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SWINE DEPARTMENT

Our readers are invited to ask questions in regard to swine. These will be answered in this department. You are also invited to offer helpful suggestions or relate experiences through these columns.

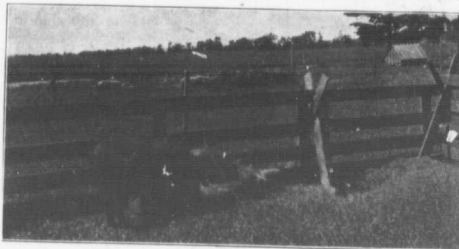
How Shall We Feed Corn?

How shall we feed corn to swine? The favorable price at which corn can now be purchased makes this an important question. The grinding of the corn into meal is an expensive operation and it is doubtful if the increased gains from feeding corn meal over corn fed on the ear or as shelled corn make the extra expense profitable. Experiments that have been carried on at many experiment stations in the United States serve to throw light on this question. Ex-

periments at the Kentucky Experiment Station show that for 100 lbs. of gain in weight 420 lbs. of shelled corn and 430 lbs. of corn meal were required. This is a hardly appreciable advantage for shelled corn. The average of many trials at three experimental stations, however, show a slight advantage for grinding the grain, 543 lbs. of shelled corn being required and 532 lbs. of corn meal for 100 lbs. gain in weight. That is, for grinding. The most satisfactory results for corn meal were those obtained at the Wisconsin Station and here a saving of only eight per cent. was effected by grinding. At present values for corn it would seem that the additional gain in weight through feeding corn meal would not pay for

properly be assimilated. Practical experience is strongly in favor of grinding the cob with the grain when feeding as meal to farm animals. Experiments carried on at the New Hampshire and Kansas Stations show that 100 lbs. of corn and cob meal actually produce larger gains than the same weight of corn meal when fed to hogs. The main difficulty in grinding the cob and grain together is that the cob is hard to grind but a fairly strong mill should obviate this difficulty.

Pigs unlike most other farm animals make larger and more economical gains when fed on sleep rather than meal. Experiments carried on at four American stations show a difference of seven per cent. in favor of feeding



It Will Pay You to Provide Paddocks for Your Swine

Outside runs like these, seeded to rape, clover and alfalfa, for your pigs, will enable you to produce pork more economically than if you confined them in close pens and bare yards.—Photo showing swine paddocks at Central Experiment-

the expense of grinding the corn.

Where corn meal is fed alone it is apt to form a heavy soggy mass in the digestive organs and can not

soak or meal in preference to dry meal, that is, 453 lbs. of dry meal were required for 100 lbs. of gain while but 451 lbs. of wet meal were necessary. Similar increases have been obtained in the value of shelled corn by soaking.

If these experiments are of value to the practical feeder, and they surely are, they would seem to indicate that the grinding of corn into meal is not economical but that soaking either the corn or meal feed is decidedly profitable.

Alfalfa The Wonderful

W. C. Palmer, North Dakota Extension Bureau

Alfalfa is the king among hay crops, the queen among soil improvers, the prince among drought-resistant plants. It comes nearer to giving something for nothing than anything else on the farm. It will produce more hay per acre, and hay of a higher feeding value than timothy, broom grass or western rye grass. While giving that valuable crop of hay it will at the same time leave the soil richer in nitrogen and humus every year that it occupies the land, and supplies the very things that the grain crops take out the fastest and leave the soil in the greatest need of. Still the whole story is not told, as weeds cannot grow readily after alfalfa gets a good stand and if they should grow a little the alfalfa is cut before the weeds are ripe so they cannot go to seed. The roots go deep and so open up the soil better than the subsoiler.

While alfalfa will adapt itself to almost all varieties of soil it is better to give it every chance the first time it is sown on a farm. Take 10 acres of a good dry field that you intend sowing to oats or barley, work it up well, but do not worry if there is some grass or weeds left. A little grass will not hurt the alfalfa and will make good hay when mixed with the alfalfa, and weeds have no chance in a good crop of alfalfa.—Geo. W. Marsh.

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Alfalfa in H

So great is the value of alfalfa in Hatteras more progressive said that the work in the habit of doing the merit of the alfalfa is more themselves causing alfalfa as in some of the acres of alfalfa every farm, and those have been without exception proclaim the increasing qualities of the

Mr. J. Lynn township, informed of Farm and Dairies three years ago 10 acres of alfalfa. low, wet ground success. The higher land did year after taking the field afforded the rest of the results were obtained in neither seem to be inferior Most of the alfalfa horses, and Mr. alfalfa is a partial horse feed.

ALFALFA WITHIN "I never missed in my life," said of the same towns in the spring and every week or 10



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