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Questions and Answers

Miscellaneous.

Condition Powders.

Give prescription for condition powders for horses. S. T. K.

Ans.—Equal parts by weight of powdered sulphate of iron, gentian, ginger, nux vomica, and bicarbonate of soda. Dose, tablespoonful three times daily. V

Sequel to Distemper.

Horse nine years old had distemper in November and December. Is all right now and doing fairly well. When drinking, water comes out of nostrils. Will this come all right when the weather gets warmer? J. H. C.

Ans.—He will likely be all right.

Barn Building.

About a year ago I saw in one of my farm papers a description of a barn, the roof being half-circular, and the rafters were constructed by nailing thin strips of elm together after bending them around a circular form, breaking joints, of course, with each ply. It was claimed for this construction that the roof was self-supporting, and that far less bracing was required than in the plank-frame style.

1. Was this style of barn described in "The Farmer's Advocate"?
2. Can you tell us how to brace this frame to give sufficient strength and to keep all plumb?
3. What size stuff should be used for braces?
4. Which would be the better way to make the rafters, long enough to frame right into the sills, or to join them to a plate up fifteen feet above the sills?
5. Would five-foot centers be close enough for rafters if 2 x 4 ribs were used?
6. What size should the rafters be?
7. Would drawn ash be better than elm for sills? We have abundance of ash and elm of good quality.
8. Am sending rough plan of barn for your criticism? C. C. H.

Ans.—1. Round-roofed barns have been described in this paper, but we do not think this particular one was.

2. In order to insure strength in a round-roofed barn frame, it is necessary to introduce a brace set similar to those in a plank-frame, where the long, inclining purlin post planks run from the foot of the side post to a point about midway between the wall plate and the ridge of the roof. A knee brace runs from the floor up, and is secured to this member at a height of 12-14 feet. The foot of this brace is secured to the cross sills, out from the side post about 5 ft. 7 in. Another easy and very effective means of gaining stability in this style of barn would be to buy a set of steel trusses and bolt these to the side posts and up to the circle at a point about half-way to the ridge of the roof. On no account use the arches without some secure support.

3. If you use wood, secure 2 x 10 in. material of a suitable length, and use three thicknesses of this at each arch, which should not be over 16 feet in centers.

4. I would advise the framing of the post and roof arches all in one piece. Secure the braces in proper position as well, and then hoist the whole thing into position.

5. Set the posts and arches 12-16 ft. centers, and span between them with 2 x 6 in. purlins set edgewise. Make arches 6 x 10 in. on a 10 ft. span, and support as above outlined.

6. Use no rafters; substitute purlins running from arch to arch, 2 x 6 in. set on edge.

7. Use good hemlock for sills.

8. Your barn plan looks as though it will be a fine one to erect, and suitable for work and use. Your supply sufficient to build and erect? You will find that I have no objection to your plan. I have heard of many such barns, and I have seen many of them. I would like to see your plan, and I would like to see your barn. I would like to see your plan, and I would like to see your barn. I would like to see your plan, and I would like to see your barn.

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