

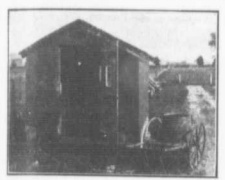
The Feeders' Corner

The Feeders' Corner is for the use of our subscribers. Any interested are invited to ask questions, or send items of interest. All questions will receive prompt attention.

Roughage for B.C. Cattle

P. H. Moore, B.S.A., Victoria, B.C.
In some parts of our province hay and roughage grow very abundantly. In other dry sections roughage supplies more of a problem. In every section more or less straw is grown. This, especially if cut straw, may very profitably be fed in varying quantities, according to the supply of other roughage. Barley straw comes next in order of merit. If chopped and fed with roots, large quantities are sometimes used at a profit. Wheat and rye straw, on account of their hardness, are not so serviceable.

Wheat, oats and barley grown as grain and cut when the grain is in the milk stage make most excellent hay. Barley should be particularly well in the dry portions where early maturity is desired. Clover, which



Convenient Feed Carrying Arrangement

A simple device for carrying feed such as the one here illustrated would save an endless amount of energy now wasted in many farmers in "jugging" heavy pots and pails. Life is too short for labor of that kind. A barrel mounted on wheels can be cheaply constructed by anyone who can use tools, and many a backache will be avoided.

grows so abundantly all over the province, is, of course, our staple roughage for dairy cows, and should be largely fed. It contains the materials necessary for milk production, and is, besides, not exhaustive to the land, thus making it an economical food. In those high, dry places where red clover grows with difficulty, alfalfa will take its place. Nothing too good can be said of the merits of alfalfa as a dairy food, but it can not be indiscriminately grown over the province. In some very dry places milk can be made a very excellent growth, and it takes great care to make a good quality of hay for dairy cows. It is a quick grower, and not too hard on the land. Timothy, the most widely known hay of all, although a heavy cropper in some sections, is not considered an economical food for dairy cows.

In any section where corn will grow and come to any reasonable state of maturity, the silo and the production of silage is a most important question. Care should be taken in selecting the seed corn, for it is unreasonable to expect seed that has been grown in a 120-day season to give good returns in a 100-day season. With close attention given, it can be grown in many places to make us a very cheap and profitable food. Twenty to 30 lbs. in our dairy rations will not only increase the milk but will make a great saving on the other roughage. In sections where corn will grow at all well and roots will grow lightly, it is too economical to feed to overlook in the dairy industry.

Roots, especially mangels and sugar beets, are second to none as a succulent food for dairy cows. One noted

dairyman in this province said, "I would not try to produce milk without mangels," and he was talking from experience. Besides the food value they carry, there is that quality of succulence that adds to the ration a milk producing quality not shown by chemical analysis. The different varieties of roots make very little difference in feeding, barring those which have very strong odors like turnips, so the crop to grow is the one we can handle best and from which we can get the largest returns an acre. In feeding it is better to feed them sliced or pulped and to feed rather sparingly than to overload. 30 lbs. a day gives more economical results than twice as much.

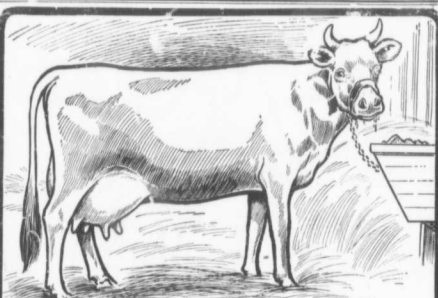
Value of Feed Molasses

Is molasses good for horses and cattle? How should I feed it?—R. C. B. Grey Co., Ont.

The nutriment value of cane sugar molasses is about equal to that of corn. It contains 50 per cent of sugar and 12 per cent of gum. The sugar is equivalent in feeding value to the starch of corn and the gums are protein substances. Beet molasses, unlike cane sugar molasses, is bitter and has purgative properties. Hitherto much of this material has been wasted, but more of it is now being utilized. In experiments in Sweden as much as 33 lbs. of molasses was fed daily to dairy cows by diluting with twice its weight of water and pouring over the feed. Work horses were fed 2.2 lbs. daily and pigs were successfully fed molasses with skim-milk.

We have fed molasses to horses pouring it over their oats, and they liked it and seemed to thrive. When the molasses ran out, however, we found it difficult to get the horses to eat their oats without it, and they lost in condition. As we sometimes had difficulty in getting molasses we do not now feed it to the horses owing to the difficulty of breaking them off.

Molasses may be used for preparing animals for show or sale. Its good effect for this purpose is probably due to its palatability, inducing large consumption of the feeding substance with which it is mingled. This substance, fed in too large quantities, is said to be deleterious to breeding animals leading to sterility, especially with males.



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