

say Wednesday and Saturday, which would be known as "trial days," and on these days each mare is caught and tried. This is kept up until it would be too late in the season to breed them again, even if they did come in heat. Most farms keep a "teaser" for this work. (1) This method of trying mare obviates the necessity of figuring out trial days ahead for each individual, as they are all gone over every three days, and if one comes in heat she is sure to be noticed. I have seen mares that were bred in April refuse twice a week from May to July and then come in season. In cases of this kind it is probable that abortion takes place, but owing to the early stage of impregnation the external signs of abortion, such as soiled condition of vulva and tail and tucked up appearance of the abdomen, are not noticed. Sometimes a mare is noticed that it is almost impossible to determine whether she is in heat or not and will allow a horse to tease her and will stand perfectly quiet. The only way to tell is, that if she is not in heat she will object if the horse attempts to cover her; these kind of mares are a source of continual annoyance to all concerned.

In warm weather the best place for a mare to foal is out of doors on a good grass plot, but in the early spring arrangements must be made for foaling inside in a good sized box stall in which there should be plenty of bedding. Mares that foal inside should be watched both night and day, so that in case of non-rupture of the foetal membranes during labor they can be opened by the attendant before the foal suffocates—(this also applies to mares foaling out of doors). Another reason for requiring an attendant is to prevent the mare from lying down with her hind parts against the sides of the stall, thus interfering with the delivery of the foal; also to catch the foal from those mares that persist in foaling in the standing position and in so doing preventing the foal from falling and forcibly striking the floor. These are the principal difficulties met with by the attendant, exclusive of course of the many different phases of difficult parturition. Immediately after foaling, the foal should be carefully placed in one corner of the stall where the bedding is usually comparatively dry, the stall should then be thoroughly cleaned out, removing the after-birth and all the wet straw and drying off the floor beneath as well as possible. The stall should be rebedded

with dry straw at once, before the foal attempts to stand, as it is bad policy to allow a young foal to slip and sprawl about on a slippery floor. This should be done regardless of the time of night, or how sleepy the attendant may be, and it will be found that small attentions of this kind will go a long way toward making the business a success.

CHESTNUT COLOR IN HORSES.

This question is receiving some attention from the English horse breeders. With the exception of the Cleveland Bay, the Yorkshire coach horse and the Suffolk, breeders in that country have never devoted themselves seriously to regulate the color of their horses. The theory that color is largely determined by the amount of pigment in the blood during certain stages of germ growth is said to find favor with many breeders, but there does not appear to have been any serious attempt by believers in this theory to make any practical use of it. This pigment theory may account for the growth of the chestnut color in that the absence of coloring matter in the pigment may produce this shade.—*Farming.*

At the last County Court of Perth the grand jury made the following recommendation: "We would recommend that the rules governing the rights of persons travelling or driving on the public roads should be posted up for the information of the public. It would be a great benefit to the winter roads if sleighs were made to track as wide as wagons. We have examined the statistics you gave us about statute labor, and approve of your suggestion that the labor should be abolished and the value of that labor expended on the roads, under the direction of a practical engineer."—*Farming.*



(1) Poor deluded beast! Ed.