

Questions & Answers

RAISING GEES

Could you tell me or could you find out from geese breeders if goslings obtain three-quarters of their living on the ordinary prairie grass and does the same grass maintain the old birds till housed for the winter? I have a nice water hole and some rough land around it, and thought of putting four geese on it in a house and perhaps raise fifty goslings or more in the season.

Sask. Scott.
Geese are great grazers. Grass or weeds, when such are to be had, form the greater part of their food. Given a dry place to sleep in they will live and thrive on low, marshy ground, suitable only for water fowl. Given upland pasturage, they thrive equally as well. In fact, sloughs or water holes are not required in geese raising.

It depends on what the goslings are being raised for, and the kind of pasture they have whether they will derive three-quarters of their living from prairie grass. If you were raising them for an early market they would require to be fed very much as early ducks. With good pasture less grain feed would do. If you are going to raise goslings to sell in the late fall, they would need very little grain after the first week or two, providing the pasture was good. As a rule, and if one is so situated that the goslings can be readily marketed, it pays best to market them when around ten weeks of age. Goslings of large breeds should weigh nine pounds at that age.

Breeding geese in summer do not require much of anything but grass. In winter they have to be fed. They require clean, dry quarters, but the house need not be warm.

SICK TURKEY

Lately I have noticed a disease among my turkeys. It appears to begin with a lump at the eye, and gradually swells till the eye is entirely closed, and in a few days they die. Would you kindly advise me what the cause of this is, and how it may be overcome?—M. J. H.

Ans.—The one symptom given is not enough on which to diagnose the disease. Swelling of the head about the eye is a symptom of roup. However, the leading symptoms of this disease are discharges from the nostrils, a crackling sound when the fowl breathes and a peculiar offensive odor about the head and from the discharges.

Doctoring turkeys is seldom advisable. It rarely pays. In this case would advise that affected birds be separated from the rest of the flock, and the healthy birds placed in entirely new quarters, since it is very evident the disease is contagious. If you could give more information as to appearance of the disease, the appearance of the fowls and internal organs we might be able to diagnose the disorder.

PRACTICING VETERINARY MEDICINE IN ALBERTA

1. Is the degree in veterinary science granted by the Ontario Veterinary Correspondence School legal in Alberta? Can a man practice veterinary surgery under it and style himself a veterinary surgeon?

2. Is the degree of the Detroit Veterinary Dental College (Incorporated), Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A., (also I believe a correspondence college) legal, and can a man practice veterinary dentistry under it in Alberta and style himself doctor of veterinary dentistry or put D.V.D. after his name?

3. If not, what steps can be legally taken to prevent a man so doing?

4. Is there any other properly authorized veterinary college or colleges in Canada than the Ontario Veterinary College, Toronto?—R. B.

Ans.—Graduates of any veterinary school or college who shall pass the examinations prescribed by the council of the Veterinary Association of Alberta, may register under the provisions of the Alberta Veterinary Act, shall be entitled "Veterinary Surgeon," and shall be entitled to practice as such. The degree conferred by the Ontario Correspondence School does not entitle a man to practice veterinary medicine

in Alberta, nor to style himself a veterinary surgeon.

2. The degrees of this college are not recognized in Alberta. Anyone other than those registered as above required appending to his name anything that might be calculated to lead people to infer that he was recognized by law as a veterinary surgeon, or doctor of veterinary dentistry, is liable to a fine of not less than twenty dollars and costs.

3. The steps would probably be taken by the Alberta Veterinary Association. They would charge the man with practicing veterinary medicine without having complied with the requirements of the Veterinary Act.

4. There is a veterinary department in connection with Laval University, Montreal. The Ontario Veterinary College, Toronto, stands in the front rank of institutions on this continent teaching veterinary science.

SUMMER SORES, BOILS AND PIMPLES

Some of my horses have sore necks accompanied by small boils on the surface, and very hard to heal. Is this caused by chafing alone, or is it aggravated by impurity of the blood? Could you also give me a cure for the trouble?—H. J. B.

Ans.—During the summer months horses are very liable to breakout in pimples or boils under the harness, particularly on the neck. The condition is aggravated by the friction of the collar, sweat and dirt. The parts should be well washed or scrubbed every evening with a two per cent. solution of creolin and castile soap. When dried off, apply the following lotion freely, and as often as possible: Powdered sugar of lead, 1 ounce; sulphate of zinc, 6 drams. Dissolve in a quart of boiled soft water. The water should be boiled and allowed to cool. Wash the collar after each time it is on. In many cases it is necessary to administer a purgative ball to remove effete material from the system. The horse should be prepared for the physic by being fed on bran mash for twelve hours, then a ball is administered consisting of from 8 to 10 drams of powdered barbaodes aloes, 1 dram of powdered ginger, with soft soap enough to combine the ingredients. Continue the bran mashes—no hay or grain—until purgation commences, then give one-half his usual allowance of hay and grain, gradually increasing the amount as purging ceases. If the pimples have not by this time disappeared give tablespoonful doses, three times a day, of Fowler's Solution of Arsenic in the drinking water.

CHRONIC CYSTITIS—INFLAMMATION OF BLADDER

Eight-year-old mare with foal at side is not able to stand a day's work. She seems to get weak with about three hours' work, and when I bring her in acts as though she had colic, but I find after a few hours' rest is all right again. She very seldom passes water while at work, but as soon as she is in the stable passes water two or three times in a little while; water is milky colored. She eats a great deal of hay and drinks a good deal of water. She is in fair working shape, but I have not worked her very hard since spring; in fact, not much more than good exercise. I think the trouble is in the back from the way she lays stretched out flat when she gets these bad spells. The mare is in foal.—J. L. C.

Ans.—This mare should be unhitched from the vehicle or machine at least once during the morning or afternoon, at about half time. Some straw or other litter should then be shaken under and behind her, when she will probably void her urine. She has at some time carried her urine too long, the bladder having thereby become over-distended, has resulted in a weakness of that organ, which when it becomes only normally full causes shock and pain, hence she must be given an opportunity to relieve herself often. It is on account of the over-stretched muscular fibres in the walls of the bladder that the urine is passed several times before the bladder is completely emptied. Give her half-ounce doses of the fluid extract of hydrastis canadensis in a little cold water as a drench, three times a day for two weeks, or longer if necessary.

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