

SCRUB MARES FROM THE WESTERN RANGES

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Having noticed a good many letters in the columns of your paper on licensing of stallions, I thought I would give you my opinion. If this act had been passed fifteen or twenty years ago, it would have been all right, as at that time the country was full of scrub stallions. To-day the country is full of the very best of stallions, the trouble being there are not enough mares for them all to do a good business. I think the scrub stallion of to-day is nothing more than the best of stallions that have been aged and blemished from work, and are standing in stables at small fees. A farmer will use these horses, as he is generally sure of a good colt.

The greatest trouble of our country at the present time is the importing of Western range horses. I have known of fifteen or twenty carloads of these horses shipped into the County of Huron and Bruce this last two or three years, and sold by auction in every town to the farmers for small prices. The greater percentage of them are mares, as they sell better, and the owner starts breeding them to our best stallions. The owner of the stallion never refuses to use his horse with one of these mares, as he is always sure of leaving a colt, and that is all he cares about.

Now, if those men who are so anxious for the welfare of the horse industry of our country would encourage the importer who is bringing over from Scotland young mares for breeding purposes, and take means to prohibit the importation of these miserable ill-bred mongrels from the Western ranches, our country would soon have nothing but the best of horses.

Bruce Co., Ont.

ALBERT SALMON.

LIVE STOCK.

ANALYSIS OF "BEET-ROOT FEED."

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Your correspondent's enquiry regarding the relative value of the Wallaceburg "beet-root feed" and bran and shorts may be answered by placing side by side the protein and fat contents of these feeds. The analysis of the beet-root feed was made two weeks ago in the Experimental Farms laboratories; the figures for the bran and shorts are averages I obtained some two years ago from the examination of a large number of samples from Canadian mills:

	ANALYSIS.		
	Moisture.	Protein.	Fat.
Beet-root feed	4.89	9.48	1.39
Bran	11.07	14.52	4.37
Shorts	10.34	15.93	5.24

In the report of the Chemical Division of the Experimental Farms for 1903, the writer said that dried pulp (beet-root feed) has a distinct feeding value, and would constitute a wholesome addition to the ration when roots or ensilage are scarce; that it is, no doubt, highly digestible and palatable, but that it is not in the same class as the various meals and concentrated feedstuffs.

Assuming that the protein and fat in beet-root feed are entirely digestible—which I am not at all sure is permissible, for the drying of the pulp may, to a certain extent, have impaired its digestibility—how will it compare with bran and shorts? The following data will show:

Feed.	Digestible nutrients in 100 lbs.	
	Protein.	Fat.
Beet-root feed.....	9.48	1.39
Bran *	12.9	3.4
Shorts *	12.8	3.8

* Quoted from American sources.

It is unnecessary, I am sure, to submit further proof that the statement (if it has been made) that beet-root feed is the equal or superior of bran or shorts, is, to put it mildly, incorrect.

FRANK T. SHUTT.

Chemist, Dominion Experimental Farms.

HINT TO HOG FEEDERS.

In a letter to the Ontario Superintendent of Institutes, Mr. W. C. Shearer, who attended a series of meetings in the western part of Ontario, makes the following comment:

"I am highly pleased with the Institute work this winter. The farmers are quite enthusiastic over the two past prosperous seasons, and they hope to have another just as good; but still there is room for much improvement both in the breeds, breeding and feeding of their hogs, in both Kent and Essex. I trust we have stirred them up to begin to study the importance of providing better shelter and accommodation to winter their hogs, and also to see that a proper mixture of grain, to be ground before feeding, would almost double their profits. We pointed out to them that growing some oats and flax together, and mixing with their cheap corn, would produce much better results than their present wasteful system of feeding (corn on the cob) at all seasons and to all sizes of pigs, running

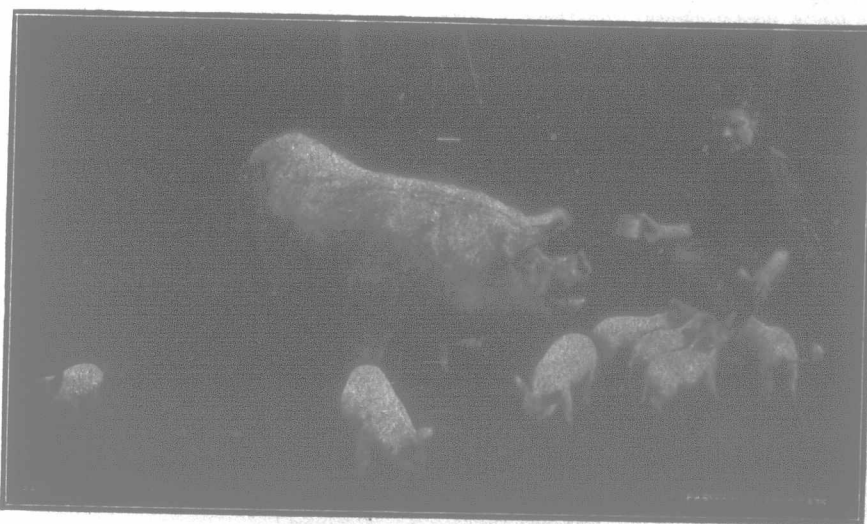
together in the barnyard. We also advised the growing and feeding of a good daily ration of mangels or sugar beets, especially during winter."

THE CHAMPION OF BEEF BREEDS.

By F. J. Collyer, Welwyn, Sask.

The Aberdeen-Angus breed of cattle is derived from the ancient Polled cattle of Angus and Buchan, and has been known for upwards of a century as an easily-fed, deep-fleshed producer of beef. Although selection has been made and their good points accentuated for some years by the Watsons, Bowie, McCombie, Fullerton, Sir George Macpherson Grant and others, it was not until 1878, when Mr. McCombie, Sir George Macpherson Grant and Mr. Bruce sent 16 head to the International Exhibition in Paris, that their valuable qualities were brought to the notice of the world at large. At this show, both the prize for the "best group of foreign cattle" and that for the "best beef-producing animals" were awarded to this breed.

Shortly after that event the "Polled Cattle Society" was incorporated and the popularity of



Supplementary Supplies.

"By the great horn spoon."

the breed vastly increased, herds being founded in England and Ireland—now in excess of 120 and 70, respectively. In Ireland the influence of this breed has been shown to a marked degree, and authorities state that the effacement of the big, raw, bony store cattle sent over to England some few years ago has been largely due to the use of Angus bulls.

In 1880 the renowned herd of Mr. Clement Stephenson, Newcastle-on-Tyne, was founded, and to that gentleman a great debt of gratitude is undoubtedly due from Aberdeen-Angus breeders for the manner in which he has brought out his cattle at the shows, winning, as he has, the sweepstakes at Smithfield on several occasions.

In 1876 the breed was introduced into Canada by Professor Brown, of the Guelph Agricultural College, and further importations were made during succeeding years by Messrs. Cochrane, Pope and Geary, but it is to the south of the boundary line, among our American cousins, that the breeding of Angus and the use of Angus bulls for crossing of Shorthorns and Herefords, has resulted in so many show-yard victories.

Since their first appearance in an American ring, in 1883, when Messrs. Geary exhibited the three-year-old Scotch-bred steer, "Black Prince," in Kansas City and Chicago—he weighed 2,300 pounds, by the way—these cattle have steadily improved their reputation, until, during the seven years in which the Chicago International has been in existence, their winnings of the very highest honors have been regarded as almost a matter of course.

At this show three grand championships are given in the cattle classes annually, viz., for steers, carloads and carcasses, making 21 in all for seven years. Of these, 14 have been won by Angus and their crosses, 6 by Herefords, and 1 by Shorthorns.

In the sale of carload lots, their position is yet more pronounced, as, with the exception of, I think, 1903, the highest-priced carload for 18 years on the American market has consisted of Angus grades.

In the Old Country show-rings the breed has more than held its own, its representatives—purebred and crosses—having won the Champion Plate 13 times in the last 27 years at Smithfield, and similar honors have come to it at most of the prominent shows.

When it comes to the block, it is found that the proportion of offal is surprisingly low, Mr. Stephenson's heifer, "Luxury," in 1885, giving the remarkable return of 76.5 per cent. of dressed meat, and this year at Chicago the champion carcass of the show was the Aberdeen-Angus steer, "Exilo," exhibited by Chas. J. Off, which dressed 69.5 per cent.

LET A FARMER KEEP ONE DOG UNTAXED.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I think every farmer occupying fifty or more acres of land should be allowed to keep one dog free of charge. Let all others be taxed two dollars each, this to form a fund for the purpose of paying a reward of, say, ten dollars, to any person shooting or otherwise killing any dog—other than his own—found chasing or worrying sheep. It should also be lawful to shoot any rambling dog found unattended on any farm where sheep are kept. As at present, let the owner of any dog known to have chased or worried sheep, on proof of same before the municipal council, be notified by the clerk to have the dog killed forthwith, under a penalty for every day that he neglects to obey the said order.

As the law stands at present, many dogs of doubtful reputation are allowed to run at large, their owners well knowing that the municipality and not themselves will be called on to pay for whatever damage they may do.

Again, the fact that the municipality is compelled to bear the greater part of the loss, will, to a certain extent, discourage that oversight and watchful care which sheep owners should always exercise over their flock.

Let the owner of the dog doing the damage be alone responsible for the damage done. As the law stands, most people prefer to accept from the council two-thirds of the loss sustained rather than take the trouble to ascertain by whose dog it was done, and, as Mr. Jackson has already observed, many now obtain full compensation by over-estimating the damage done. At present, many who have no real use for a dog, still persist in keeping one or more useless mongrel curs, which are, as a rule, the class most addicted to sheep-killing, and, besides this, are often a menace to the travelling public. If a heavy tax

were imposed on them, the country would soon be rid of these rambling, wolfish brutes, which, as your correspondent, Mr. Holdsworth, put it, "are not worth the powder it would take to blow them out of existence."

Middlesex Co., Ont.

J. MILLIKEN.

WATERING STOCK.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

You have asked your readers to tell how they water their stock, and while my method has its drawbacks, I would hesitate some time before I would exchange it for the more expensive methods of basins, tanks, etc. I will give it to you for what it is worth.

The cattle drink from a v-shaped trough running along in the bottom of their mangers. The water is pumped into one end of this trough, which slopes about one inch in fifty feet to the other end, where a waste pipe carries off what is not used each day. A plug at the opening to the waste pipe keeps in the water until the cattle are through drinking, and when this is removed the trough drains dry. The water is brought to the pump by a pipe from the house well, some 100 feet away. The pump is so placed that a leader from it supplies the horse trough and box stalls.

The first advantage is cheapness. The whole system cost about \$25 to instal, and has in ten years cost 75 cents for repairs. Against this an agent offered to instal windmill, tank and basins for a total cost of \$500. The interest on \$475 would pay for a lot of pumping, while the more expensive plant would scarcely run for ten years on 75 cents repairs.

The trouble of sweeping out the trough daily, a five-minute job, is repaid by having a clean manger in which to put roots and other feed. In my simple system there is no freezing, while I cannot conceive of the more elaborate pipe and basin system passing one of our cold winters without more or less bursting and plumbing.

Again, the cattle drink water at 40 deg. better than the ice-cold water of streams and outdoor troughs. The pipe and basin system would be idle during the summer, since my stock drink at the brook in the pasture all summer. As an improvement on this system, I intend during the next summer to have the water for both house and barn brought by quantity from springs on a neighboring hill, as I think now I will not change barn conditions, except that there will be no more pumping. I am probably old-fashioned, but I am deeply in love with simplicity, and of necessity a close friend of economy. R. J. MESSENGER.