

and that branch of animal husbandry is developing. No export business, however, in meat or meat products has yet been attempted, for in this regard the country is not yet self-sustaining. Nevertheless, Dr. Tanimura left the impression that their pure-breds were similar in type and conformation to the corresponding breeds in North America and that progress is being made.

Intensive farming is the rule and farms of ten to twenty-five acres are common. One-hundred-acre farms exist in plenty and many holdings include a thousand acres or more. Japan is a nation of farmers, he said. Even the merchants own farms and all are producers more or less. Every man, physically fit, during three years of his life is a soldier, and wars are conducted by the Government with a standing army without affecting industrial or national life to any great extent. In Japan it is an honor to be a soldier and the obligation is seldom evaded.

Cereal and forage crops in the Japanese Kingdom are similar to those produced here and the yields compare very favorably.

Dr. Tanimura spoke highly of Canadian institutions, and particularly so of the Ontario Agricultural College. He placed considerable emphasis on the practical in all educational training, and said there are men in his country who hold doctor's degrees, but are worthless, simply because they excel in the theoretical and scientific but are not practical.

When asked for any suggestion in regard to Canada, Dr. Tanimura said: "You have a great country here but you do not make it known abroad. We have been getting good flour from this continent but we have been led to believe that the wheat was grown in the United States, when in fact it was Canadian grown. So it is with your sheep. We have long thought that Canadian breeders got their good sheep from the United States, but I find the reverse is true." The Commissioner expressed the opinion that Canada would profit by making the quality of her live stock and farm products known in his country where a demand is sure to exist.

Summer Meat Supply at Cost Price.

Will you publish a chart showing how a carcass of beef is divided in a sixteen and twenty-share beef-ring and also state how a beef-ring is started

Middlesex Co., Ont.

J. B.

Ans—In many rural districts an organization known as the beef-ring has helped to solve the summer meat supply problem. When a person is situated near a village or town it is quite easy to get a roast of beef occasionally, but it is an entirely different proposition when the farms are located a number of miles from a centre. True, before a beef-ring was thought of the farmer and his family had a regular supply of meat during the summer months, but it was largely meat which had been put in brine or pickle the previous winter. Once a beef-ring is started the members seldom drop out of the organization, as they realize it is one of the best means of securing fresh meat of high quality at cost price. The beef-ring is an association of farmers; there may be sixteen, twenty or twenty-four members. However twenty is the usual number. A twenty-share ring if started the last week in May, or first week in June, will run on fairly late in the fall and supply beef for threshing and silo-filling. With a sixteen-share ring, meat would be supplied for sixteen weeks, or through the months of June, July, August and September.

If it is thought advisable to organize a beef ring, it is necessary for someone to call a meeting to talk the matter over and to appoint officers. Besides a president, secretary-treasurer and directors, it is advisable to have an inspector whose duties it will be to inspect the live animal as well as the dressed carcass. It is usually possible to secure a competent person among the members to do the butchering and cut up the meat. A slaughter house will be needed and such equipment as windlass, ropes, scales, knives and saws is necessary. It is customary for the members to subscribe a certain sum to defray the expenses of purchasing the necessary equipment.

In many beef-rings the members agree to furnish a two-year-old animal that will dress about 400 pounds; in this way only choice beef is supplied the members. A certain day should be set for butchering and the animal for the week should be delivered at the slaughter house at least twenty-four hours before the time of slaughtering. The duty of the butcher is to dress the carcass, weigh it, cut it into the required number of pieces and keep the slaughter house in a sanitary condition. It is customary for each member to pay for having his animal killed.

With an animal dressing 400 pounds, each member should get twenty pounds of meat, but as the weights of the animals vary it is rather difficult to proportion out the meat exactly; consequently, some members may get a few pounds under and some a few pounds over the twenty pounds on certain occasions. However, it balances up fairly well by the end of the season.

The accompanying illustrations show fairly clearly how a carcass is divided for both a twenty and a sixteen-share ring. Each member is supposed to receive a different cut every week, so that by the end of the year he has a covered at least one piece of every part of the carcass. In Figure No. 1 the numbers one to ten indicate roasts, while numbers 11, 13, 19, 16, 17, 18, 15, 12, 20 and 14 represent beef pieces. Each member will also receive a piece of steak. The illustration shows one side of the carcass, and the other side would be cut in a similar manner.

The carcass is divided about the same for a sixteen-share ring, as shown by Figure 2. For convenience in handling, divide the half carcass in the middle before letting it down, by cutting across at A, between rows 4 and 5 leaving two ribs on the hind quarter. The fore-quarter is then divided at line B. Numbers 1, 2 and 3 represent roasts, and three joints are left on each; number 4 is a roast with four joints; number 11 represents the front shank and number 14 is the second rib cut and is cut off leaving five ribs to it. Number 13 is the first rib cut, to which is left four ribs; Number 10 indicates the brisket. The hind quarter is divided at line D, and numbers 6, 7 and 8 represent sirloin; rump No. 2 and rump No. 1, respectively, and should be divided at as nearly the same

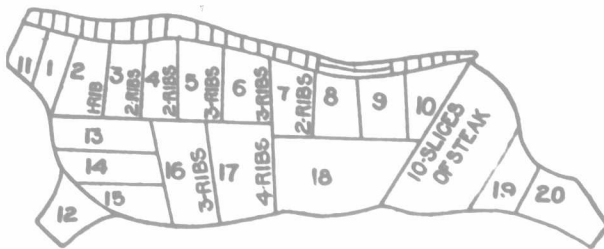


Fig. 1—Chart for 20-share beef ring.

weight as possible. Number 17 represents steak, which is generally cut into slices so that each member will secure a part. It may take a little time for a new butcher to get on to the way of dividing a carcass for the members, but with a little practice the average man would soon become quite proficient and would find that he could finish up the work easily in a forenoon.

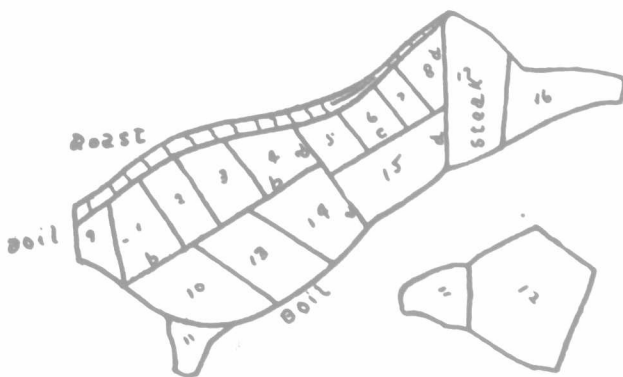


Fig. 2—Chart for 16-share beef ring.

There may be some who do not care to procure their meat through the beef-ring; however, it is doubtful if there is any more satisfactory method of securing a weekly supply of fresh meat, as it permits of each member getting meat of choice quality at cost price.

Give the Lambs a Little Extra Feed.

The present high prices for mutton and wool have had the effect of stimulating an interest in sheep raising. Those who always have kept a few head have increased their flocks, and many who never kept sheep have recently made a start in sheep raising. The double revenue and the small amount of labor required in looking after the flock for the greater portion of the year appeals to many. Then, too, there is urgent need for the products of wool and meat. While sheep will look after themselves pretty well, they require special attention at lambing time and when the lambs are developing. Good sheep can-



A Growthy Bunch of Lambs.

not be raised from lambs that become stunted from lack of care and feed. All dams do not supply sufficient milk to properly nourish their young, consequently the lambs suffer. The large flock owners usually construct a "creep" in the pen or field so that the lambs may be fed separately from the ewes. The lambs should be fed so that they will retain their baby fat as long as possible. It is an easy matter to separate off a corner of the pen and place such feeds as oats, bran, oil meal, or corn meal in a small trough that the lambs can reach. This should be done if there were only a dozen ewes with lambs in the flock. If the large flock owner finds this practice beneficial and profitable, it should bring results to the owner of a small flock. After the flock is turned on pasture it is a good practice to feed a little grain in order that the lambs may make the largest possible gains.

Sheep Raising and its Place in Nova Scotia.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

During these war times the price of beef, pork, mutton and poultry has risen to twice their normal price, and much has been said about the scarcity and high prices of wheat, potatoes and other eatables as well as feeds for all live stock.

In nearly every paper we read of the need of greater production of grain and meat. We have only to look up the figures indicating the decrease of all live stock throughout the world, since the beginning of the war, to show us that greater production is absolutely necessary. Between the years 1881 and 1901 the number of cattle, horses and swine increased in number 30 to 50 per cent. in Canada; but, during this time the number of sheep fell off from 3,048,678 head to 2,510,239 head. It was thought that after this the number of sheep would increase, but while statistics show an increase of 21 per cent. in the population, we find an actual decrease in the number of sheep. What is the reason of this great decrease? There are many reasons advanced by the farmer why he has not and will not go into the sheep-raising enterprise a little more fully. Some of these are: 1, Sheep are too difficult to fence; 2, they are hard on pasture; 3, other live stock is preferred; 4, the dog nuisance.

All these difficulties can be overcome by the ordinary farmer with reasonable care and work, except the dog nuisance; which has to be dealt with by those who have the power to make the laws of our country. The dog nuisance is the greatest menace to the sheep industry that exists, and is almost wholly the cause for the decreasing numbers. That there are large numbers of sheep killed every year in Nova Scotia every one knows. That many farmers have given up raising sheep and others have refused to go into the business cannot be denied. That there cannot be something done to protect the sheep industry and control the pestiferous cur is absurd.

There can be something done. The dog law which is in force at the present time serves only to get a man into trouble with his neighbors. When we think of the number of worthless dogs which are kept in the towns and country, one often wonders why there is not more damage done. One of the best things the Government of this province could do, would be to exact a straight tax of not less than \$4 from the owner of any male dog over six months old, and a tax of \$8 for every female over six months old. This would eradicate the majority of worthless curs that are kept for trivial purposes.

In the present law there is no way of getting at the owner of land adjoining your farm, or any person living on land or roads which run back from the main road and pass your farm. There should be an amendment which will give a person a lawful hold over these persons as well as over others.

When the Government puts the human race on rations, and talks of taking all the oats away from horses kept for pleasure; it is high time for them to spend a little more time and money in thinking out a plan to relieve the sheep farmer of the dog difficulty.

The food controllers have a good opportunity to do something in the way of conservation along this line. If the quantities of food daily consumed by dogs were used in the production of pork, the benefit thereby derived would greatly aid in meeting the demand for such production. It is a serious mistake to let any such thing as a worthless dog keep a farmer out of the profits which he so justly deserves. Not only that but, Nova Scotia having over a million acres of pasture, most of which is especially adapted to sheep raising, should greatly help the needs of our country both in producing food and wool. These rugged, rolling hills which are clothed with short, nutritious grass and white clover, with adjacent uplands ready to produce rape, turnips and hay for fall and winter feeding, make an ideal place for raising sheep.

When help is as scarce as it is now, farmers should be encouraged more and more to go into the sheep industry to a greater extent, because they return more money for capital invested and amount of care and labor expended than any other live stock on the farm.

Furthermore, by raising sheep, they will be helping to produce wool, of which so much is needed at the present time. But what encouragement is there for a farmer to raise sheep when there are so many dogs waiting for the profits? When the right kind of law is enforced I feel sure that many who are now on the fence, so to speak, concerning this question, will join heartily with those who are now struggling along and will help make Nova Scotia all that it should be in the way of a sheep-raising country.

Halifax Co., N. S.

L. McK. OGILVIE.

Don't use twine for tying up the fleeces. While it may be the handiest it is by no means the best material to use, and it tends to injure the value of the wool.

On Ma
dispersion
choice offer
mary, Miss
Crimson Fl
at foot, and
Signet and
While the p
a number o
dividuality
ideal day fo
tendance.
Village Ma
at \$800. Hi
The average
Vesey Choic
was purchas
consideratio
\$600 for C
brought \$40
mals sold, to
purchasers:

Winsome Co
Bonnie Signe
Vesey Choic
Roan Signet
Lexith Gem,
Gladys May
Vesey Choic
Vesey Choic
Red Pearllet
Carolina 2nd
Belle, F. Col
Roan Girl, G
Broadhook's
Auburn Maid
Lily, with cal
Constance M
Lady White,
Bonnie Glad
Collynie Jane
Lady Lavend
Jenet 7th and
Princess of Bl
Princess Roya
Miss Lavende
Corelli Bands
Miss Corday,
Corelli 4th, F
Rosalie 3rd, J
Miss Ramsder
Corelli 3rd, D
Collynie Rose
Rosemary 122
Silver Creek E
Moss Rose, J.
Vacuna's Prin
Nonpareil Bell
King's Lily, H
Crimson Rose,
Duchess of C
Creditor.
Red Duchess c
bus.
Jilt's Delight,
Jilt's Maid, D.
Princess Victo
Vesey Viola, R
Corelli Beauty
Red Blossom, J
Lily Royal, A.
Princess Queen
Rosalie 2nd, A

Knickerbocke
Huron's Pride,
Huron Delight,
Regal Gem, A.