

four years a series of experiments along this line have been conducted by the Utah Experiment Station to ascertain the profitability of different methods of utilizing pasture and green foods for swine. The quality of the meat produced was not taken into account, the economic side of pork production only being considered. As the quality of the meat produced is an important factor with us in all methods of feeding the bacon hog, these experiments will not have the value they otherwise would for our readers. However, as they deal with the economic side of the question very fully, the following summary of the experiments will be of value to our readers :

1. In pork production economic use may be made of pasture in connection with a full grain ration. This is shown not only by the average results of all the experiments conducted but also by every point of comparison in each separate test. The average shows the gains of the pasture sets to be 33 per cent. the higher and to have been made on 10 per cent. less grain.

2. The average results of four seasons' experiments show quite conclusively that mixed pasture is not beneficial to pigs having a full supply of grain and skim-milk.

3. The average of the seven trials, made in both pens and yards gives results favorable to grass feeding in connection with grain rations. The pen sets having green stuff made 33 per cent. greater gains than those without, and required 40 pounds less grain for each one hundred pounds of gain.

4. Pasture with grain rations, averaging all the experiments, gave slightly better results than green stuff cut and fed in connection with grain in pens and yards. Where lands are cheap and labor comparatively dear, it seems advisable to follow the pasture method.

5. Pigs running on pasture with partial grain rations produced gains at the least cost per hundred pounds, the quantities of food required standing in the following relation: Full grain ration 100, three fourths 94, one-half 82, and one-fourth 66. But the total gains of those receiving full

grain rations were so much greater that even with the smaller rate of profit the total net gain per pig very much exceeded that of the partial ration.

6. In the quantity of grain required for one hundred pounds of gain, the sets having a one-fourth grain ration excelled in every test requiring the lowest amount and giving the highest per cent of profit.

7. In rate of gain the sets receiving a full grain ration were the best, in all cases making the largest total gain and giving decidedly the highest total profit.

8. Alfalfa without other food, whether pastured by pigs or cut and fed to them in pens, furnished only enough nutriment for bare maintenance. When additional food was given the rates of gain were nearly proportional to the extra quantities they received.

9. Alfalfa supplies a good supplementary food in connection with bran and grain, but it is too coarse and bulky to be fed alone to the pig whose digestive tract is especially adapted to concentrates.

10. Alfalfa hay and sugar beets each give profitable returns in connection with a limited grain ration in winter feeding.

11. In 2 out of 3 experiments better results were obtained by feeding bran and corn meal or ground wheat dry than wet. The average of the three tests gives a result slightly favorable to the dry food in rate of gain but favorable to the wet in the amount of food required for one hundred pounds of gain.

12. In the several tests reported the feeding qualities of unsprayed sows were found to be fully equal to or slightly better than those of barrows.

13. In a single test with sprayed and unsprayed sows, the results were slightly favorable to the open sows.

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