

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.**  
Veterinary.

**BONE SPAVIN.**

Horse has a jack spavin coming on. What is the best treatment? He is not much lame yet, only on the start, and only about two steps then. J. D. H.  
 Ans.—Before treating it would be just as well to make sure of your diagnosis, by applying the spavin test. Flex the hock lightly by lifting the limb up and holding it close to the body for a few minutes. Then let the foot down and trot the animal off smartly. If the lameness is due to spavin it will be much more pronounced after giving this test. The best treatment for bone or "jack" spavin is to fire and blister. Have it done by a competent veterinarian.

**TUBERCULAR FIG.**

I killed a pig, and found its liver about twice the normal size, and full of nodules which contained a yellowish fluid. My veterinarian told me it was tubercular, and the flesh was not fit for use. I burned the carcass.

1. Was my veterinarian correct?
  2. Is it contagious?
  3. Would the other pigs in the same pen be liable to contract the disease?
  4. How can a person tell when a pig is taking it?
  5. Is there any cure? J. V. B.
- Ans.—1. Your veterinarian was correct. There is no doubt the pig was tubercular, and where there is such extensive disease, the flesh should not be eaten.  
 2. Yes.  
 3. There is a danger, but not nearly so much when the liver is diseased as when the lungs are affected.  
 4. No person can tell, as no symptoms are shown until the disease reaches such a stage as to interfere materially with the functions of the organ involved.  
 5. No. V.

**GOATS LACK GLOSS, ETC.**

I have two black and one brown horse, all used and fed alike. They are fed good hay, oats, bran, carrots and potatoes, all in reasonable quantities. They are all well groomed twice daily, and the coats of the black horses are long and dry, and lack the silky appearance desired; while that of the brown horse is sleek and glossy.

2. How should a warm horse be cared for when brought into the stable?
3. State your method of grooming.
4. Should the hoofs be washed out as soon as the horses are brought in?

H. B. T.

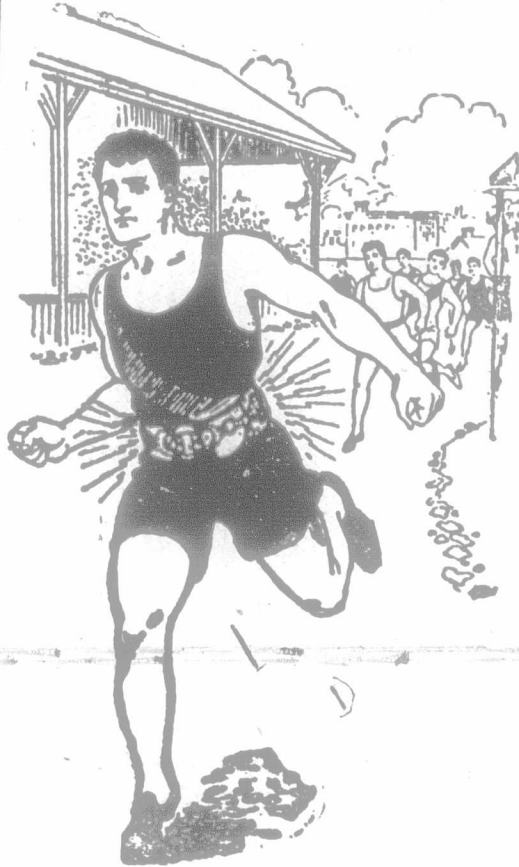
Ans.—1. You have done all that you can do to keep the horses' coats fine. The color of the horse has no influence. It is impossible to keep the coats of some horses short and fine in cold weather. Nature demands a growth of hair so soon as the weather gets cold, and while grooming, blanketing, etc., will arrest this growth in some cases, and tends to do so in all, from reasons we cannot well understand, the results are only relative. The administration of drugs with the idea of improving the coat is not wise, as any drug that has such actions tends to cause fatty degeneration, and injures the animal, and, of course, no treatment can shorten the length of the coats. As it would be unwise to clip your horses this late in the season, you must wait until they shed in the spring to get a short, sleek coat.

2. He should be rubbed with cloths or wisps of straw until he cools off; of course, it takes a long time to rub a long-coated horse dry, but if rubbed for a few minutes and then covered with a warm, dry blanket, he will be comfortable.

3. Proper grooming consists in going thoroughly over the body with a currycomb and brush. The hair should be thoroughly disturbed by rubbing in both directions with the currycomb and then smoothing it down with the brush, after which he should be well rubbed with a cloth (called a rubber). The mane and tail should be brushed with a stiff brush, and the feet cleaned out with a hoof-pick, and, if necessary, washed. If any dressing is used on the hoofs, they should be dry when it is applied.

4. There is no objection to washing the hoofs out as soon as the horses are brought in, and in many cases it is advisable, but the washing should not extend above the hoof; that is, the legs should not be washed. V.

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