

Care of the Breeding Flock

"There is room on every farm for a few sheep"

The question of sheep raising on western farms has been very much advocated of late. From the standpoint of economical agricultural methods the inclusion of sheep among the farm stock is much to be desired, but the impression left quite generally that sheep can be kept profitably by any farmer on any farm is somewhat erroneous. First of all, in order to be completely successful one must have a distinct liking for the particular kind of work in which one intends to engage. Thus it is essential, in order to obtain success in sheep raising, just as with anything else, that the flock owner must be personally interested in sheep development. The idea is abroad in many places that sheep require scarcely any care. Perhaps this is due in some measure to an unconscious association of ideas such as the fact that like associates with like, the inference being that because sheep are so closely associated with weed control that they themselves require as little attention for their proper development to maturity as do weeds and, as such, may be kept advantageously by any and every farmer throughout the west. However this may be, one thing is certain and it is that sheep, in order to attain their maximum development, require just as much care and attention in proportion to their size as do any other species of farm animals. It is unnecessary to enumerate here the many well known advantages to be gained by keeping sheep on the average

so as to destroy all lice and parasitic insects to which sheep are naturally subject. Accordingly it is essential that arrangements can be made whereby the farm flock can be dipped once a year at any rate. In this connection co-operation on the part of a number of farmers in any district in providing a concrete dipping tank might save expense to the individual farmer and the tank would be always available for use in the case of new purchases of stock, thus minimizing the danger of diseases being introduced in to the community by such stock.

Time To Buy Sheep

The best time of the year in which to purchase sheep for a new flock is during the latter part of June. At this time most of the ewes have been shorn and a better idea of their conformation can be obtained than at any other time. Then, too, there is less likelihood of any parasites or ticks remaining alive after the dipping which should always take place previous to taking any new sheep onto the farm. Where the flock has been established, however, the natural time to start afresh is in the fall, just about October in this country. At this time the flock is culled out, all ewes which were not productive during the summer season should be separated to be fattened off and sold for meat. The same is true of any ewes which did not produce desirable lambs. Care



"ONE OF THE RIGHT KIND"

First prize ewe lamb and champion Leicester at Calgary Fair, 1914. Owned by Herbert Smith, Camrose, Alta.

farm, but it might be well to outline some of the requirements necessary before any farm flock should be established.

Essentials for Sheep Raising

It is essential that a high, dry spot be available as a sleeping place for the sheep and it should be surrounded by a tight wire fence such as will keep out dogs or coyotes. On this dry space a shed should be provided in which the sheep may find shelter from wind and storm. The size of the shed will depend on the number in the flock, about fifteen square feet of floor space being provided per head for breeding ewes and ten to twelve square feet for fattening stock. It is essential that a plentiful supply of pure water be available for the sheep at all times and, if running water is not available, arrangements should be made whereby the sheep have access to water at least twice daily. There will be, during the busy seasons, times when the sheep cannot be given constant attention and it is therefore essential that every prospective sheep farmer provides a field fenced in with woven wire fencing into which the flock can be turned when other work makes it impossible for a close watch to be kept upon their movements. In order that sheep may develop to the best advantage they must be dipped at least once a year, usually after shearing,

should be taken in making this selection, it being remembered that the ewes which have reared the best lambs during the summer are naturally the lowest in flesh in the fall, due to the drain of nursing the lambs. In grading the flock there are two factors to which special attention should be paid. The first consideration should be the character of lambs raised. If a ewe has had either one or, better, two good lambs, and has brought them up till weaning time in a good, thrifty condition it can rightly be supposed that she has produced a large quantity of milk and, if not too old, is very desirable to continue in the flock. Then the character of the ewe herself should be taken into consideration and it should be decided as to whether she is too old for breeding purposes. If a ewe produces uniformly good lambs each year she should be retained in the flock as long as she will breed, even tho by keeping her so long little or nothing can be obtained in the end for her carcass. Some ewes will breed up to nine or even ten years quite successfully, but usually the flockmaster keeps the flock in ewes up to four or five years old. In this connection it should be mentioned, however, that as a rule all breeders agree that an animal which is producing desirable offspring should be allowed to breed just

Continued on Page 14

GOLDEN WEST BALGREGGAN

CLYDESDALES SHORTHORNS SHROPSHIRE SHEEP WELSH PONIES

We have a big selection of animals of both sexes always on hand. Our success both in the show ring and with breeding stock is guarantee for the quality of our animals. Write us, or better, visit us whether you wish to buy or not. Prices and terms reasonable.

P. M. BREDT P.O. 2089 Phone M. 1003 Calgary, Alta.

ALEX. GALBRAITH & SON, BRANDON, MAN.

The OLDEST IMPORTERS of CLYDESDALES in NORTH AMERICA. See our EXHIBIT at WINNIPEG and BRANDON FAIRS and make yourself known to us.

Bonnie Brae Stock Farm

ALBERTA'S LARGEST PURE BRED HOLSTEIN HERD



Herd consists of 15 Cows, 20 Three Year Olds, 10 Two Year Olds, 15 Yearlings, 12 Heifer Calves, 3 Bulls ready for light service, and 10 Bull Calves from one to eight months. Choicest lot of cattle representing the best blood lines ever included in this well known dairy herd. Do you want a good Bull, or a good foundation stock? Here's your chance. See our herd at the Edmonton and Red Deer Fairs this year. We can supply you with anything you want in the Holstein Line at prices that will suit you, and we only keep the best.

JOSEPH H. LAYCOCK, OKOTOKS, ALTA.

LARGE IMPROVED ENGLISH BERKSHIRES

We are now offering choice young April and May pigs at reasonable prices. Also a few good grade Holstein cows. Write now for prices and particulars.

SOUTHERN ALBERTA LAND CO. LTD., SUFFIELD, ALTA.

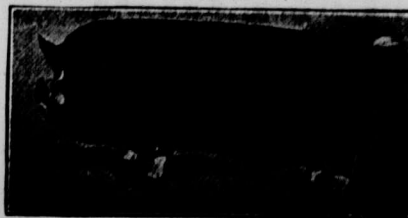
W. A. McGregor, Sup't of Farms

TAMWORTHS WHITE LEGHORNS AYRSHIRES

BACON EGGS CREAM
HOGS, CHICKENS and DAIRY CATTLE—A combination that is hard to beat and a sure road to success.
HIGH HOW STOCK FARM THOS. NOBLE DAYSLAND, ALBERTA

BUYERS OF PURE-BRED HOLSTEIN CATTLE should make sure that the description of the animal, including color markings, given on the certificate of registry corresponds with the animal bought, and where the seller is not known a reasonable portion of the purchase price should be withheld until the certificate of transfer is produced.
W. A. CLEMONS, Sec. Holstein-Friesian Association, St. George, Ont.

STRATHMORE FARM BERKSHIRES



English type Berkshires from some of the choicest foundation stock in Canada. We are now offering pigs of either sex or pairs not akin, from April and May litters, all splendid specimens of this very popular breed, well grown, long, smooth, typical English bacon Berks. Can ship to any express station in the four provinces.

Price, \$15.00 each; pairs not akin, \$25.00; f.o.b. Strathmore, Alberta. Pedigrees included in the price and furnished promptly.

Canadian Pacific Railway Supply Farm, Strathmore, Alberta

Willowdale Stock Farm

ABERDEEN-ANGUS CATTLE
BERKSHIRE SWINE
BARRED ROCK POULTRY

A carload of Registered Angus Cows and Heifers at special low prices for ready sale. Bred to my Black Bird Bull "Black Mac 2nd" 5057. Fifty Berkshires, both sexes, at special low prices. Young Cockerels for next year's breeding pens now ready. Inspection invited. Write or call on

L. McCOMB, HUXLEY, ALTA. Calgary Branch G.T.P. Ry.

Consignment Sale of Yearling Grade Ewes

Same will be delivered to your station at \$7.50 per head. Every consignment handled by the Association in the past has given most excellent results. All orders must be received by the undersigned by SEPTEMBER FIRST, and accompanied by a deposit of 25 per cent. of the value of sheep wanted.

A. J. MACKAY, President
Macdonald, Man.

A. W. BELL, Secretary
Winnipeg, Man.

WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS PLEASE MENTION THE GUIDE