

Popular There.

The Ben Davis apple, according to the statistics gathered by the secretary of the American Apple-growers' Association, constitutes one-half of the reported crop of the whole country. Its actual percentage was 45. Other apples followed with these percentages: Jonathan, 10; Gano, 9; Grymes Golden, 2½; Winesap, 3; Missouri Pippin, 4; Ingram, 3; Roman Beauty, 1; York Imperial, 1½; Yellow Twig, 1½; Mammoth Black Twig, 1½, and all other varieties, not named, 17½.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

1st.—Questions asked by bona-fide subscribers to the "Farmer's Advocate" are answered in this department free.

2nd.—Our purpose is to give help in real difficulties; therefore, we reserve the right to discard enquiries not of general interest, or which appear to be asked out of mere curiosity.

3rd.—Questions should be clearly stated and plainly written, on one side of the paper only, and must be accompanied by the full name and address of the writer, as a guarantee of good faith, though the name is not necessarily for publication.

4th.—In veterinary questions, the symptoms especially must be fully and clearly stated, otherwise satisfactory replies cannot be given.

Veterinary.

(Answered by our Veterinary Editor.)

ELEPHANTIASIS AND OTHER TROUBLES.

1. Heavy mare has large leg from hoof to hip, and the hock is a little stiff, being four times its normal size. Occasionally there is a discharge. Five years ago she got rope burn, which caused scratches which were neglected.

2. Mare has something wrong with her stifle. Just below the joint there is a hard, bony lump. When standing, she rests the foot, and turns it so as to show the whole sole. Her left eye discharges matter after being in the wind. Her teeth need dressing; would this effect the eye? The man from whom I bought her says she got struck on it.

3. Does it require great veterinary skill to file a horse's teeth? W. H. H.
Huron Co., Ont.

Ans.—1. This is a chronic condition, called elephantiasis, and as there are occasional eruptions it may develop into a condition known as grease. It is not probable treatment will be effective in a case of five years' standing. Treatment consists in purging with 9 drs. aloes and 2 drs. ginger; follow up with 1 dr. iodide of potash, night and morning. If her appetite fail, lessen the dose, but a large mare will usually stand dram doses. This will need to be continued for months, and you will find it expensive. Local applications do little good, but repeated blistering might help to reduce the size of the hock.

2. Nothing can be done for the bony growth on stifle except firing and blistering. She rests her foot and turns it as described because this eases pain. Her left eye suffers from repeated attacks of inflammation, and it is probable she will go blind from cataract sooner or later. The attacks cannot be prevented, but should be treated by placing mare in partially-darkened box stall, feeding lightly, giving a slight purgative, as 6 drs. aloes and 2 drs. ginger, bathing the eye well three times daily with warm water, putting a few drops of the following into it, viz.: Sulphate of atropia, 10 grs.; distilled water, 2 ozs. The condition of the teeth does not affect the eye.

3. No, but at the same time it requires the proper speculum and rasps, and sufficient skill (which is acquired only by practice) to use the files properly, and know just what to do and when to stop. Few but veterinarians have either the necessary instruments or the acquired skill to operate properly.

I would advise you to call your veterinarian in and allow him to examine these animals and advise. I have my doubts about the success of treatment in either case, and a veterinarian who makes a personal examination will tell you whether it will pay to go to any expense or trouble with them.

SWITCHING COLT.

An unbroken Clydesdale mare shows signs of switching. How can I prevent her developing this vice? D. W.
Elgin Co., Ont.

Ans.—This is a vicious habit. It is congenital, and the vice is hard to cure. Docking and nicking, which can be done only by a veterinarian, will remove the power to switch, and is the better plan. An iron can be arranged on the crupper, to extend about six inches down the tail, and the tail buckled to the iron, or the tail may be tied down to the breeching. These, or other devices, will prove effective while applied, but as soon as the tail is allowed freedom the vice will very probably reappear.

MUSCULAR CRAMP.

After standing two hours, colt went lame for a few steps. Next morning he held foot close to body, and went lame for a few minutes. Simcoe Co., Ont.

SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—Your colt suffered from cramp of the

flexor muscles. If not better by the time you see this, purge him with 8 drs. aloes and 2 drs. ginger; bathe the muscles with warm water and allow him to stand in a box stall for a few days.

RAM WITH PARAPLEGIA.

Ram, two years old, took what seemed to be rheumatism about six weeks ago. He would pant, grunt, and appear to suffer; got stiff, can walk only with difficulty, and sometimes lies flat. Has got thin in flesh. Gave him aconite and opening medicine. He has stopped panting and grunting, but is still stiff and has poor appetite. N. S.

Ans.—Your ram has paraplegia (partial paralysis), as the result of digestive derangements. The aconite you gave him was either of poor quality or given in very small doses. Aconite is a drug that should be used only by professional men, as its actions are very well marked, and if the heart be inclined to be weak, an ordinary dose of aconite of good quality will cause death. Give the ram a purgative of six ounces Epsom salts, dissolved in half pint warm water; follow up with 30 grains nux vomica, three times daily. Keep him dry and comfortable, and feed well. J. M. D.

CHRONIC MAMMITIS AND INDURATION.

Cow calved in April. Could not get any milk into the teats. She was dull and ate little. I bathed udder and purged cow with salts, and after a while she milked all right, but half the udder has been swollen ever since. Now, when drying her, the milk is stringy in all quarters, the affected side the worst. J. H.

Ans.—She has chronic inflammation of one half of the udder, with a hardening and enlargement. It is doubtful if she will ever make a satisfactory milker, but will, in all probability, be troubled with recurrent mammitis. If there be heat in the udder now, purge her and apply hot poultices until inflammatory action ceases, then rub the enlarged quarters once daily with compound iodine ointment, and give 1 dr. iodide potassium, night and morning, for a few weeks. If her appetite fail, decrease the dose to 40 grs.

GROOMING BROOD MARE, ETC.

1. My neighbors tell me that grooming a pregnant mare causes the hair on the fetus to grow long and stand up straight. Is this so?

2. Five-months-old boar has been getting stiff for a month. I keep him on cement floor, with plank to sleep on, and feed on barley chop. Is he fit for service? R. H. C.
Northumberland Co., Ont.

1. The idea is absurd. Careful grooming is beneficial to horses and mares at all times. It would not be wise to groom a pregnant mare roughly with a sharp-toothed currycomb; not that it would have any action on the coat of the fetus, but the irritation to the abdominal muscles caused by the sharp teeth might cause sufficient muscular contraction to cause abortion.

2. Purge with 4 ounces Epsom salt; allow regular exercise; cover the whole floor with plank. Give 20 grains nux vomica night and morning, and feed bran mixed with the barley meal, also give raw roots and milk.

MISCELLANEOUS.

1. What will bring a fat cow to her appetite when she refuses to eat her chop allowance?

2. Has a parrot-mouthed colt other difficulties than inability to do well on short pasture?

3. Should she be favored in the stable?

4. How much would the malformation reduce her value?

5. Are cattle liable to thoroughpin?

6. If so, would you treat as in horses?

7. Does a grayish deposit around the anus of colts indicate worms; if so, how would you treat? Oxford Co., Ont.

Ans.—1. Purge with 2 lbs. Epsom salts, and feed nothing but a little bran for 24 hours. Follow up with 1 dr. each sulphate of iron and gentian, three times daily, and feed little chop at first, gradually increasing the quantity as appetite returns.

2. Not unless there is also malformation of the molars, which is frequently the case.

3. In most cases, it is better to feed rolled oats, but if the molars are all right, she may be fed as other horses.

4. This depends upon the degree of the malformation, and whether the purchaser intends feeding in the stable all the time. In cases where the incisors only are at fault, probably 25 per cent. If the molars are also malformed, most people would not buy her at any price.

5. Yes.

6. If treated at all, yes.

7. Not necessarily, but in some cases this symptom is noticed. Give, for an average yearling, 30 grs. sulphate of iron and 30 grs. sulphate of copper, night and morning, for a week, and then purge with 5 drs. aloes and 2 drs. ginger.

COLT WITH WEAK KNEES, ETC.

1. Is the foam on separated milk injurious to a colt or calf?

2. Draft colt has not straightened up on his fore legs. He is over on his knees. M. W. S.
Welland Co., Ont.

Ans.—1. No.

2. The probability of straightening depends upon

the extent of the weakness. Keep him in a box stall, and feed hay off the floor. Make a movable box for grain, and place on the floor, removing when he has eaten his meal. In fact, feed everything off the floor. Feed liberally on rolled oats and bran, and allow exercise outside during the day.

Miscellaneous.

BARN PLANS.

Would you please publish a suitable plan for a barn 40x60 feet, with an L 30x50 feet? The barn stands with the side of the L facing the house. Would like to have room to stable about twenty head of cattle, two box stalls, a root cellar, a place for implements, room to stable about five or six horses, a harness closet, and a carriage room. Would like to have the alleys for the cattle wide enough to drive through, if possible. W. G. H.
Elgin Co., Ont.

Ans.—In the plan published in our December 1st issue, there are two box stalls 14x20 feet, and a feed room 15x26 feet. These three rooms might be eliminated, and the barn made twenty feet shorter; then by narrowing the passage at back of cattle in the end row, the total length could be reduced to 60 feet. This arrangement would bring the two threshing floors together, and would necessitate a new arrangement for the silo and feed room. The latter could be conveniently situated in the part set off for one of the boxes in the horse stable, including the passage from the stable to the feed room as it stands in that plan. The silo then could be placed just outside the feed room, beside the driveway, and the root-house would be located under both driveways, as indicated in the plan. Such a basement would make room for all the stock. The L 30x50 feet could then be used wholly for implement and harness rooms. The main reason why the plan submitted in the Dec. 1st issue is valuable, is because of its simplicity, and because it utilizes all available space to best advantage. A passage through the L leading into the barnyard would make a suitable and convenient means of reaching the stables. On one side of this passage could be located the carriage room, and on the other the implement shed.

TOBACCO GROWING.

Would like to have some information about the growing of tobacco for market; or could you put me in communication with some reliable farmer that has had experience in the growing of the same? Hastings Co., Ont.

Ans.—Essex County is generally supposed to be the only locality in Canada where tobacco can be grown profitably in considerable quantities. True, the French-Canadians grow tobacco for their own use, but not for commercial purposes. Essex County is the most southerly point in the Dominion, being in the same latitude as California, Southern France, and Italy, and besides has the advantage of being contiguous to a large body of water. Growers in Essex very much doubt the possibility of growing tobacco in Hastings County. The methods of growing the plant are much the same as those for growing tomatoes. The seed is sown in early spring in hotbeds or cold frames, and the plants thinned and otherwise carefully tended to until all danger of frost is past, when they are set out in well-prepared soil, about three feet apart each way. From this time on, until the stems have developed fifteen leaves, the land is kept clean by good cultivation. When the necessary number of leaves have developed, the head of the stalk is kept pinched back, and no flowers are allowed to set. The crop is cut before frosts in the fall, and carefully cured until early winter, when the stalks are split down the middle and hung in a dry barn to further cure. Only one variety is grown in Canada, and it is used for the manufacture of chewing tobacco. Tobacco companies would willingly furnish seed and all necessary information about the crop. About fifty cents worth of seed is sufficient to seed four or five acres. Some successful growers in Essex County are E. M. Bee, Leamington; Geo. Evans, Leamington; O. Duke, Olinda.

SUBSCRIBER.

APPLES FOR COWS.

Please tell me, through the columns of the "Farmer's Advocate," if apples are of any value for milking cows? In what quantity should they be fed, and would it be better to pulp them? Wentworth Co., Ont.

Ans.—Apples, in moderate quantity, are of some value as feed for cows in milk, but the quantity should not exceed two gallons per day, in two feeds. There would be some advantage in pulping them if they were mixed with chaff or cut straw, as the more chewing and mixing with the saliva of the mouth, the more perfect will be the digestion; otherwise, the apples may as well be fed whole, as, generally, a cow will chew them pretty thoroughly before swallowing them, if tied in her stall and undisturbed by other cattle. C. E. W.