

plied during the winter helps to hold the snow and protects the wheat from winter killing. In the spring it prevents the land from becoming baked, and checks evaporation, thus holding the moisture near the surface where it supports the growth of the young clover rootlets until they have struck deep enough to draw moisture for themselves, and so withstand the drouth.

In addition, the decay of the mulch furnishes plant food which stimulates the growth both of the wheat and clover. By this means the wheat crop is improved and a good catch of clover rendered almost a certainty.

### Care of Pigs in Winter.

The profit from keeping pigs in winter depends much upon the care given them. Without doubt summer is the most profitable time for pork production, but results of experiments conducted here and elsewhere prove that pigs can be kept at a handsome profit in winter.

One of the first things to which attention should be given is to have the place in which they are kept made as comfortable as possible -- no cracks left open to admit snow or rain.

The bedding, which in the winter soon becomes damp from perspiration, should be changed regularly every two or three days, and dry substituted. Neglect of this is very detrimental to the health and comfort of the pigs. Damp bedding is one of the chief sources of cold and rheumatism.

Exercise is necessary, especially in the case of brood sows. For a few hours during the warmest part of the day they should have the run of the barnyard and be induced or compelled to take sufficient exercise. This helps to develop the muscles of the legs and to keep them in a healthy, vigorous condition.

The feeding should be done regularly and the food varied from time to time. No fixed rule can be laid down as to what the food should be; much will depend upon the judgment of the feeder; the object being to keep the animal growing as rapidly as possible without becoming too fat.

In all feeding it must be remembered that a certain amount of food is required to support animal life and heat. In the winter more is needed than in the summer. If the animals are not alone be given, the animals will be a loss. All they can be induced to do more than this without cloying the appetite. Coming too fat is gain.

For young growing pigs milk and middlings is an excellent diet. Bran alone cannot be fed at a profit. Corn alone is too heating and does not build up bone enough to keep the animal upon its feet. This last, however, may be supplied by adding some more nitrogenous food, as ground peas or oats, or even feeding with the corn-meal a small quantity of bone meal or wood ashes. Interesting experiments, recently concluded at the Wisconsin Agricultural Experimental Station, with feeding bone-meal and hardwood ashes to hogs living on an exclusive diet of corn, show that the effect of bone-meal and ashes is not only to double the strength of the bone but also to save about 150 lbs. corn, or 25 per cent of the total amount of feed, in producing 100 pounds gain of live weight. In these experiments the ashes gave nearly as good results as the bone-meal, the former being given in a separate trough and the latter a pinch daily in the corn-meal.

Mangles are an excellent appetiser and pigs soon become very fond of them. Cooking food on a small scale may not pay for the extra trouble, but no frozen food should be fed at any time.

With brood sows the feeding should be liberal enough to keep them in good, thrifty condition without becoming fat. September and March or April are the best times for farrowing, after which the food supply should be of an easily digestible nature, and the quantity gradually increased.

Brushing pigs with a coarse brush, though often neglected, will give equally as good results as currying cattle or horses. It keeps the skin clean and healthy, is enjoyed by the pigs, and induces a quiet disposition, conducive to rapid laying on of flesh.

Bulletin xxx, of the Ontario Bureau of Industries, contains much valuable information on the breeding, care and management of pigs and should be in the hands of every swine breeder. It can, no doubt, be had on application to the Secretary, A. Blue, Toronto.

### Time for Tree-Planting.

As tree-planting is annually receiving more and more attention throughout Ontario, some seasonable suggestions as to the time of planting may be of interest to our readers.

Fall planting is preferable to spring planting, because the conditions of soil and climate