

## Stock Department.

### Cattle Disease in England.

The inspectors' returns for the past week for the county of Buckingham show that foot-and-mouth disease now exists on 509 farms, the number of animals affected being 10,748 comprising 3722 cattle, 6647 sheep, and 379 pigs. 124 animals, principally pigs have died of the disease during the week. The greatest amount of disease exist in the following districts:—Aylesbury district, 36 farms infected 621 animals; Linslade, 23 farms, 617 animals; Fenny Stratford, 33 farms, 372 animals; Newport Pagnell, 60 farms, 1414 animals; Stony Stratford 31 farms, 1066 animals; Windsor 43 farms, 516 animals; Steeple Claydon, 70 farms, 1637 animals; Brill 62 farms, 938 animals; Midsmoreton, 36 farms, 625 animals, Great Marlow, 13 farms, 217 animals.

The disease is spreading all over the county of Cambridge. Animals which had recovered are being attacked a second time, and the malady is assuming a very serious form. Sheep are the chief animals affected, and there is scarcely a farm free from the complaint.

Wednesday's returns of the foot and mouth disease in the county of Dorset give the following figures:—Bridport division, 76 cattle, 658 sheep, 33 swine, on 14 farms, including 7 fresh outbreaks; Cerne Abbas division, 368 cattle, 2565 sheep, 127 swine, on 11 farms; Dorchester division, 370 cattle, 1872 sheep, 123 swine; Shaftesbury division, 262 cattle, 75 sheep, 25 swine, on 109 farms; Sturminster division, 1067 cattle, 193 sheep, 87 swine, on 107 farms; Wareham division, 195 cattle, 881 sheep, 54 swine, on 36 farms; Wimborne division, 161 cattle, 3519 sheep, 49 swine; total number of diseased animals, 12,798. About 70 animals died from the malady during the week.

The last official returns show another considerable increase in the number of cases in Gloucestershire. The week before last the total number of cases was 12,232; last week it increased to 16,894; the number of farms infected the week before last was 377; last week there were 428. The number of fresh attacks last week was 6845, and 2087 animals were reported as recovered. Eighty cattle died the week before last; last week, 112—16 being cattle, 6 sheep, and 80 pigs.

In Huntingdonshire there is a further increase. The last official returns show that the number of stock affected is 4515, which is upwards of 400 over last week. Of these 3101 are sheep. The pigs attacked are comparatively small in number.

During the last week in Northampton 32 cases of foot-and-mouth disease in beasts and sheep have proved fatal out of 6950 affected; and in pigs 8 were fatal out of 286 affected. Three cases of scab in sheep have

been reported, and 3 fatal cases of pleuropneumonia in beasts.

The last official return as to the foot-and-mouth disease in Norfolk exhibits a total of 11,411 cases. This return is brought down to August 17th, and compares with 16,634 cases in the week ending August 10th, 12,783 cases in the week ending August 3d, 13,976 cases in the week ending July 27th, and 15,302 in the week ending July 20th. The number of cases occurring in the Aylsham district in the week ending August 17th, was 1157; in the Downham district, 2,001; in the Swaffham district, 1635; in the Docking district, 919; and in the Walsingham district, 912. The number of cases of pleuropneumonia officially recorded in Norfolk in the same week was 48. No cases of sheep scab were recorded.

The returns for last week for Lancashire show an alarming increase in the number of animals affected by the disease. In the Preston district, comprises the hundreds of Amounderness, Leyland and Blackburn, there were 120 fresh outbreaks, and there are now 311 farms affected 2358 cattle, 798 sheep, and 21 swine; being an increase of 12 outbreaks 95 farms affected, 583 cattle, 201 sheep and 11 swine. The disease is mostly prevalent in the townships of Kirkham and Gristav. In the Salford district there were 28 fresh outbreaks during the week.

The disease also continues to spread at an alarming rate in Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire, thinning the markets, and rendering necessary the enforcement of orders by the local authorities prohibition the removal, except by an order from the inspector, of any animal suffering from the disease or which has been exposed to contagion. The complaint appears to be particularly rife in the neighborhoods of Newark, Lincoln, Stamford, Spilsby, and Wisbeach. The Notts justices have met at Newark and issued a notice to the public requiring owners of cattle to desist from exposing affected cattle for sale, to disinfect yards, stables, and sheds, and to keep affected animals isolated from the remainder of their herds, under a penalty of £20. It is hoped these restrictive measures will stay the progress of the complaint.

The disease is also spreading in Somersetshire. At a meeting of the sub-Committee under the Contagious Disease (Animals) Act, held at Long Ashton on Friday last, the inspector reported that since the last meeting 151 fresh cases had occurred in the district, and that the number of animals affected was as follows:—20 bulls, 322 cows, 116 oxen, 318 heifers, 92 calves, 2482 sheep, and 131 pigs—total, 3511.

In Worcestershire the disease continues to make increased progress, and according to the returns of the Chief Constable of the county (Colonel Carmichael), it appears that the number of animals affected in the week ending Saturday last shows an increase of 99 on the week. The total numbers were—

Week ending August 10th, 1126; August 17th, 1225. Not a single district of the county is free, and, in all, the numbers, as a rule, are in excess of what they had previously been. A large number of sheep are affected with the scab. The number of farms on which foot and mouth disease prevails is 123, as against 104 in the previous week.

As regards Scotland, it is reported from Newton Stewart that foot-and-mouth disease has appeared among the milch cows of the district.

The disease has also broken out recently at Inverkip, and is spreading the stock of three farms being at the present time affected.

Foot and mouth disease continues to spread in Dumfriesshire, the new outbreaks from the 13th, to the 20th instant being returned by the inspector as 77 cases. In some parishes the disease is very virulent, and there are many deaths among cattle. Three outbreaks of pleuro-pneumonia have been reported, two of these at Castle Milk Mill, St. Mungo parish, and Goosehill, Sanquhar parish. The third case is in Clossburn, among grazing stock formerly at Goosehill.

At a meeting of the Fifeshire Local Authority on Tuesday, several additional farms were declared infected with pleuropneumonia.

From Kinross shire we hear that a fresh outbreak of pleuro-pneumonia has occurred at Wester Balado; and it is also reported that the same infection has appeared in Terilge Farm. —*The Farmer.*

### Live and Dead Weight of Animals.

The amount of meat obtained from a domestic animal sold by its live weight is very variable, and experiments have recently been made in Liverpool to ascertain the proper allowances to be made. From the statistics to be derived from the public slaughter-houses, or abattoirs, of Paris and Brussels, it appears that the race and the condition of the animal, besides many other circumstances affect the result, and that certain animals yield as much as 70 per cent. of meat, while others only give 50 per cent. The mean weight of meat produced, however, is calculated at 58 per cent. of the live weight in beef cattle. In the case of sheep, the proportion is from 40 to 50 per cent. From experiments made, it appears that the different products obtained from oxen and sheep are as follows:—An ox of the live weight of 1,322 pounds yields, meat, 771.4 pounds; skin, 110.2; grease, 88; blood, 55.1; feet and hoofs, 22; head, 11; tongue, 6.60; lungs and heart, 15.33; liver and spleen, 20.05; intestines, 66.15; loss and evaporation, 154.322—making the total of 1,322 pounds. The products from a sheep weighing 110.2 pounds are as follows: Meat, 55.1 pounds; skin, 7.714; grease, 5.51; blood, 4.408; feet and hoofs, 2.204; head, 4.408; tongue, lungs, heart, liver and spleen, 4.408; intestines, 6.612; loss and evaporation, 19.836—making the total of 110.2 pounds.