

Favors Raising Fall Colts

The raising of fall colts should receive more attention among farmers than at present, says George F. Lee, a prominent Minnesota horse breeder, and especially so where several colts are raised each year. Many mares are worked but only during the winter months and could better raise a colt than in summer, when in the harness much of the time. A warmer barn, or more room, are not needed for the spring colt. The little fall will get a surprisingly warm coat of hair and ought to be out in the yard every day when other horses can be out.

TIME FOR FOALING

It is best to have the fall colts come between October 15th and December 1st; getting them earlier brings it into the fall work too much and getting them later makes it rather cold for the little fellows before they get their coats of hair.

We want the colts about March 1st, which gives some time to get the mare in good shape for spring work. The colt by this time will eat oats and when grass comes let them out, but we teach them to come to the barn every night so they can be fed a little twice a day. It will not do to try and carry a fall colt through the first summer on grass alone. Such a colt well started and kept growing right along can be broken to work and earn their living after two and one-half years old, which is half a year ahead of the spring colt instead of a year behind, as some claim.

OTHER POINTS FOR FALL FOALS

Another point is that a mare in fall, handled by a considerate driver, can better stand the work in summer than one nursing a colt and doing the same amount of work.

Abortion in mares can sometimes be avoided by changing their breeding season from spring to fall and working them up to foaling time.

Some difficulty may be experienced in getting the mares to breed late enough in the fall, especially if they are thin in flesh, but when once started there is no trouble after that.

Remedy for Hard Milking Cow

There is an element of doubt as to whether or not hard milking cows can be treated so as to get their milk more easily. Veterinarians are in disagreement as to the advisability of treating such cows.

A noted Wisconsin veterinarian, Dr. David Roberts, is quite certain that it is a worth while to treat the difficult milkers, and he writes upon the subject as follows:

Many a valuable cow and heifer have been sold at a sacrifice by the owner owing to the fact that they were bad milkers.

The cause of hard milking cows is so little understood by the average stockman that the disposal of such animals is accounted for in that way, but if stockmen knew how easy it is to overcome hard milking in both cows and heifers, I am sure that no animal could be disposed of for the lack of milk.

CAUSES OF HARD MILKERS

Hard milking is due to an abnormal contraction of the sphincter muscle, impeding the stream of milk from the point of the teat. On the other hand a cow losing her milk is due to a relaxation or an abnormal expansion of the sphincter muscle at the point of the teat.

Many a valuable, hard milking cow has been ruined owing to the fact that the milker has been compelled to use a milking tube and by the use of the milking tube the cow has become infected, oftentimes losing one or more quarters. It is not advisable to use a milking tube if one can possibly get along without it.

THE REMEDY

The proper method of handling or removing hard milking in cows or heifers is by the use of a test plug.

The teats should be washed with a germ killer solution and the teat plug dipped in the same solution, then dipped in a little healing ointment and passed into the point of the teat. The test plug being self retaining should be permitted to remain in the teats from one milking to another. This will positively overcome hard milking in cows and heifers.

This same treatment is exceedingly valuable in the treatment of sore teats where the sore is at the point of the teat, where it interferes with milking.

"Dairy Bacteriology"

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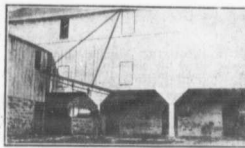
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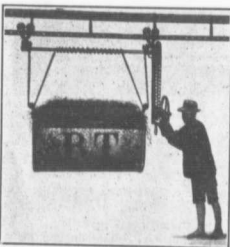
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