

THE HEALTH OF BEEF ANIMALS.

The ailments peculiar to the beef animal, are naturally somewhat similar to those of the dairy cow. The former, not being under the nervous and bodily strain of heavy feeding and high production, as a rule is less susceptible to disease. Particularly would this refer to many watery affections and to a lesser degree, to maladies incidental to parturition.

Diarrhoea: *Cause.*—Overfeeding, indigestible, sour or decomposed food; with calves, due to sour or too cold milk, overfeeding, unclean pails, etc.

Treatment.—In early stages, adults should receive 1 ounce raw linseed oil with 1 ounce kumdamum and 20 drops creosote. Give small quantities of easily digested food and plenty of water. Calves, 1 to 2 ounces oil; 1 to 2 drams kumdamum and 20 drops creosote, depending upon the age of calf. Dilute milk with lime-water. Feed milk several times daily in small quantities. Sick milk calves should receive 1 drop formalin per quart milk added immediately after separation.

Impaction (Third Stomach): *Cause.*—Long continued feeding with coarse, unnutritious fodder; insufficient water.

Symptoms.—Gradual, capricious appetite, dry nose, staring coat, unnatural diarrhoea followed by marked constipation.

Treatment.—Purge with 1 pound Epsom salts, 4 drams aloes; 1 ounce ginger in 2 quarts warm water. Follow with 1 quart linseed meal every 8 hours. Water ad lib. Feed small warm bran mash. Rectal injection may assist. Feed lightly on improvement.

Bloat (Tympantism): *Cause.*—Sudden changes from dry to green feed as clover, alfalfa, turnip tops, rape, etc. Overfeeding on any of above fodders when wet or frozen.

Symptoms.—Distention, greater to left side. Animal grunts and moans, lies down and rises frequently.

Treatment.—Depends on condition or stage. If light attack, give 1 pint raw linseed oil, 1 ounce of turpentine, 2 to 4 ounces ginger, 1 to 2 ounces. If severe floating is shown, tap with trocar and cannula, half way between last rib and hook bone on left side. If imperative, use a knife. After gas escapes give 1 pound Epsom salts; 1 tablespoonful ginger; 1 quart warm water. Feed small quantities soft food for a few days.

A highly recommended, recently originated treatment for bloat is as follows. Administer drench of 1 ounce formalin in 1 quart water. Tie a wooden block in the animal's mouth. Exercise gently if possible.

Grain Sick: Gorging at open grain bins, etc. *Treatment.*—1 to 2 pounds Epsom salts, 1 to 2 ounces ginger; 2 quarts water; given at once. Water as desired.

Milk Fever (Parturient Apoplexy): *Cause.*—Frequently by milking animal dry shortly after or within three days of calving. Heavy producers usually affected.

Symptoms.—Appear from shortly after calving until the fifth or sixth day. Animal is excited and restless with quickened breathing. Later becomes unsteady on feet, swaying. Falls and rises until finally is unable to regain feet. Eyes staring, head swings to one side.

Treatment.—Must be prompt. Milk dry. Fill quarters with air preferably from a regular outfit, or an ordinary bicycle pump, rubber tubing and milk tube. First carefully sterilize tube in boiling water. Tie ends of teats with tape when inflated. Repeat, if air escapes. Treatment should take effect in less than an hour. When animal is standing give chilled water with a small bran mash. Follow in a few hours with drench of Epsom salts, 1 pound; 4 drams ground ginger and 1 quart warm water. Feed lightly for a few days thereafter. Do not drench a cow affected with milk fever until she has recovered from the more immediate effects; choking and death may follow.

Retention of the After-Birth: *Cause.*—Not definitely known. *Treatment.*—If animal is healthy and weather fairly cool, wait for 18 hours, then apply gentle traction. If this fails, wash the arm in 5 per cent creolin solution, oil, and insert into the vagina. Gently remove each attachment from the lungs (cotyledons) until the whole mass falls. This may be a slow process but must not be hastened by force. Wash vulva, hips and tail with 5 per cent creolin and if any decomposition is present, inject into vagina.

Caked Udder (Inflammation of the Udder) (Mammitis or Garget): *Causes.*—Injuries too long periods between milking; lying in draughts or on cold wet floors. Too high condition too heavy feeding previous to and after calving.

Symptoms.—One or all quarters hard, swollen, and inflamed. Milk, thick and stringy, or watery and curdly; severe retention, small.

Treatment.—Feed the fresh cow, as outlined, and prevent. Give physic of 1 pound Epsom salts, 4 drams ginger, 2 quarts warm water. Feed bran mash, only, with 1 ounce nitre twice daily for three days or one-half ounce hyposulphate of soda three times daily in water or slop mash. Draw milk frequently with thorough rubbing. Bathe with hot water and soapy lather for half hour. Rub well. Apply ointment, after bathing, of tincture of camphor, one-half ounce, fluid extract belladonna, one-half ounce; oil turpentine, 1 ounce; 1 pint raw linseed oil. Rub well into the affected quarters.