

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

FARMING ON SHARES.

What share should each person get off a farm of 100 acres devoted to general farming? I am to find all farm implements and horses and cows, and two brood sows, and everything to work with, the man to work farm and turn stuff into money and give me share. Now, what share should each have? The man is to get up wood; should he pay for sawing, as he has to get wood for himself and for me also? Should he pay all tax?

W. H. S.

Ans.—It is difficult for us, not knowing the circumstances in detail, to suggest a perfectly equitable basis of agreement. In working farms on shares, the apportionment of expenses borne and proceeds received by the tenant commonly runs from one-third to forty per cent., 35 per cent. being a fair average. According to this plan, the owner, besides furnishing land, buildings, live stock and implements, pays 65 per cent. of the taxes, repairs, etc., and receives 65 per cent. of all the proceeds. The tenant does all the work, including the hiring of help, bears his 35 per cent. of the expenses, and receives 35 per cent. of the proceeds. With regard to the wood, we would suggest that each party pay for sawing his own.

A BALANCED RATION.

Will you please make me out a balanced ration from the following feeds: First-class silage, good red and alsike clover, bran, oats and barley, with good straw as roughage. I feed the hay at noon and the rest cut and mixed twelve hours ahead, also have mangel.

J. R. H.

Ans.—It is impossible to give a precise answer to this question until the kind and function of the animal to be fed is known. A balanced ration for a work horse is entirely different from that of a horse being fitted for market, so also is that of a dairy cow from that of a beef steer. The ration, furthermore, is affected by the size of the animal; so also the amount of milk a cow is giving should influence the ratio of the ration for her. To give an answer to the query, we have assumed that the animal to be fed is a milk cow giving a liberal amount of milk daily. We have assumed that the cow weighs one thousand pounds, and that she is giving about 27 lbs. milk daily. If the cow is larger, the amount of feed will have to be increased; if she gives more milk proportionately than we have assumed, more nitrogenous feeds will have to be fed, i. e., the ration will have to be narrowed, if she is not capable of giving so much milk, less bran and oats may be used and some barley may be substituted.

With such a supply of excellent feed-stuffs, we have disregarded the straw as a factor of importance in the ration; barley is not as valuable under these circumstances as bran or oats, and we have left it out, considering its use as undesirable. At the usual prices of oil meal and cotton-seed meal, it is highly probable that these feeds can be used to advantage in place of much of the oats and bran suggested. In buying oil meal or cotton-seed meal, one should buy according to guaranteed analysis.

The following ration is submitted: Silage, 30 lbs.; roots, 10 lbs.; red clover, 10 lbs.; alsike clover, 5 lbs.; bran, 2 lbs.; oats, 2 lbs.; oil meal, 2 lbs. This ration contains 27.59 lbs. dry matter, 2.82 lbs. digestible protein, 13.37 lbs. digestible carbohydrates and 7.1 lbs. digestible fats, thus being somewhat under the Wolff-Lehman standard in dry matter and in digestible protein, which is desirable, since American investigations rather preponderate in evidence that in these two respects the German standard is high.

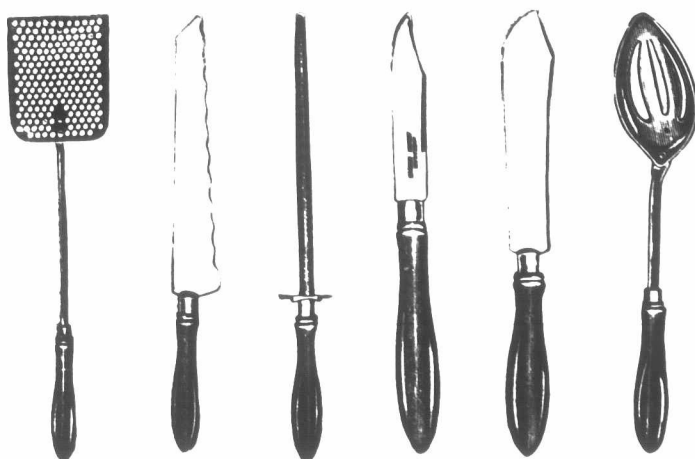
A balanced ration has to be worked out for every cow the individual is an important factor and while we submit this as a working basis, we would strongly urge a study of the effects accomplished by it. It may be advantageous to reduce the oats and increase the bran or oil meal in this ration, thus making a leaner ration without materially affecting the bulk. On the other hand, some cows may demand a ration with more carbohydrates, in which case barley might be used advantageously.

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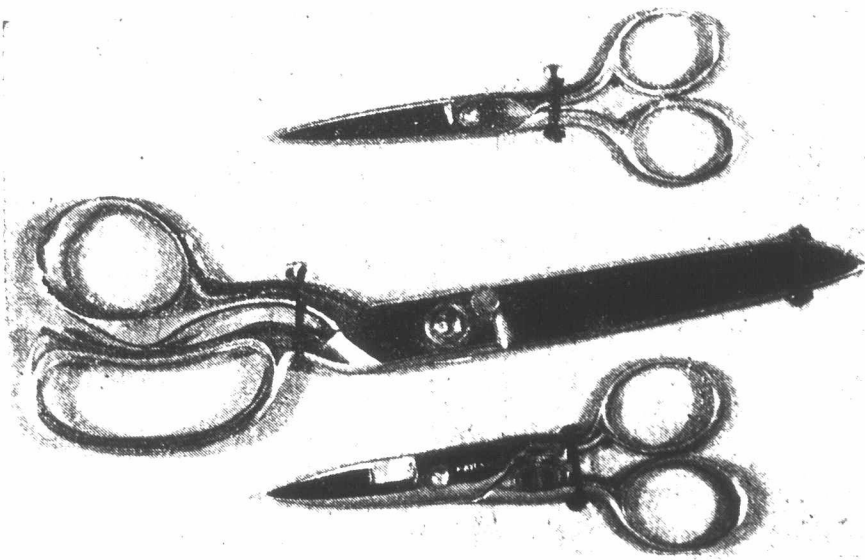
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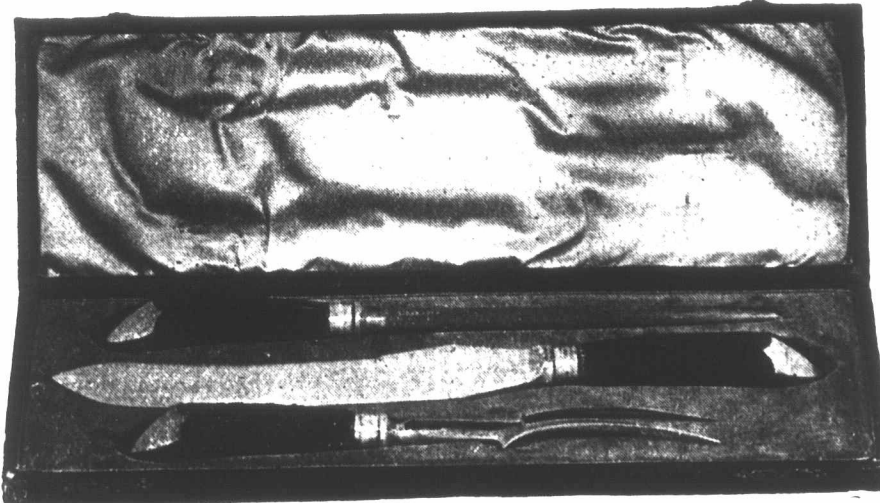
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