

is fed, may all be the causes, as well as improper milk, such as milk from a cow with mammitis, or from a cow giving milk too rich in fat, or fat of an indigestible character. Sometimes food of an improper character, or medicines given to the mother, may affect her milk and render it indigestible, or even undue excitement or fatigue may influence the lacteal secretion.

These various causes may lead to the development of bacteria in the digestive canal of the calf that are not of themselves injurious in small numbers, or that have no influence on older cattle, which result in indigestion, bloating, and diarrhoea.

Treatment of sporadic diarrhoea if adopted early is usually satisfactory. In the first place, try to avoid the disease by feeding regularly at not too great intervals, taking care not to overfeed, to furnish proper food under cleanly conditions. These precautions are usually sufficient to prevent the appearance of the malady.

If a calf should develop sporadic diarrhoea, curative treatment has every chance of succeeding if undertaken in time.

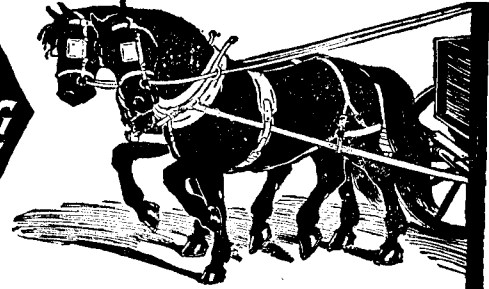
Simple treatment if adopted early is sufficient; reduce the quantity of food, scald the milk, and add lime water to it, also a little bicarbonate of soda. A teaspoonful of powdered cinnamon and a teaspoonful of powdered ginger in the food is excellent, in addition to the lime-water and bicarbonate of soda. If the calf has been used to having calf meal in its food, a small quantity of this will sufficiently disguise the taste of the cinnamon and ginger so that they will be readily taken if the little animal has not gone completely off its feed. If diarrhoea is due to milk too rich in fat, skin milk or milk from another cow may be substituted.

In disturbances of the digestive organs it is often advisable to give a mild purgative at the outset of the disease in order to quickly remove any irritating or indigestible material that may be making trouble. For this purpose, two or three ounces of castor oil will prove effective, or a small dose of either Glauber's or epsom salts.

In more severe attacks, where there is loss of appetite, it may be necessary to bottle medicine into the calf; in such cases, more powerful drugs may have to be employed, such as laudanum, ten to twelve drops in a little rice water two or three times a day, of subnitrate of bismuth, in doses of twenty to thirty grains two or three times daily. In some cases intestinal antiseptic such as sabol or caliclylate of soda will prove useful. In cases where the calf is very weak it may be necessary to keep up its strength by means of stimulants; for this purpose brandy is one of the best, given in small doses of from one-fourth to one-half ounce in a little warm water every three or four hours.

If there is much tympany in a sudden attack of acute indigestion, two or three teaspoonfuls of aromatic spirits of ammonia in three or four ounces of water will relieve the bloat, and is an excellent stimulant. This should be given in cool water; if given in warm water the ammonia starts to evaporate and causes the calf to gag, in which case the medicine might go the wrong way, enter the windpipe, and produce mechanical pneumonia. In fact, in giving bulky medicines of any kind to animals, they should be administered very slowly and carefully in order to avoid this accident.

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