

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

SILAGE FOR BEEF OR MILK PRODUCTION

Is ensilage more profitably used in the production of milk or beef? There seems to be a difference of opinion on the subject.

GALLOVIDIAN.

Ans.—Corn ensilage is a great feed for either when used with other feedstuffs that will balance the ration properly. If anything, its succulence is a greater advantage in stimulating milk flow than in producing gain in carcass weight. But no farmer who can grow corn successfully should fail to do so; and no cattleman who grows corn should fail to have a silo to preserve it in.

DIFFICULTY IN CHURNING.

We have churned three times, and can get no butter. We are milking five cows, and feeding them hay and grain. We always use creamers. Would the presence of six fattening hogs in same stable make any difference?

Ans.—Do you use a thermometer, or guess at the churning temperature? There is a great difference in the churnability of cream from different cows. Probably also your cows are all nearly dry; if so, this fact would account for the difficulty. The addition of a fresh-milch cow would help to overcome it. Succulent feed in the form of silage or roots would also have a beneficial influence. Raise the churning temperature high enough to bring the butter in one-half to three-quarters of an hour, and do not have the churn more than half full. The presence of pigs in the cow stable, though undesirable, has nothing to do with the churnability of the cream.

CEMENT BLOCKS OR SOLID CONCRETE FOR BARN WALL ROOT CELLAR

I am considering raising our barn next spring and putting in a cement stable. I am in a position so that hollow-block wall, or solid concrete could be built for about the same figure. Good gravel is cheap, two miles from home.

1. I would like your opinion as to which wall would be the better, 10-inch solid or 12-inch hollow wall.

2. Would this be heavy enough for a barn 36 x 72? About how much gravel and cement would be needed for an eight-foot wall and also for the floor?

3. Would you advise putting root-house under the approach to the barn?

Ans.—1 and 2. We think you must be mistaken about it being possible to build the cement-block wall as cheaply as the solid concrete, for under no circumstances that we are aware of can a cement-block wall be built so cheaply as a solid one of the same thickness. Cement blocks are being largely used in erecting houses, but they do not seem so satisfactory for barns, being hardly strong enough. For a barn the size specified, we would advise making the wall not less than 12 inches thick at the bottom, tapered to about 10 inches at the top. As for quantities of material, our correspondent can figure that out more accurately for himself, knowing the number and size of his doors and windows. About 128 cubic feet of gravel are required to build 100 cubic feet of wall. If field stone are available, a good many loads of them can be worked in, displacing a proportionate amount of gravel and cement. If first-class Portland cement is used, it should be mixed with the gravel in proportion of 1 to 10 parts, and one barrel of cement will do about 35 cubic feet of wall. Rock cement is usually mixed about 1 to 5 for building walls, and one barrel of it will do about 20 cubic feet of wall. A wall of a barn 72 x 36 feet, and an average of 11 inches thick, would contain, approximately, 1,550 cubic feet, less what space is occupied by doors and windows, and would probably require about 65 loads of gravel, minus whatever quantity of stone is used, and 40 to 45 barrels Portland or 70 barrels of rock cement.

For laying the floors, you would require about one barrel of Portland cement for 80 square feet of floor, or 28 to 30 barrels of cement. Of rock cement, about 50 barrels would be required. About 35 or 40 yards of gravel should be supplied, less whatever quantity of field stone it is proposed to work in.

3. The approach to a barn is an excellent place for a root cellar.

THE STRONG MAN WINS



Every day we have evidence that the weakling has no place in the busy humdrum life of to-day. It takes nerve and strength to go up against the obstacles we are now forced to encounter, and this the weakling lacks. Look about you and see the successful man of to-day—it matters not whether he be a merchant, lawyer or laborer—with head erect, eye clear, strength in his every movement. He is ready to tackle any problem with that enthusiasm which insures success.

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Dr. McLaughlin's Electric Belt

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Port Arthur, Ont., Oct. 8, 1905.

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