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PROFITABLE MILK PRODUCTION ON A LARGE SCALE ON A PRIZE FARM

Over One Hundred Cows Kept. Certified Milk, the Money Maker. Corn Silage and Alfalfa the Standbys in Feeding. The Farming Methods and System of Management of R. E. Gunn, Ontario Co., Ont., Described by One of the Editors of Farm and Dairy

An excellent adaptation of crops to milk production, a large use of machinery in solving the labor problem, a high quality of cattle considering the number kept, and above all, excellent business management; these are outstanding features of the farm of R. E. Gunn, Ontario Co., Ont., the first prize farm in District No. 3, of the Interprovincial Prize Farms Competition conducted by Farm and Dairy. Things are done on a big scale on this farm, comprising 500 acres, almost all of which is under cultivation.

Mr. Gunn keeps over 100 milking cows. His crops and equipment are insured for almost \$50,000. The system of farming which enables Mr. Gunn, not only to pay interest on this great investment, but to show a good profit as well, has many features that are worthy of emulation on smaller farms. His success bears strong testimony to the value of business methods in conjunction with up-to-date farm practice. Some of the leading features of this farm were taken note of by one of the editors of Farm and Dairy, who visited Mr. Gunn's place last June as one of the judges in the competition, and these features are now set forth for the benefit of our readers.

Dunrobin Stock Farm, as Mr. Gunn's place is known, is situated a short distance outside of the town of Beaverton. The soil varies from a sandy to a clay loam. Part of the farm is well drained naturally. The rest is covered by a system of tile drains, the laterals being 150 feet apart. Mr. Gunn has made great improvements in the farm in the few years he has managed it. Old fences have been removed and replaced by wire ones. Many of the cross fences are being taken out altogether and the fields made larger.

CERTIFIED MILK AT SIX CENTS A QUART

Mr. Gunn makes a speciality of certified milk. Most of the milk is sold at six cents a quart to the Gravenhurst Sanitarium. The rest of it is shipped to Toronto. To get this price for his milk Mr. Gunn has to guarantee his herd free of tuberculosis and take many precautions not usually practised even by those who make a speciality of milk for the retail trade. His dairy building, an illustration of which is shown on page four of this issue, is equipped with all modern appliances for handling milk in a strictly sanitary manner.

At the time the judges visited the farm, Mr. Gunn's herd consisted of 156 head, as follows: 78 grade Holstein cows, 15 pure bred Holstein cows, 10 pure bred Guernseys, two pure bred Ayrshires, eight mongrels, 12 yearling and two-year-old Holsteins, 29 calves, all grade Holsteins, and two bulls. Seventy-two cows were milking; 28 had been sold a few days previously. Mr. Gunn is gradually working into pure bred Holsteins, but he finds that for a fancy milk trade the milk from a few Guernseys gives the milk of the whole herd a more desirable color. The production of each individual cow is weighed once a week and none are retained that when four years old will not make 7,000 lbs. of milk



A Barn With Stable Accommodation for over 100 Cows

The farm buildings at Dunrobin stock farm, the home of R. E. Gunn, Ontario Co., Ont., are on a large scale as are the farming operations. The dairy cattle barn here illustrated is 135 feet by 60 feet. Read a description of this farm in the adjoining article.

—Photo by an editor of Farm and Dairy.

a year. Heifers must give 4,000 to 6,000 lbs. at the start.

HEIFERS TO BE RAISED AT HOME

Practically all of Mr. Gunn's milch cows have been bought, but from now on he plans to raise on the home farm enough heifers to take the place of the cows that from old age or some other reason have to be disposed of from time to time. Also when Mr. Gunn has perfected his rotation and increased the productivity of the farm as he believes it can be increased by proper management, he proposes to increase the size of the herd in the same proportion.

The milk cows are fed in the stable every day in the year. A small, well watered and shady pasture near the stable is provided for the cows, but is regarded only as an exercise ground. Corn ensilage and green alfalfa are the basis of the summer ration, in addition to which is fed a

grain mixture of bran, chop, and cotton seed meal. The young stuff and dry cows are kept on a 150 acre pasture at the back of the farm. The cows freshen at such times as to give a uniform supply of milk the year round.

HORSE BREEDING IS PROFITABLE

Next in importance to the cows as money makers come the horses. The horse stock consists of 17 head. Nine work horses of heavy draft type do the most of the farm work. Five pure bred Clydesdale brood mares are kept, three of them usually being available for spring work. There are two drivers; the rest are colts. Mr. Gunn believes that there is money in breeding heavy draft horses.

In the piggeries were 40 pure bred Yorkshires, five being brood sows. As most of the milk is sold, however, hogs are not popular with Mr. Gunn. The poultry consisted of 150 pure bred Barred Rocks.

Mr. Gunn is a great believer in corn and alfalfa, and he

has planned his rotations so as to have the most of his arable lands producing these two crops. The buildings being in one corner of the farm are inconveniently located for hauling in crops. To reduce the expense of hauling, the farm has been divided into two portions and two separate rotations are practised. On the 100 acres immediately surrounding the barns a two-year rotation of corn and red clover is practised, the clover being seeded at the last cultivation of the corn. The expense of hauling the corn a long distance at silo filling time is thus avoided.

Mr. Gunn is getting the rest of the farm down to alfalfa as fast as he can. This year, new seeding and all, he had 80 acres of alfalfa, and inside a couple of years he expects to have twice as much. Mr. Gunn has been particularly successful with alfalfa. Although the season had been very dry the new seeding had gotten a splendid start when inspected in July, and old fields that had been down six and seven years were just ready to yield a second crop, which will be quite as large as the main crop of red clover or timothy, both of which were a very short crop this year.

The grain crops consisted of 56 acres of oats, 54 acres of barley, 25 acres of fall wheat; 67 acres were in hay. The fall wheat had been almost completely winter-killed and had been seeded to barley. One of the weakest points in Mr. Gunn's farm was the prevalence of noxious weeds in the grain fields. Canada thistles were particularly bad, and in some parts of the farm sow thistles had secured a strong hold. Otherwise the grain crops were in excellent condition, considering the dryness of the season.