

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

POULTRY; SORES ON CATTLE.

Mr. Herbert O. Stevens, Shetland, Ont., asks:

(1) "Would some one give his experience in raising geese or ducks by setting under hens, having to buy the eggs?"

(2) Which do you think are the most profitable to raise of the four kinds, geese, ducks, turkeys and chickens now that there is such a demand for them in the British markets?

(3) Has someone a home-made device for crushing and preparing bones (green or otherwise) for fowl, other than by burning?

(4) We have some young cattle, from one year to coming three years old, that have sores broken out on them, around their eyes and elsewhere. The sores are blotchy and cause an eruption of the skin. They look scabby at first and if picked or rubbed will look raw and nasty. The cattle are all stabled at nights and get wheat, oat and some pea straw. They are all in very good flesh, but one or two steers. What is the trouble? I might say that two young cattle not stabled at all are not affected.

The questions on poultry are answered by A. G. Gilbert, Supt. Poultry Department, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

(1) Goose eggs are frequently put under hens and hatched with success. The common practice is to allow the goose to hatch out her young. Much depends upon circumstances. If eggs are bought it might be more convenient to use hens. Our ducks last year were hatched out by hens.

(2) Much depends upon conditions. There is money in chickens, ducks, geese and turkeys, whether raised separately or in combination. Separate ground, of course, being allotted to each kind. Some localities are better adapted to geese raising than others. The district surrounding Smith's Falls is a noted turkey-raising country. Geese require grazing land. Turkeys are foragers. Old ducks, used as breeders, will be better with access to water. Chickens can be raised almost anywhere.

(3) No home-made device is as good as a bone crusher and no bones are better than green bones. The latter should be cut not ground. Bones should not be burned.

(4) The disease affecting the cattle is probably ringworm. It is caused by a vegetable parasite and there are two or three forms of the disease. We would advise washing and cleansing the scabs thoroughly and rubbing with a tincture of iodine every other day for a few days. The affected parts should be washed clean and softened with soap and water before each application of the iodine. The disease is contagious and the reason why the two cattle kept outside have not taken it is because they have not been housed in the same building with the diseased animals.

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