

Field, Ranch and Pen.

GOATS AS HIGHLAND FORAGERS

A WELL-KNOWN BREEDER'S VIEWS.

THE distinctly highland types of domestic animals have not hitherto received adequate recognition at the hands of our more intelligent and well-to-do breeders. While the richer bottom or river valley lands have been more or less generally taken up, the more hilly and rough areas, especially those which are largely covered with scrub brush, have been regarded as comparatively worthless and have laid to a great extent unused, or have fallen to the lot of those who are not striving for superlative achievement, and who, by the same token, are not, as a rule, built to leave the beaten track of stock raising, and put such lands to their logically best use.

Of late years it has been dawning on many of those who have had access to this character of range that the Angora goat, as a medium for the proper utilization of such lands, has been largely overlooked. The breeding of these animals has been for many years one of the leading industries in Cape Colony, and it is fair to say that the interest and intelligence devoted to them in that part of the world almost parallels that given by our breeders to the leading breeds of cattle and sheep in this country. What we would regard as fabulous sums have often been paid for imported Angora goats at the Cape, and are still paid for noted individuals by prominent breeders when buying home bred goats from one another. It is generally admitted now that painstaking care has resulted in producing a standard of greater excellence in the Angora goat than exists in the country of its nativity.

By judicious selection and breeding there are now many thousands of well-bred Angora goats scattered throughout the western and southwestern states, principally in Texas, to which many of the original importations into America went, and among those who have handled them for a series of years, they are no longer regarded in the light of an experiment.

Their excellent and valuable qualities are rapidly becoming better known in a more general way. One of these characteristics is their adaptability to lands which have been hitherto regarded with so much disfavor. On these, where there is an abundance of underbrush, the goats are in their element.

The Angora is essentially a browser and while it will thrive on grassy land, it feels much more at home among hills and scrub brush, and on such a character of range will attain to its highest development. It is of an active temperament, which prompts it to travel over a good deal of ground in search of its food, and for this reason, while it does not in any way interfere with other stock, it does not like to be herded in the same flock. Sheep, for instance, are too slow in their movements to suit goats, which cover more ground in a day and are more inclined to herd in one bunch and less addicted to scattering.

Where confined to a limited area they will effectually destroy underbrush by keeping the leaves eaten off. They are sometimes kept with this object in view, though most breeders who realize their value give them access to ample brush, which they regard just as a sheep man does his grass, and for the same reason would not wish to graze it so closely as to destroy it. The Angora goat is rapidly coming to the front as an important factor in the solution of the difficulty involved in the reclamation of our more mountainous districts and bids fair to appreciably lessen the existing difference between the values of our low-lying or level land and those which, owing to their hilly and scrubby character, have hitherto been regarded as having scarcely any productive value.—[W. G. Hughes, Tex.]

MAKING THE HOG GROW.

For best results in feeding, make the hogs as comfortable as possible; this applies to hot as well as cold weather.

If sows are fed all they will readily eat up clean after farrowing, they may readily be kept in a good thrifty condition.

The proper feeding and caring for

hogs has much to do with warding off disease.

The brood sow should be of considerable length, consequently a long, roomy animal that stands square on her feet should be selected.

A sow kept for breeding should have plenty of nourishing food, such as will cause a healthy growth and development without inducing the laying on of too much fat.

Keep wood ashes and salt where the hogs can help themselves.

Make the hogs weigh 175 to 250 lbs at 6 mos and then market them.

The hog is a hog and will gorge himself until the stomach is overloaded; better feed less at a time and often.

Whey is of little value for feeding unless balanced by a muscle-making food such as oats or oil meal, and also by carbohydrates such as corn, to take the place of fat removed in the cream.

Rape should not be sown earlier than July. Sow on rich land. All stock relish and thrive on it. It is one of the best crops to clear a field of weeds.

Breeding for Permanency—The proper selection of live stock judges imposes on fair directors much real responsibility. The extent to which state fairs mold the types of animals which breeders strive to produce is not fully recognized, but the influence is very great. When breeders find that judges incline toward a particular type, naturally they seek to produce animals answering the requirements, hence the grave necessity for securing as judges men whose judgment not only of the fine points of the animals displayed is good, but men who fully understand that their present judgment will be potent in influencing the type to be developed in the continuing struggle for improvement.

Differences in Hog Feeding—A neighbor kept hogs in a sorghum pasture; there was more cane than they could eat, but no other feed. The hogs looked poor. It was the first experience of this feeder in the use of sorghum and he counted it a failure. Another neighbor fed his hogs all the corn they would eat and they looked as poor as the animals fed on sorghum. I advised him to turn the hogs into a sorghum or clover pasture as he had both. He began feeding them sorghum in connection with corn and they at once began to grow and fatten. Hogs need a change and variety of feed to grow and thrive. Fed on corn alone in hot weather they will not make a profitable growth.—[Jacob Faith, Vernon Co., Mo.]

Keep Flies from Worrying Stock—The Kan exper sta recommends pulverized resin 2 parts by measure, soap shavings 1, water ½, fish-oil 1, oil of tar 1, kerosene 1, water 3. Place the resin, soap shavings, ½ part water and fish-oil together and boil until resin is dissolved; then add the 3 parts water following with the oil of tar mixed with kerosene. Stir and let boil 15 minutes. Use when cool, stirring frequently while applying. It will be necessary to apply only where the animal is unable to protect itself.—[J. L. Irwin.]

Wisconsin—Very dry in Marquette and adjoining counties. No rain except a few small showers the first half of June and crops suffering badly for need of rain. Tame hay crops especially are very poor and past help now. There will be but half a crop. Hundreds of acres of clover winter-killed. Very little old hay on hand. A large acreage of beans planted and smaller acreage of potatoes. Owing to dry weather farmers were in some localities unable to plow for the latter crop. Nights cold and nearly down to the freezing point. Small grain looks fair. Corn poor. Prices fair butter 12c, eggs 10c, beans \$2 to 2.10, corn 50 to 52c.—The Jackson county hay crop very light and oats making a light yield, because of drouth. Corn doing well, winter wheat light.

Remove the harness during noon. Feed at noon in the open air under shade.

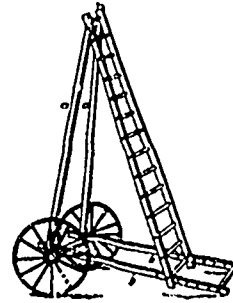
Make the collars fit; if this cannot be done, get sweat pads.

The farmer is said to be the patent medicine man's best customer. Eat more of fresh fruits, vegetables, meats and poultry products and drink more of sweet milk.

The Handy Mechanic.

A HANDY FRUIT LADDER.

Below is the description of a ladder that will be found very handy about a



farm, especially where there is fruit to be picked. Being mounted on wheels, it is easily taken to the place where wanted, and it has the advantage of being independent of support, so that there is no danger of a fall or of injuring the

limbs of trees. It can be made of any height, according to the work required of it.

The wheels on which it is mounted can be taken from any farm machinery if there is not an old pair of cultivator wheels at hand. The axle should be at least 4 ft long to insure against upsetting. The ladder is made of 2x4 timber with inch holes bored in for the rungs. It is bolted at the top to the standards, a, a, which in turn are bolted to the axle. These are spread out at the bottom as far apart as the length of the axle will permit. This gives additional strength to the support of the ladder. The braces, b, b, are bolted to the bottom of the ladder and to the axle. This ladder will be found very handy in picking fruit from the tops of small trees and the extreme branches of the larger ones. By lengthening the braces, b, b, and boring corresponding holes in each at the ends, the pitch of the ladder can be regulated by running a rod through the holes in the braces and ladder.—[J. L. Irwin, Nemaha Co.]

RAPID WHITEWASHING.

It is common practice in many parts of the country, particularly in the south and east, to use whitewash to a very

large extent instead of paint. Cellars, fences, barns, trees and houses all come in for their share of washing, the last mentioned being covered both inside and out. By the ordinary method of application with a brush much time is consumed and a quicker method would often be worth a good deal to the man that has much whitewashing to do. For this purpose there is nothing quite so satisfactory as a spraying outfit. Upon such surfaces as cellar walls, fences, etc, the McGowan nozzle will do the work admirably, and for rougher work, such as the application of shade to a greenhouse roof in summer, the direct-delivery nozzles, such as the Boss, will fill the bill. For this work the whitewash is made in the ordinary way, is carefully strained through burban or other coarse cloth and diluted to the consistency of thin cream.—[M. G. Kains.]

Shallow Wells supplied by surface seepage, carrying in solution leachings of decaying animal and vegetable matter from stagnant pools, water closets, cattle yards, etc, form one of the most threatening sources of disease for the farmer. Where an abundant supply of the purest water lies a little further down and where the increased expense can be afforded, deep bored wells, piped to exclude the surface water, should be used. Such a well supplied with a good windmill with the proper piping will supply all parts of the house and the different feed lots and stables, will add to the health of man and beast, often prevent trouble in times of drouth, and in time save enough in the way of doctor's bills to pay for itself.—[Joseph E. Miller.]

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