

DAIRY.

The Use of Salt.

A decreased price of a given product frequently results in a vastly increased consumption. While many farm products have greatly fallen in price during the last few years, many articles which the farmer has to buy have also declined. Take the case of salt, one of the necessities of the house for domestic and dairy purposes, and also for the use of all classes of live stock. No longer ago than 1891 it was selling at the Ontario wells at \$1.10 per barrel, whereas the writer was the other day informed by Mr. Coleman (T. T. Coleman estate), of Seaford, that it could be procured from either their works at that town or Brussels for as low as 50 cents per barrel, or \$5 per ton in car-load lots of 15 tons, and 200-lb. sacks going as low as 35c. The fall in the price of salt would seem to have more than kept pace with the downward tendency of the wheat market. The foregoing are certainly phenomenally low prices, and no man should stint his stock when good salt can be procured so cheaply. All farm animals require it, and, in fact, it should be placed in boxes, or other receptacles, within their reach. Prof. Robertson stated in one of his addresses that a dairy cow anywhere from Quebec West to the Rocky Mountains would consume four ounces of salt per day. He also reported making one test by changing the salt back and forwards among the herd, and found that the cows gave 14½ per cent. less milk on the average for two weeks when they got no salt than when they had it; furthermore, the milk obtained from the cows which had no salt would not keep as long by 24 hours. A certain amount of salt added to the ration tends to make it more savory, and it has a stimulating effect on the organs, keeping the animal in a vigorous and healthful condition. "Besides its strictly physiological functions, it is of use in facilitating the passage of the albuminoids of the food from the digestive canal into the blood, and a certain extent in facilitating the circulation and thus increasing the energy of the vital processes." Armsby, author of the foregoing sentence, in his standard treatise on cattle feeding, states that in view of the absolute demand for a certain amount of salt for the preservation of life, and the great advantage of a certain excess of it, it is plain that it is to be regarded not as a luxury but as a necessity. The development of dairying has greatly increased the consumption of salt of fine grades. Salt is highly esteemed by many advanced agriculturists in growing root crops, especially mangels, and for cereal crops in dry seasons, also as a straw strengthener.

A Question in Deep Setting.

In your issue of March 1st, F. J. S.'s excellent letter on "Farm Buttermaking" led me to tell you my experience in deep-can setting this winter. F. J. S. said that "twelve hours in summer and twenty-four in winter would raise all the cream if temperature is all right." We only set the milk for twelve hours and find that the cream seemed to be all raised, judging from the following test: Out of 282 lbs. milk we had 13 lbs. butter. This is as much (less one-half pound) as our Renfrew Creamery claims to take out with the separators. In much colder weather we again tested it, with but a very slight increase, proving that in very soft weather, by putting in snow (or ice) to keep the water ice-cold, as much cream can be raised as in extremely cold weather. Milk stands outside in barrels partly filled with water, and when water freezes very hard we pour in some hot water to keep the cans loose. Cans are 20 inches deep, with a hollow pipe in centre for water.

Another fact worth mentioning is that our cows nearly all calved this winter. We find that winter dairying pays best. But to come back to F. J. S.'s letter, we do not understand why he would have the milk stand twice as long in winter as summer, if he has ice? A. W. R., Renfrew Co., Ont.

Butter Print Stamps.

Some expert buttermakers, who put their product in pound prints, prefer their own name or that of their dairy stamped on the butter itself and not on the parchment paper wrapper, but if the letters are raised, when one print is set on another they become crushed down, and besides, they do not show through the wrapper. Prof. Geo. Harcourt, of St. Annes, Ont., who recently called at this office, mentioned noticing in the Bow Park Dairy, at Brantford, the use of a print in which the name was indented into the butter, raised letters being cut on the stamp. When the parchment paper was put on he could read the name right across the room, the letters showing plainly through. He said that Prof. Dean, of the Guelph Dairy School, who was with him at the time, was also much pleased with the idea.

Cocoanut Butter.

A new competitor in the butterine and cheap butter industry in United States has appeared in Chicago in the shape of "Cocoanut Butter." It is manufactured from the oil of the cocoanut, imported in the crude state from Cochín. It is said to be much cheaper than lard or other animal fats, to make a pure white "neutral," odorless and tasteless, and, after undergoing manipulation, makes a butter hard to beat from the genuine. It is also said to be very useful in the manufacture of filled cheese, and altogether a dangerous competitor to the dairy butter.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Veterinary.

RINGWORM, LICE, AND BLISTER.

EVAN F. UPPER, Thorold:—"Will you kindly answer the following through the veterinary column of your valuable paper: 1. Cause and cure for ringworm on young cattle? 2. Best and most effective cure for lice on young horses or cattle? 3. Receipts for blister, and directions for removing bunch on spavin joint of horse, caused by being cut with wire?"

[1. Ringworm is caused by a parasite which burrows just beneath the first skin, causing the bald, scurfy condition present in the effected animal. The writer has found a mixture of carbolic acid and oil (linseed or sweet)—one part of the former to four of the latter—sufficient to destroy the trouble with one application. Rub it in well around the edges of the ring.]

2. See F. Hughson's communication in March 1st issue, also "Questions and Answers" of February 15th.

3. A mild but effective blister is as follows: Binioidide of mercury, 1 ounce; lard, 8 ounces. This should be applied every fourteen days to the hock, or any form of enlargement. For a strong blister use powdered cantharides, ½ ounce; turpentine ointment, 6 ounces; to be melted over a slow fire, and applied when cold, with a good amount of friction.]

CHAPPED TEATS OF COW.

F. GREEN, Ridgetown:—"I have a promising young cow that has sore teats; one of them spatters; that is, there appears to be three openings from which the milk spurts. She will be dry in a few days. Can you tell me the cause, and prescribe a remedy through your veterinary column?"

[Chapped teats may be caused by the powerful sucking of the calf, the sudden chilling of the teat during winter, exposure to the wind whilst in a wet state, milking with a wet hand, or lying on a damp, wet floor. By a little care in drying the teats after milking, it is easier prevented than cured. Treatment: Soothing applications are beneficial; washing clean with soap and water, thoroughly drying with a towel, and the combination of vaseline and oxide of zinc ointment will be found beneficial. If healing is tardy, application of lime water, with oil in equal quantities, enjoys a high reputation in the Old Country. Chapped nipples are very often obstinate to heal, and if other remedies fail you might try painting collodion over the parts, and protecting the sores with cotton wool.]

WM. MOLE, M. R. C. V. S., Toronto.

CALF BLOATING.

H. T. JEWSON, Co. Wellington:—"What is the cause of a young calf bloating? It is fed new milk, and shows signs of inflation soon after being fed, which disappears in about four hours. Kindly give treatment to effect a cure."

[The cause is in all probability indigestion, due to weakness of digestive organs. Give a laxative, say ½ pint of raw linseed oil (if the calf is under three weeks old) after twelve hours' fast. If it does not operate try larger dose. In case the bloating is severe, better not wait for the twelve hours' fast, but instead add to the oil about half a teaspoonful of turpentine. In two days commence giving tonic of the following ingredients: Oxide of iron, carbonate of soda, and common salt, in equal parts; nuxvomica, 2 drachms to every pound of the mixture. Dose—2 drachms daily in food. Give less milk at a feed, and always its own dam's, newly milked.]

HYDROCEPHALUS OF THE HEAD OF YOUNG PIGS.

W. T. EMERY:—"I. Some pigs farrowed last week had a soft lump on top of head, as if the brain had broken through. The liquid substance was running out when they were born. There was a hole right through the skull, and five were thus affected. Kindly state cause?"

"2. A lamb died one morning. It was apparently well before. On the underside of the mouth there was a sticky substance. Several died last year from the same cause. Their food has been the same before and after lambing."

[1. This complaint is due to hereditary predisposition or congenital, and known as big head or water on the brain, is one form of rickets, and may be due to a variety of causes, but the chief is malnutrition. The bones are soft and arrested in their growth. There is preparation for ossification of the bones of the skull, but an incomplete performance, so that the brain substance breaks down the coverings, and protrudes through the opening. This want of bone salts is a very common cause of disease in pigs, owing to the very rapid growth of these animals. In this case the mother was unable to give sufficient bone-forming matter to her young, and this condition resulted. For treatment of the sow see answer to E. C. Moss.

2. With respect to the lambs we are unable to form any opinion from the obscure symptom forwarded. But, no doubt, a post mortem examination by a qualified veterinary surgeon would reveal the cause of death. DR. WM. MOLE.]

LUCORRHOEA.

F. H. N.:—"I have a mare eight years old that is in season all the time. I got her on the 1st January, and she has been in season ever since. She was very thin when I got her. She has gained considerable since, is very hearty, and appears all right every other way. Would you kindly let me

know if there is any remedy for her, as she is a first-class general purpose beast, and would suit me well if she were all right?"

[From this description it is clearly shown that your mare is suffering from the disease known as "lucorrhœa," that is a constant discharge of a white glutinous material from the mucous lining membrane of the vagina. It is due from a variety of causes: from infection by the stallion in coition, the result of injury sustained by the womb during foaling, from exposure to wet or cold, retention of the placental membranes and putrid products within the womb itself. The symptoms are usually manifested by the constant discharge of a glary mucous material, accompanied with a quantity of urine. The treatment of these cases is not always satisfactory; the first thing to be sought is the removal of the cause. Wash out the womb with warm water until it comes away clear, afterwards inject a quart of water containing an ounce of permanganate of potash; this should be forced in by a syringe until it returns the same color that it enters every day. Give some good alterative tonic medicine, say the following: Barbadoes aloes, 1 drachm; quinine, 2 drachms; gentian, 2 drachms; ginger, 2 drachms; treacle to mix. Give this every day until the bowels are well relieved. You may expect improvement in about fourteen days. It requires to be faithfully and to be well attended, as it is a most intractable disease. You might report progress in fourteen days.]

DR. WM. MOLE, M. R. C. V. S., Toronto.]

Miscellaneous.

TO KILL LICE ON CATTLE.

W. D. PRESCOTT, Lakota, North Dakota:—"I notice in the ADVOCATE that S. N. Sixmuth enquires for a remedy for lice on cattle. I can recommend the following as a most speedy and effective cure: Lard, snuff, and kerosene, mixed to form a dark brown liquid paste, applied along the spine, and at root of tail, also at poll and behind ears. I have used it for a number of years for both cattle and horses, and always found it killed the lice within a very short time, without taking off the hair."

STARTING GARDENING.

JOHN BREYLEY:—"I am going to start gardening. 1. What is the average crop of tomatoes to the acre? 2. What is an average crop of beans; what are the best kinds to plant? 3. What is the least capital safe to start with?"

[1. We will leave this question for some of our tomato growers to answer. Livingston's Aristocrat, Early Ruby, and Canadian Victor are highly recommended. 2. At the Ontario Experimental Farm in 1893 California Pea beans yielded at a rate of 28.8 bushels per acre; Prolific Dwarf Tree, 27.3 bushels; Giant Dwarf Wax, 15.8 bushels. California Pea is of fine flavor, and cream color; we would, therefore, recommend it as safe to plant. 3. That will depend upon so many conditions that we cannot venture an answer. Unless the location and soil are favorable, and the business well understood, it is not safe to go far into debt in commencement.]

ANOTHER REMEDY FOR LICE.

S. T. P., Georgetown, P. E. I.:—"Coal ashes is a very good remedy, provided you keep the cattle from getting wet, for if they do the hair is sure to come off. I have used dry clay, and find it simple and most effectual. I take a pan of clay and put it in the stove, or in the oven, and have it thoroughly dried, and have it rubbed on the cattle. This I renew a few times, and find it most satisfactory. The little birds and the fowls look for it, and must have it. I can recommend it to all whose cattle are thus affected."

FEED AND CARE OF DAIRY HEIFER CALF.

W. EVANS, Randolph, Ont.:—"Please oblige by giving, in the ADVOCATE, the best method of feeding and caring for a heifer calf, from birth to maturity, with a view to the best results in milk and butter."

[Mr. Evans' heifer calf is doubtless from a good milk and butter cow, and sired by a bull whose breeding will afford a reasonable guarantee of the reproduction of these qualities in his progeny.]

When dropped, the calf should be allowed to remain with the cow till its coat is licked clean by the dam, and it has suckled. It may then be removed into a dry, warm, well-bedded stall. For about two weeks it should be fed on new milk from the dam, which may at the end of that time be substituted by half skim, to which is added oil-meal porridge to take place of the removed cream. When the calf is four weeks old the entire cream may be displaced by oil-meal porridge. When about three or four weeks old she can be taught to eat whole oats, by rubbing some on the nose while wet from drinking milk. Fresh clover hay and stripped roots should be given every day in a clean box or manger. From this time forward the aim should be to keep the heifer growing rapidly, without putting on fat at the expense of lean meat. Her feed should be largely albuminous, such as clover hay, oil cake, bran and oats. Allow her plenty of exercise, fresh air, pure water and salt. Breed her at, say, from fifteen to twenty months old, according to development, and keep her milking for fifteen months before having her second calf, so that she may grow a good, large frame and establish the habit of deep-milking. Remember that the heifer is to be a mother with fine feelings. She should, therefore, be fed and trained with the object in view of fitting her to fulfil that function.]