

Questions and Answers.

Miscellaneous.

Queen Excluders.

Is it advisable to put queen excluders on bee hives? If so, at what time?
F. N. H.

Ans.—Queen excluders are necessary in order to prevent brood cells in the sections for extracted or comb honey. They should be put on when the supers are added at the beginning of the main honey flow.

Silo Queries.

I am getting a small stave silo this summer, size 10 feet by 28 feet and was thinking of filling in foundation trench with small stone to within 12 or 15 inches of surface and then an 8-inch cement wall to a few inches above the ground. Would this be all right? Is it necessary to have a floor in the silo? How many bags of cement will I need? Would you cut corn for the silo when in early milk stage rather than run the risk of frost by leaving it until ripen? Could I partly fill silo with clover or peas and oats and then leave a month or two and finish with corn? We have no silos in this part of the country. Any help you can give me will be appreciated.

J. C.

Ans.—A foundation trench filled with stone should give satisfaction but the concrete part had better be built fifteen or eighteen inches thick. A floor is not an absolute necessity but for all it costs we would advise putting it in. Eighteen inches of concrete wall, eighteen inches thick, will require about 6½ bags of cement, and 2 cubic yards of gravel. We would risk a light frost rather than cut the corn too early. Light frost does not appear to injure corn for silage purposes if it is cut soon after the frost. The crops mentioned have been ensiled and make very good silage. A portion of the top directly exposed to the air will spoil and should be removed before putting in the corn.

Silo Roof—Pasteurized Whey.

Could a convenient, serviceable roof be put on a silo to open up at filling time, so that an extension of lumber might be set up temporarily to contain the silage until it settles? The silo with the ordinary conical roof is hard to fill when near the top on account of not having room to tramp, and when the silage settles there is always about 10 feet empty space. If an extension could be arranged it would overcome this trouble. Do you think the plan practicable?

2. Give plan for a roof for a silo 12 by 30, also state the best kind of material to use and cost of same.

3. Has pasteurized whey any feeding value for calves seven or eight weeks old?

4. Is there any feeding value in separated, pasteurized whey for calves or pigs if fed fresh and hot from the factory?
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Ans.—1. We do not think a roof as described would be practicable. There are hip roofs manufactured for silos which permit of putting more corn in the silo than the ordinary pitch roof. Many make a practice of refilling the silo a week or ten days after the first filling, if any corn is left. This is a more practicable plan than endeavoring to have a roof that opens.

2. A round or octagonal roof may be built and rafters of the desired length cut and fastened at the bottom to bolts imbedded in the cement and at the top to a block. Hemlock sheeting could be nailed to these, and covered with some prepared roofing. Metal roofing is sometimes used. Owing to the size of silos and type of roofs desired by different people, varying to such a degree we have not prepared plans for any silo roofs. However, by giving the size of silo and type of roof desired to your local contractor or mill man he will no doubt cut material of the size required so that you may erect the roof yourself.

3. Yes. We have seen calves of the age mentioned making good gains on whey when fed sweet and in clean buckets.

4. By separating the whey the feed value would be minimized for either calves or pigs.

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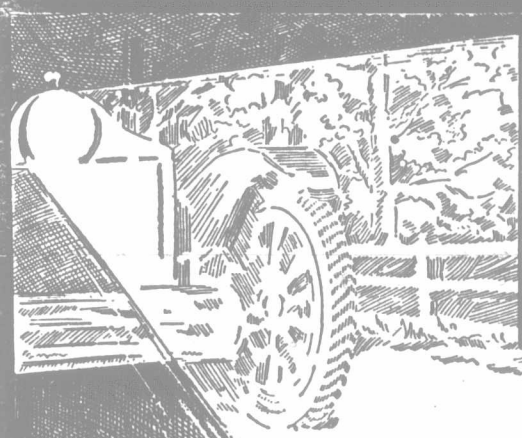
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