

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

BROOD SOWS—NAVIGULAR DISEASE.

1. Are rotten mangels injurious to brood sows? Their litters have come small since.

2. We have a horse which is lame in the fore foot. The trouble seems to be in the coffin joint. The foot is a little smaller than the other, and at times is quite warm. W. W.

Ans.—1. If fed in small quantities, they would not do any harm, but if eaten in excess they might unsettle the system. The fault of the small litters is probably due to the sire. Try another boar.

2. This is a case of navicular disease, commonly called coffin joint lameness. It begins with inflammation in the parts of the foot, caused by concussion on hard roads, standing on hard dry floors, high-healed shoes, irregular exercise, sprains, etc. The symptoms of the disease are quite irregular: one day the horse will be lame, the next day sound, and so on; finally he becomes constantly lame, and usually points the foot. This symptom taken with others, generally decides the nature of the disease. When the foot is pointed forward, and no unsoundnesses are to be found, such as ringbone, sprain, splint, etc., it is fairly certain navicular disease is the trouble. When further developed, the animal comes out of the stable lame, stiff and groggy, steps short and stilty; the muscles of the chest and shoulders become contracted; he strikes the ground first with the toe, and the feet are hot and finally contract. In the first stages, the object is to arrest inflammation. This is best done by paring the hoof well down, especially at the heels, stand in water for a considerable time, then apply a poultice held on by a strong leather pouch. When the foot has been softened by these means, apply a strong blister about the hoofhead, and repeat treatment frequently. If the disease is far gone, it is practically incurable.

JUDGING AGE OF HOGS.

1. How are hogs judged to tell their age?

2. What is a good weight for pigs to weigh to show in the year-old class, also in the six-months class. N. G.

Ans.—1. The judge usually takes it for granted that pigs entered for show are not over the limit of age for the class they are shown in, unless their size and general appearance indicate strongly that they are over age, in which case he may leave them out of the prize list, or may award them prizes and leave it to other exhibitors to protest, giving to the secretary, in writing, the grounds of protest, during the days of the show, when an inquisition may be instituted by the directors. An examination of the teeth by a qualified veterinarian is the only other way we know of; but the average veterinary surgeon probably knows little of dentition in pigs, or has had little experience in their examination, and as the appearance of the teeth is often affected by the feeding or forcing process, it is doubtful whether his judgment would be considered reliable.

2. Weight does not count for much in judging. Having a pig very fat or very heavy for its class is more likely, now that swine are generally judged by the bacon type standard, to throw it out of a prize, than if it is in good medium condition. Two hundred pounds is considered a good weight for a pig of this type at six months old. At one year old, a pig weighing over 400 lbs. may be too fat backed; but in a class for pigs over one and under two years, there is a wide margin, and size for age in months should be considered by the judge, as a pig one year and eleven months would be expected to weigh at least one and a half times as much as one a few days over a year old. As before remarked, it is not so much a question of size or weight as of type and conformation combined with reasonable size.

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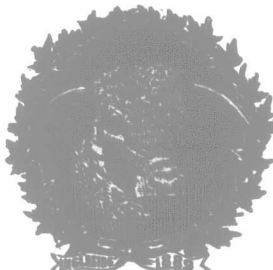
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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Veterinary.

TONGUE LOLLER.

Mare allows her tongue to hang out of her mouth when in single harness, but not when one of a pair. J. C.

Ans.—This is a habit, which can be corrected by wearing a bit with a plate of steel rivited to the center, extending upwards one and a half to two inches, which makes it impossible for her to get her tongue on top of the bit. If your harnessmaker has not got such a bit in stock, he will get one for you. Home-made bits are usually rough, crude affairs that irritate, so you had better purchase one. V.

RUPTURE.

Filly about six weeks old has been ruptured about two weeks; rupture is about as large as a silver dollar, and is right at the navel. What treatment should be given? J. I. C.

Ans.—Return the escaped portion of the intestine to the abdominal cavity, where it will likely remain for a few minutes. Then place a wide, soft surcingle around her body, giving extra pressure at the point of rupture. This may be done by placing cotton over the part. After a few days it is likely the hole will have closed sufficiently to prevent the intestine dropping down.

CHRONIC COUGH.

Two-year-old colt became affected with a dry cough in March. He has had good care since, but the cough is getting worse. Pressure on the throat or running makes him cough. H. T. P.

Ans.—These chronic coughs are hard to cure. Rub his throat twice daily with the following liniment, until it blisters, viz., equal parts sweet oil, oil of turpentine and spirits of ammonia. Give him twice daily: one dram solid extract of belladonna, one dram powdered opium, fifteen grains digitalis, and one dram camphor, moistened with treacle, and given as a ball. Dampen his food with lime water. If he shows a tendency to constipation, give half a pint raw linseed oil. V.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Cow ceased eating, secretion of milk ceased, temperature became elevated, and she died in ten days. She was under the care of a veterinarian. A post-mortem revealed the third stomach full of dry ingesta, and her liver was diseased. The veterinarian pronounced it tuberculosis. Would this cause death so suddenly? J. R. M.

Ans.—No doubt your veterinarian was right. When the liver is diseased to such an extent as to interfere with its functions the animal will suffer from indigestion. It is often impossible to diagnose the cause of the indigestion. Your veterinarian treated this cow for fardel-bound (impaction of third stomach), a form of indigestion, but as the liver was incurably diseased, he could not effect a cure, and a post-mortem revealed the cause of the trouble. When tuberculosis of any organ reaches a certain stage, it may cause death quickly. V.

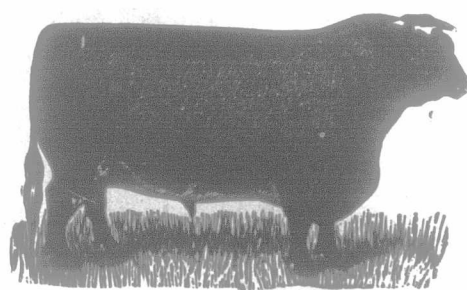
LAME PONY.

1. Pony went lame last fall and winter, but got all right in the spring; but is limping a little again in the right fore foot. He goes sound up hill, but limps going down grade.

2. Driver is a little stiff in front. J. M.

Ans.—1. The pony is doubtless lame in the foot. Take his shoes off; put him in a comfortable box stall; darken to exclude flies; clip the hair off all around the top of hoof for about two inches high, and blister with the following: One and a half drams each biniodide of mercury and cantharides, mixed with two ounces vaseline. Rub well in. Tie so that he cannot bite the part. In twenty-four hours rub well again, and in twenty-four hours longer, wash off, and apply sweet oil. Let him loose now, and oil every day until the scale comes off, when you will tie him up again, and blister as at first. After this, blister once every month, until lameness disappears, which may take some months.

2. If this has become chronic, it cannot be cured. If recent origin, same treatment as for No. 1 will effect a cure. V.



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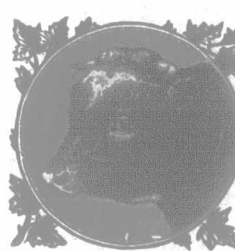


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