians may see a little more money in the export business than they have in recent years. They say that the barrel which is now used, save in a few instances, is a most unsuitable package. The fruit arrives in a damaged condition, and frequently apples of a fine quality, which were in prime order when put up, are unsalable or only disposable at a low figure. This is borne out by our own experience, as we have seen fine fruit turned out of the barrels bruised and unsightly, which were probably a picture to look upon before they began their long journey.

"Another objection to the barrel is its size. Grocers have only of late years taken up the sale of imported apples on any scale, and the reason is that they have not always the convenience of stowage required by the barrel, besides which a package containing three bushels of fruit is not a convenient one to handle. The unanimous expression of opinion by this important federation, which represents grocers throughout the entire country, should be taken heed of by shippers in Canada, who, if they can get grocers here to take up the sale of their apples all over the country, need not fear for the disposal of their surplus apples.

"The package that would meet the ideas of the grocers here, according to what we have been able to make out from inquiries we have made, is a case of two compartments that would hold about one-half barrel, something after the style of the boxes now arriving from Tasmania and New Zealand. The apples should be laid in tiers, and paper shavings, where these are easily available, would help to prevent bruising and to preserve the flavor of the fruit, which is mostly gone by the time it gets on our tables. The barrel is absolutely condemned, and it is to the interests of Canadians to devise some package which shall take its place."

[The tenacity with which the average Old Country man holds to established customs is frequently the source of much amusement to the colonials, but it is questionable if there is any practice anywhere in the world so often condemned and so antiquated in conception as packing apples for shipment in barrels, yet the persistence with which we cling to it has long since made us ridiculous, and is a source of continual loss to our apple trade. There is no valid reason, now that the price of barrels has risen, why we should not abolish the use of them as apple packages, and adopt the standard box. The above opinions should be noted by our growers and shippers, for with the better European crop this year it will not be so easy to dispose of our fruit if shipped in barrels. Let every packer make an effort to secure boxes for this season's trade, that the apples may be placed on the British market free from the bruising which they must necessarily suffer if shipped in barrels.—Ed.]

A Light Apple Crop.

The Canadian Horticulturist for August announces that the Ontario apple crop this year will be comparatively light. In several districts there are exceedingly light crops, and only in a few districts will the yield be at all satisfactory.