

remain the bull, and the heifer just dropped, besides the dam, who will probably breed a number of calves yet.—*Nova Scotian Journal of Agriculture.*

Sheep and Lambs.

(New-York Times).

With the hot weather begins a risky season for the flock and a time when the shepherd's care needs to be constant. Flies abound, and are ready to propagate in any moist filth about the tail or udder. Once a sheep is fly-blown, it seeks a lonely place, and will hide in a fence corner and remain out of sight until dead. The sun's heat and the want of either abundant or of good water frequently bring on diarrhœa, which increases the danger from the fly, and also weakens the sheep. Dysentery follows neglected diarrhœa, and carries off the sickened animals very rapidly. There are many reasons why at this time a flock should be visited frequently, and counted each time, for certainty that all are in good condition. If one is missed, it should be sought at once, and brought home for treatment and care.

One of the greatest pests at this season is ticks. These leave the shorn sheep and gather on the lambs. The young animals are worried and weakened by these parasites, and are sometimes killed by them. It is now easy to rid the flock of them. The pest may be destroyed by dipping the lambs in a decoction of tobacco and sulphur, one-half pound of tobacco steeped in five gallons of hot water, with the addition of eight ounces of flowers of sulphur, well stirred in, make an effective dip. It should be used at a temperature of 112 degrees, and should be kept at that heat by the addition of fresh hot liquid, not water. The lambs only require dipping, and a half-tub large enough to immerse the lamb while held by its head, and its head kept out of the bath, is the best vehicle for applying the dip.

Ewes from which lambs have been taken require special care. If necessary, they should be milked at night to relieve the udder, and this should be continued until they are dried. Garget may occur by neglect; the udder may "cake," fester, and suppurate, when flies will attack the poor animal. Many good ewes are thus lost for simple want of care. Lambs that are weaned should be separated from the older sheep, and a piece of fresh grass reserved for them. A run in a corn-field will be much relished by them; they will eat many weeds and some suckers, but will not injure the corn (1). The shade and coolness will be agreeable to them. Those ewes that are intended for market should be fattened and disposed of as soon as possible. Every day lost is a loss of food without return. Store sheep may run in a stubble, or a piece of waste land, and will do very well with a small allowance of bran, or mixed oats and rye. Half a pint daily will be sufficient. Foot rot is caused by the accumulation of filth or sand under the loose horn which grows from the walls of the hoof and turns under the sole. Neglect to properly pare the hoof assists it. The sole is kept moist and soft, is irritated, rots, and communicates the irritation to the sensitive portions of the foot under it. Then follow inflammation, gangrene, decay, and a fetid, purulent discharge which conveys contagion to sound feet. The rot is most frequent upon wet pastures, which encourage growth of horn and keep the sole soft, and is rare upon dry,

(1) We must enter a protest against lambs, or any other animals, being allowed to run in a corn field. It is, to say the least, a slovenly practice, and would not benefit the lambs nearly as much as good, dry clover ley, on which no sheep have recently been. In the Chalk Districts of England a change to *Sainfoin* is a specific against diarrhœa in lambs.

Tapeworms are often unsuspected cause of "green-skitt" in very young lambs. Turpentine, a tablespoonful, in a little gruel made of linseed, will help the evacuation of the worms, and the grass-feed would be assisted by a little cake, or bran. Ed.

gravely land, which keeps the hoof worn down. The feet should be examined, and the flock not neglected until some are found crawling painfully upon their knees. The hoof should be pared and all loose horn removed. Any diseased feet should be dressed with quiklime paste, all decayed horn having been first removed, and if any serious cases are discovered and fungoid excrescences found, these should be removed by applications of strong solution of blue vitriol, and the foot dressed with an ointment composed of one ounce of lard, one tablespoonful of turpentine, and half an ounce of acetate of copper (verdegris) (2). The feet should be banded and the sheep kept in a floored shed. Neglect verifies the adage of the ancient poet: "Sheep are always an unhappy flock," but care and attention are sufficient to avoid all the disasters which too frequently fall upon the helpless animals, and keep them in a thrifty and profitable condition.

The best time to castrate the male pigs is at from four to six weeks of age; or, at least, before weaning time. They seldom suffer any perceptible check in their growth when the operation is performed at this time, and they will be much more easily managed than if permitted to run entire. The sexual desire is developed very early in the male pig; and, when a lot of young boars are permitted to run together, their fretting not unfrequently seriously retards growth. Besides, the danger from castration increases with the age of the pig after he is six weeks old. (MASS. PLOUGHMAN.)

The currant worm may be destroyed by scattering over the bushes a mixture of a pint of white hellebore, a pint of flowers of sulphur, and a peck of sifted coal ashes. (IBID.)

Sweet corn for fodder.

[Philadelphia Press.]

A trial of several varieties of sweet corn for fodder for milch cows, the past season, has resulted very successfully. Many good farmers have for years past considered sweet corn fodder to be worth more than that from field corn. The large quantity of sugar contained in sweet corn makes it a highly nutritious food, sugar being as much a nutriment as starch—indeed it is strongly believed by some physiologists that the starch of the food is changed, in great part, to sugar during digestion. But it will be found in practice that the most valuable fodder is that which is grown so widely apart that the juices of the stalks are matured, and the ears are considerably developed before the crop is cut. Small early varieties planted in May and afterward, may be gathered in July and August; and the medium late varieties, such as the Triumph, will come in in August and September; while the late Evergreen will last until frost stops the growth.

CORRESPONDANTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

Sir, I should be glad to know why Superphosphate of Lime is so dear in this country? I believe all the materials are home-grown that are used in its manufacture. In England, as you may see by the enclosed advertisements, it sells, guaranteed to contain from 27 to 29 per cent of soluble phosphates, for £4.10 per gross Ton of 2240 lbs., in quantities of two Tons. Here (see "Journal d'Agriculture" for May) the price seems to vary from \$30 to \$40 per Ton of 2000 lbs., equal, in sterling, to from £7 to £9 per gross Ton! There should be a considerable per centage of Ammonia to account for this difference in price. I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

AGRICOLA.

Answer.—We see no reason for the high prices ranging here. The

(2) And butter of antimony. Ed.