



MILKING SHORTHORN COW, JANET
This imported cow is in the herd at Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. She is now nine years old.

bloom is probably the best plan, but sometimes the work crowds, and it is neglected.

The Minnesota Experiment Station reports that spraying with sulphate of iron solution, properly applied with force, will destroy the leaves and stems of the weed, and so far hold their growth in check as to prevent the ripening of the seeds. Of course, it does not kill the roots, though it is said to weaken them somewhat. The spray does not hurt the grain, but rather gives it a chance to mature, with less hindrance from the weed. We doubt whether it would pay many Canadian farmers to buy a spray pump merely for the purpose of fighting thistles, but those who have purchased mustard-spraying outfits might try them on thistles, using copper sulphate, instead of iron sulphate, as, at the prices of these two articles in Canada, copper sulphate is the cheaper, difference in strength considered. Ten pounds copper sulphate to the 40-gallon barrel is the quantity recommended for mustard. For thistles, a little more might be tried, though not much more for fear of injuring the grain. We should be pleased to hear from any who may see fit to try this experiment.

DAIRY

Milk and Butter Prices

The opinion is entertained by many that the Danes, by superior methods, ousted the Britisher from his own butter markets, but this the London Times points out is not the case. The explanation given is that it does not pay the British farmer to make butter, as he receives, by selling whole milk, about twice what he would if converted into butter. To illustrate: In the case of one private dairy with a reputation of producing milk of a high quality, an application was received for supplies of butter. The reply was that the request could be complied with, providing there was no loss of income. In other words, the customers would have to pay a price equivalent to what was received for the milk, plus cost of extra labor in buttermaking. Anxious to secure the butter, the terms were accepted, the payment for summer butter being 1s. 8d. per lb., and 2s. for the winter product. Allowance, however, should be made for the value of the skim milk, which many are too prone to overlook or underestimate.

Contrasts in Milk Records

Some records are always stimulating. Some of the records from members of the cow-testing associations for May are indicative of good cows, well kept and well fed; in a word, decidedly profitable cows. For instance, one dairyman in Western Ontario owning a herd of 62 cows had the inspiring record of 1127 pounds of milk per cow, during the month. Again, in six associations in Peterboro and Oxford counties the

average yield of 380 cows was 1055 pounds of milk and 34.3 pounds fat.

The reverse of the picture is not so rosy, indicating the need of more and better cows. Several associations have an average of under 700 pounds of milk and 26 pounds fat. A group of 75 cows at one creamery gave only 604 pounds of milk and 21.8 pounds fat in May. Think of the difference! The average yield noted above is seventy per cent. better.

As an instance of what is being done by the selected animal, the record of one of the most famous cows to-day forms a wonderful contrast. She is credited with 120 pounds fat in thirty days. This cow, it is said, was picked up from a neighbor who did not keep records, and, therefore, was unaware of her phenomenal value. Who will be the next man to discover another such diamond in the rough? Individual cow records alone can show where such jewels exist. C. F. W.

Prefers Straight Dairy Breed

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

In your issue of June 29th, B. Rowell, in an article on "Building up a Dairy Herd" recommends Shorthorns. To my mind that is extraordinary, even with the qualifications contained in his letter. It would be about as reasonable for a sportsman to suggest a Shire or Clyde crossed with some lighter breed as a trotter, so as to compete with the Thoroughbred.

I am not an old hand at dairying, but what experience I have (one year I shipped 4,000 lbs of butter in pound prints), I felt compelled to drop all the so-called dual-purpose cows and go in for one straight dairy breed, and I am well pleased that I did so. I have Ayrshires and I find they give about double the quantity of milk of the richest quality as against an ordinary cow, and if pushed with the choicest of milk-producing food there does not seem to be a limit to their milking capacity.

Why should farmers be everlastingly experimenting? It has been demonstrated over and over again in every business, we must specialize. If you want to dairy get acknowledged dairy cows

—Holsteins, Ayrshires, Jerseys, etc. There is ample choice. If beef is wanted, get Shorthorns, Angus, Herefords, etc., and stay with your choice, and no mongrels. Look at Denmark. Are they going in for dual-purpose cows? No, sir! So quit this see-saw business and go in for the straight thing and shove it for all it is worth, and it will pay. JOHN DUTTON.

Too Hot to Work

Some of the old members of cow testing associations appreciate the system very much, and are realizing a profit by it. In the Shearer, Ont., association, for instance, one man states that he has delivered to the factory almost as much milk from ten cows as he did two years ago from fourteen cows. He has sold one of the ten for \$45.00, for beef. At her best she gave 31 pounds of milk per day; she is replaced by a cow costing \$50.00, now giving 41 pounds of milk per day.

This statement shows the immense saving of labor that can be effected by keeping cows selected on their records. It is too hot weather to work round and bother with four unnecessary cows if the smaller herd, as indicated above, brings as good a return. If it pays to milk a cow it pays to milk a good one. The herd needs pruning of the dead, unprofitable wood. Dairy records of individual cows show conclusively which to lop off. Blank forms are supplied free of charge on application to the Dairy Commissioner, Ottawa. C. F. W.

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The officially supervised yearly testing of purebred dairy cows, in connection with the various Records of Performance, is progressing steadily. Already there is a notable demand for stock bulls from proved producing strains, says Dan Drummond, of the live-stock branch, Ottawa, who has charge of the inspection work. But far more important than the resultant effect in the improvement of stock, he adds, is the effect on the men. The man is the greatest factor in dairying, and the only factor in citizenship. The inspiration, knowledge, study and intelligence fostered by this testing work must and does develop a race of educated dairymen and dairy-stock breeders. That gain is invaluable. * * *

The 25th annual meeting of the Holstein-Friesian Breeders' Association of America was held in New York, June 1. Appropriations totalling \$30,000 were voted, of which \$10,000 is for prizes for butter records under the advanced registry system; \$10,000 for the work of the literary committee, \$4,500 for prizes at dairy and agricultural shows, and other smaller grants for advancing in other ways the interests of the breed. The secretary's report showed 57,466 certificates issued during the year.



JERSEY BULL, LORD STOCKWELL, FIRST AND CHAMPION AT OXFORD COUNTY SHOW THIS YEAR