

Lump Jaw

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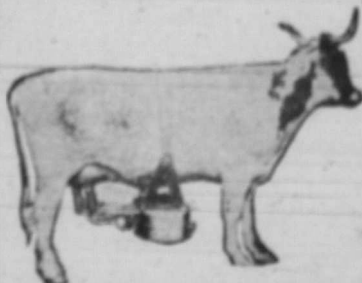
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bit shorter than the outside, and have the inside quarter a trifle higher. To throw the feet closer together, lengthen the inside of the toe and keep the outside quarter slightly higher than the inside. The mature horse that toes out badly in front, nigger heel fashion, is hard to help with shoes, for his legs do not set straight under him. The growing



Shoe With Leather Sole

colt can be helped considerably by proper shoeing because his joints are still capable of being twisted slightly. Beware of the stallion with this fault, for there is no characteristic which draft horses transmit to their offspring with as much certainty as nigger heels.—By George MacLeod, Genesee, Ill., in the Percheron Review.

Raising Dairy Calves

Assuming that we have a normal, fully developed calf, weighing from 70 to 85 pounds at birth, which is about the right weight, all things considered, we leave the calf with its mother from two to three days, or till the milk of the dam is marketable. We like to take the calf away from its dam in the afternoon, and then the calf is ready for something to eat when the dam is milked next morning. All milk fed should be 90 degrees Fahrenheit. The calf is then fed three times daily, its mother's milk, about four pounds to a feed, which we weigh. We weigh all milk fed to very young calves, and believe it pays to do so. This we can do nicely as we milk our new milch cows three times daily at the start, even though they are not continuing so very long. When the calf has become adjusted to conditions, and is thrifty, two or three weeks of age, we begin by substituting in the morning and evening meal, one pound of new warm skim milk, but as we separate only twice daily, the noon feed is still whole milk. When the morning and evening meal becomes about half and half whole milk and skim milk, the noon feed is curtailed, and warm water added to give bulk, until the noon feed is water alone. As the noon feed is reduced in milk, it is added to the morning and evening feeds. From this time on, the quantity given depends on the individual.

The calf is usually four or five weeks old by the time this gradual change from whole to skim milk has been taking place. This idea of the noon-watering is continued regularly, and the temperature regulated according to size of calf and season of the year. I believe that many a calf really suffers

from not having water to drink. Their tastes vary in this respect, some seldom drinking only a few swallows, while others will surprise you in the quantities they will drink. I refer especially just at this point to calves who have no access to a drinking-trough, but are hand-fed in their own pens. The length of time that a calf is given skim milk depends wholly upon the available supply. We have fed it once a day to heifers nearly two years of age. I believe it is really worth more for poultry and pigs than for 2-year-old heifers, but they certainly do well on it, even then.

Teach It to Eat Grain

We teach the young calf to eat grain, a mixture of bran, ground oats, hominy, and a small quantity of oil meal, as early as possible. This is easily done after feeding milk, and it takes away the notion of sucking. The quantity varies according to age, but two pounds a day will help out wonderfully in their growth. Don't forget to put some salt in the grain ration, or grain-box, for they require it same as any other animal. It stimulates their appetite, and aids digestion.

It is our custom, and commend it to all breeders, to weigh their calves regularly (monthly). We are not satisfied unless a calf has made a daily average gain of two pounds. They will not do this often the first month, but it puts you wise to the actual growth of the calf, and informs you whether your course of feeding is adequate or not. We had one bull calf, about six months of age, which made a gain of 105 pounds in one month. It is needless to say that this calf was especially thrifty, and made good use of a generous amount of skim milk, of which we had a plenty at that particular time.

Don't keep over two calves in any one pen, one is better, unless they have an exercising paddock for them to run in and out of at will.

Exercise is necessary to growth, but be careful not to allow a calf to get too tired, when first turned loose after being shut up for a long period, as they are during the winter months. This might give them a set-back temporarily unnecessarily. Set-backs are uncertainties.

The constitution and vitality of the parents are matters which precede the birth of the calf, but which the breeder should not lose sight of. A cow weakened from too heavy and too continuous milking, not given an opportunity to recuperate from the strain, or any other cause, will be apt to drop an impoverished, weakling, which will tax the ability of the most successful calf raiser to get started nicely and prove a worthy successor to either parent.—W. L. P.

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