

TIMELY HORSE-BREEDING INFORMATION
BOILED DOWN.

FOALING.

First sign is waxing of teats two or three days before.

Udder becomes full and hard; position of foal alters.

Abdomen becomes more pendant, and points of hips fall.

Wax drops off and gives way to milk.

Mare looks anxious and moves around box.

Looks round at her flanks; gets up and down with care.

Breaks into perspiration; ultimately lies down when labor comes on.

In ordinary course foal is born in ten to fifteen minutes.

When mares foal standing there is great risk with the foal.

Mares are most anxious to foal alone.

If there is any difficulty, assistance must be given. It must be carefully given, and force avoided.

First see the fore legs are straight and equal in the passage, with head between them.

When head and elbows have passed through, the rest of the body comes quickly.

When foal is born, remove envelope which covers the head, and free mouth and nostrils.

The umbilical cord should be tied and cut two inches from belly of foal.

Tie with carbolized ligature and then cut, and apply diluted carbolic acid or other disinfectant to end of navel string.

When properly done there should never be an enlarged navel.

The mare sometimes licks it till it is severed; this, no doubt, is nature's way of doing it.

THE FOAL AFTER BIRTH.

Mare should be allowed to lie down until she gets up herself.

The foal should be taken round to her head, when she will commence to lick it. This dries the foal and brings on circulation.

The foal then struggles to get up. This should not be interfered with unless in danger against wall, etc., as it expands the lungs and exercises the muscles.

The foal should not be lifted onto its legs.

It should not be forced to suck until it is able; it is well able to wait for an hour or so.

When able to stand it may be supported beside the mare, and its head directed, but never forced, to suck.

A little milk drawn into the hand, when nose is close to udder, will often induce it to suck.

It is most important the foal should get the first milk itself.

When teats are small and difficult for foal to get hold of, it should be carefully guided to udder.

When mares are irritable or vicious they should be held or tied up, fore foot held up, or even twitch put on, until foal has confidence and mare allows it to suck freely.

If foal's bowels do not act within an hour after birth, remove contents of rectum with the finger, on which a little oil or vaseline is smeared; rubbing with soap is also good.

THE MARE AFTER FOALING.

Give mare a nice warm mash of bran, or a warm drink, but avoid flour drinks.

The afterbirth usually comes away in half an hour to two hours; when mares foal before their time it is longer.

It should not be forced or pulled away unless it remains too long; then a veterinary surgeon should be employed.

Mares should be kept in at least three days after foaling.

Should not be let out when grass is wet, as foal may lie down and get a cold.

Mares when let out with foal frequently gallop about until foal is heated; it then lies down exhausted and gets a chill, which turns to inflammation of the lungs or joints. This should be watched and prevented.

When there is too much milk for foal, and udder becomes gorged and hard, mare should be milked twice or thrice a day until foal is able to take it all.

SERVICE AFTER FOALING.

The ninth day is the usual time. This, however, varies—sometimes it is the eighth, while others go to the tenth or eleventh day.

If not in use, horse should not be forced on her simply because it is the ninth day.

If horse is not taken then, she will run to the twenty-first day. Many never get in foal till the twenty-first day.

If forced on the ninth day they often prove barren. The fifteenth day is not of much consequence—it is often the ninth day not passed off.

The twenty-first day is the most important day, both as a trial day and as a service day.

Mares in good health, having had an easy foaling, if served on the ninth day, may be considered in foal if they successfully pass the twenty-first day.

With delicate mares, or those which have had severe or difficult foaling, the twenty-first day is the proper one, as the generative organs have had time to recover tone.

Mares not stinted on the ninth day usually come well in season on the twenty-first day, and stand to their service.

It is important to try young mares on their twenty-fifth days.

The thirty-fifth is the next important day on which mares should always be tried. If the mare passes the thirty-first day it is a strong indication that she is in foal.

She should, however, be tried again on the forty-second day. If a mare passes this successfully she may be considered safe in foal.

Many mares break at sixty days, in which case the first service has generally been cast.

To summarize, the chief days for service after foaling are the ninth, twenty-first, twenty-fifth, thirty-first, forty-second and sixtieth.

Twitching should be done as little as possible. It is not reasonable that service should stand when mares are suffering such pain as severe twitching must produce.

Lastly, all mares should be properly hobbled.—[Dr. Pallin's prize essay on horse-breeding.]

STALLION LICENSE BADLY NEEDED.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

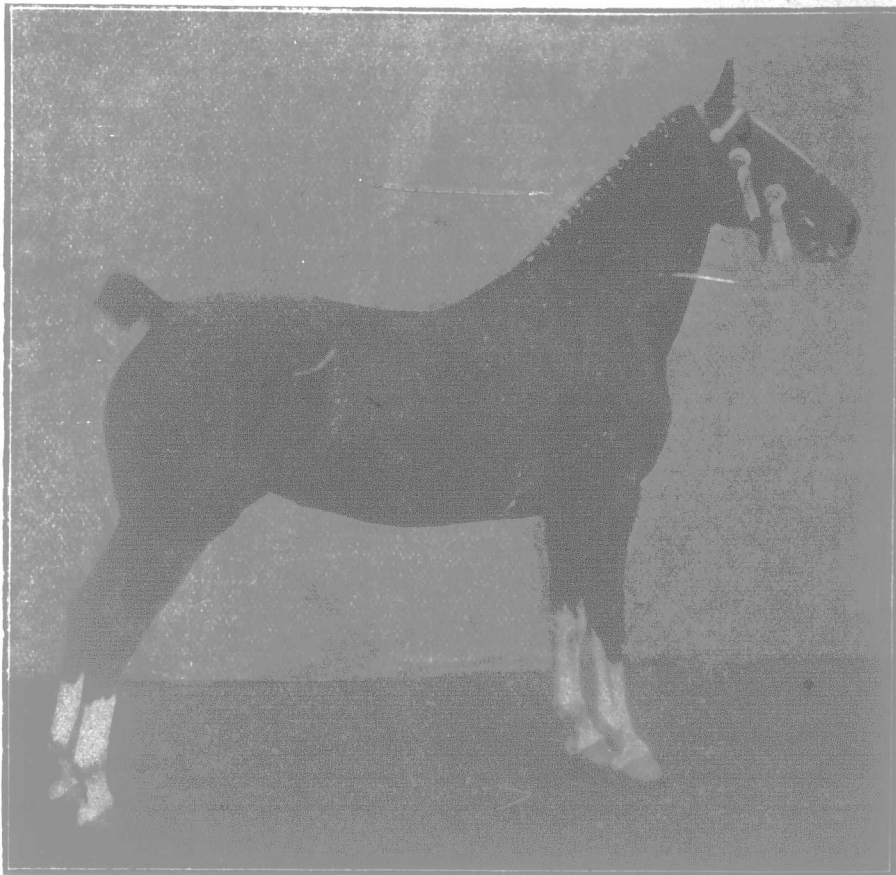
I have every confidence in the stallion inspection act. I had the honor of being appointed one of the commissioners in the Eastern part of Ontario, and the measure is needed badly down there. In one county, with six townships, I found only two registered stallions, and they were of poor quality. As for interfering with private rights, let us take an instance. One man has a scrub stallion, for the service of which he collects \$2 to \$4 as service fees. He breeds this horse to 85 mares, leaving about 60 foals. That man would think he was hurt by the proposed law, but he is only one man. The other 60 got foals that I am safe in saying would be worth at least \$50 less each at the age of four years than if the mares had been bred to good registered stallions. In two counties we went through we found some fairly good grade stallions, sired by an imported stallion and out of these common mares. They would have made geldings worth from \$200 to \$250, whereas the common run of stock was worth about \$125 to \$150.

As for the act being designed to benefit importers, it would be the means of better stallions being imported than a great many that are coming out at the present time, when the owners found their horses being rated second-class.

Now, should the inspection be done yearly? It must be done, in the first place, by men that are competent judges, and they must be men with some backbone, and the work be done impartially. The requirements for a first-class license should be that the horse must be registered, sound, of good conformation, and have good action, in order to get a first-class license. For a second-class license, a horse must be registered and sound, but his conformation and action need not be quite so good as for a first-class. For a few years—say two or three—good grade stallions, that have been leaving fairly good stock, should get a permit to travel for the time mentioned. This would be required in some places for a year or two, till there are enough registered horses brought in to the country to do the business. I would recommend that the license fee be not more than enough to pay for the inspection.

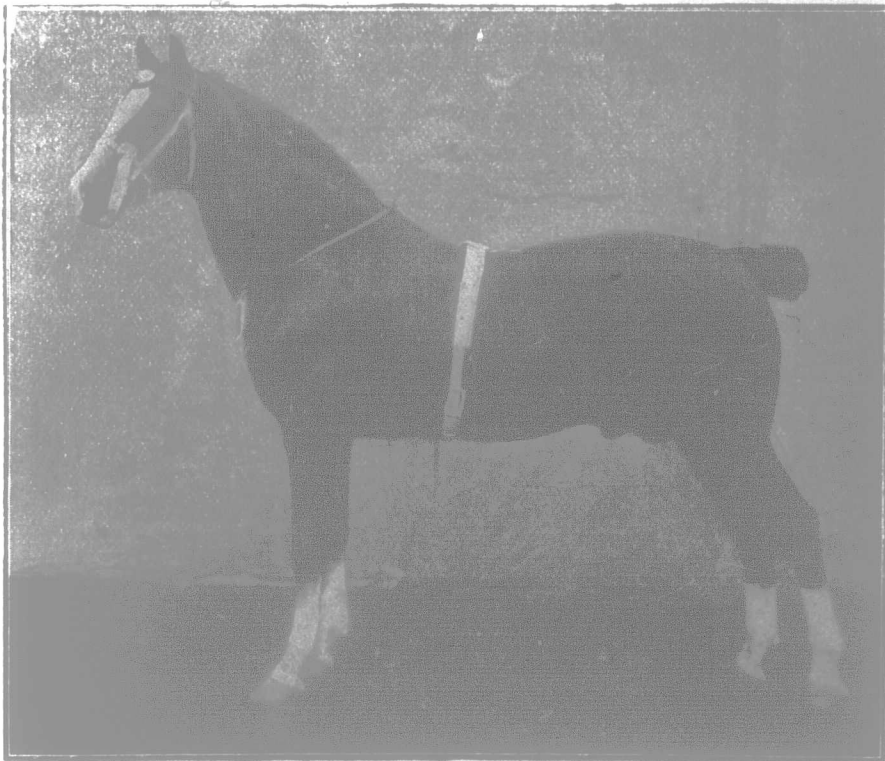
Durham Co., Ont. GEORGE GRAY.

The first volume of the American Morgan Horse Register contains the names of some 3,000 horses, of which the heights of about 1,600 are given. Of these 72 are from 16.1 to 17 hands, 505 are 15.3 and 16 hands, 852 from 15 to 15.2, and 152 are 14.3 hands and under.



Hawsker Rosina (15129).

First and champion mare, London Hackney Show, 1907. Chestnut; foaled 1901. Sire Rosador (4964).



Rosador (4964).

Hackney stallion; chestnut; foaled in 1892. Champion London (England) Hackney Show, 1907, and twice previously. Sire Danegelt.

TIME MARE IS IN USE.

The natural period is four days, but many not so much. Some only remain in season one day, and should be closely watched.

It is a great mistake to send mares a long way to the horse, especially in May or June, when days are hot, and then another long journey home.

If driven off heated and excited, when in relaxed condition, the service probably passes away and the mare is barren.

Absolute quietness after mares are covered is most essential to allow the parts to restore themselves and assist in the due closing of the uterus and its appendages.

The sober, steady horse is the most successful sire.