

THE HORSE.

Some Common Fall Ailments in Horses.

Change of weather, change of surroundings, change of feed, and change of usage are often responsible for derangement in the health of horses. Swelling of the limbs, commonly called stocking, may occur at any season of the year, in some cases without appreciable cause, but is more common in the fall and early winter when horses, young or old, that have been on grass for a greater or less time are then taken to the stable and spend considerable time in idleness, without exercise. Stocking in such cases is more liable to occur in horses that are freely fed on grain, but is not uncommon in those that receive little or no grain. The condition is due to sluggish circulation in the limbs. The general health of the animal is usually not noticeably interfered with. One or more limbs from the hock or knee to the foot, more often the former, become swollen. There is no lameness, and usually no tenderness to pressure. Exercise, in most cases, dissipates the swelling, but after a few hours of idleness it usually re-appears. This condition is usually noticed in horses that have been in the habit of spending the night on pasture, but is not unknown in horses that have been stabled all the time. In the former cases, regular work or exercise and moderate feeding on feed of a laxative nature will after a time usually result in a cure, but in any case a cure is hastened by treatment. The animal should be fed on bran only for twelve to sixteen hours, then a purgative of six to ten drams of aloes (according to size) and two to three drams of ginger should be given, and nothing but bran fed until purgation commences, after which hay and grain in small quantities should be given until the bowels regain their normal condition. Daily exercise should be given and when the animal is brought to the stable after exercise the limbs should be well hand-rubbed, and bandages applied with slight pressure and left on for a few hours. This tends to keep the limbs warm and stimulates the circulation, but the bandages must not be tight enough to cause pressure if slight swelling should occur. In addition to exercising and bandaging, it is good practice to give a heaped tablespoonful of Epsom salt in his feed two or three times daily until the tendency to stock ceases. A few carrots, or a turnip or mangel, once daily tends to keep the bowels in a healthy condition when no grass can be fed. Pregnant mares, in many cases, appear to be particularly liable to stock. In such cases it is not well to give drastic purgatives. A pint of raw linseed oil may be given as a laxative and the other treatment as above. If the horses are idle, good health can be retained only by seeing that they get daily exercise, either in harness, saddle, on the line, or in a paddock. A horse that stands untied in a roomy box-stall will, in most cases, take sufficient voluntary exercise, hence can stand idleness and high feeding much better than the idle horse that stands tied.

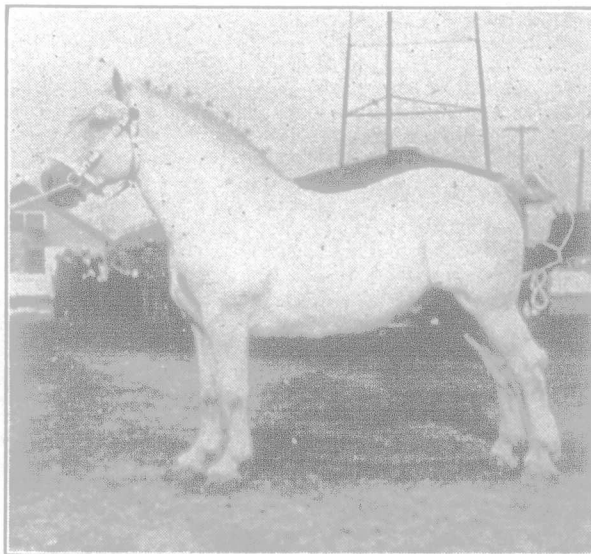
Scratches, or cracked heels, frequently appear. Some horses, especially those of the beefy-legged nature, are particularly predisposed to this trouble, but it occurs in all classes. Stocking is often the exciting cause, but standing in damp stables, frequent wetting of the limbs, and failure to rub them dry and groom properly are often direct exciting causes. In cases where scratches are about to appear the stocking is accompanied by marked increased local heat and tenderness to pressure, and usually by lameness for a few steps when exercise commences. After a variable time the skin becomes very tender, and cracks or eruptions which exude a moisture in greater or less quantities appear, and the general symptoms become more marked. If the exciting causes continue, and treatment be neglected, the case of course, becomes more marked, the cracks become deeper, the exudate more plentiful and often foul-smelling, and lameness more marked and persistent.

Treatment.—Before eruption takes place the treatment advised for stocking, along with care to avoid exciting causes, will usually be sufficient. When crack or exudation of fluid are noticed, in addition to the above treatment the parts must be kept as clean as possible by careful rubbing (do not wash) and dressed three or four times daily with an antiseptic and astringent application. For this purpose, a lotion made of one ounce of acetate of lead, six drams sulphate of zinc and a pint of water is probably the best that can be used in moderate weather. In quite cold weather this dressing has too much of an astringent action and should be alternated with the oxide of zinc ointment, or an oil, as one part carbolic acid to thirty parts raw linseed or sweet oil. This tends to prevent too great astringent and drying action with a tendency for the cracks to re-appear after an apparent recovery. In cases that have become aggravated by neglect of treatment or other causes, it is good practice to apply hot poultices of linseed meal for a few days before using an astringent or ointment. Then, if the cracks refuse to heal, it will be noticed that there generally is what is known as "proud flesh" present. This should be dressed with a caustic, as a little butter of antimony applied with a feather once daily until it disappears, after which continue treatment as above.

Catarrh, or common cold, is often noticed in young or idle horses that have been left on grass until late in the season. While it may appear peculiar, it is a fact that the removal of a horse from exposed and cold quarters to a comfortable stable often causes trouble of this nature. In such cases the patient is noticed to cough more or less; there is at first a slight, watery nasal discharge, which soon becomes thicker, purulent and persistent; the temperature is increased; the appetite impaired; a general

unthriftiness in appearance; the coat dry and staring and in some cases difficulty in swallowing, probably some of the water he drank returning through the nostrils; and in some cases slight stocking, but a careful examination will reveal the fact that there are no alarming symptoms. In most cases good care, laxative feed, and seeing that good ventilation is provided, will effect a cure, but this can be hastened by the administration of one to two drams of nitrate of potassium three times daily. If difficulty in swallowing be marked, the same doses of chlorate of potassium will give better results. If there be a tendency to stock, the legs should be well hand-rubbed and lightly bandaged. Purgatives should be avoided. If constipation be noticed, a little raw linseed oil should be given. In case liquids of any nature are given, on account of the difficulty in swallowing it is dangerous to attempt to drench; hence they should be administered with a two-ounce syringe, with which it can be forced well back in the mouth and, as the patient's head is not being held high, there is practically no danger of any of the liquid gaining entrance to the wind-pipe.

WHIP.



Miroton.

Champion Percheron stallion at the C. N. E., for Hodgkinson & Tisdale.

LIVE STOCK.

Junior Farmers' Judging Competition at Toronto.

The judging competition put on by the Canadian National Exhibition brings together a large number of young men from various parts of the Province to test their judgment at placing live stock, grain, roots, vegetables and fruits, and giving reasons for the same. This year there were 223 competitors from 22 counties. All classes were keenly contested. The judges picked very fair classes for the boys to work on, and in many cases when giving reasons the boys were questioned in order to test their knowledge of the animals they were working on. Many of the competitors showed ability in sizing up the classes and giving reasons for their placings; others were at a loss apparently, and had either not seen the animals in the same light as the judge saw them, or else had forgotten the various points about the animals before giving their reasons orally. This line of work should be encouraged as it offers an inducement to the boys to know live stock and various farm crops, and to be able to give intelligent reasons why they prefer one to another.

Heavy Horses.

Possible score, 200—C. M. Playter, Newmarket, York, 168; Adam Calder, Glanford, Wentworth, 160; W. C. Soldan, Hensall, Huron, 155; Geo. Rogerson, Fergus, Wellington, 143; Earl Jerome, Glanford, Wentworth, 142; L. G. Gardhouse, Weston, York, 136; Clarence W. Marchant, Schomberg, York, 122; A. R. Ferguson, Blackstock, Durham, 120; Jim Fisher, Georgetown, Halton, 119; Harold Cooper, Whitevale, Ontario, 118; S. Lowrie, Acton, Halton, 113; Carson Casier, Welland, Welland, 108; Lorne McLean, Trafalgar, Halton, 100; W. A. Fowler, Hyde Park, Middlesex, 99; M. W. Staples, Orono, Durham, 95; John Petch, Gormley, York, 90.

Total number of entries, 34.

Beef Cattle.

Possible score, 200—F. H. White, Whitevale, York, 189; Stewart A. Brown, Shedden, Elgin, 188; Cecil A. Newton, Egbert, Simcoe, 187; D. J. Lerch, Preston, Waterloo, 186; Burns McCorquodale, Embro, Oxford, 185; Norman Bell, Glanford, Wentworth, 184; Lorne B. Weber, Waterloo, Waterloo, 183; Willie Watson, Galt, Waterloo, 182; C. J. Beattie, Oakville, Halton, 181; Elmer G. Ribey, Paisley, Bruce, 180; W. S. O'Neill, Denfield, Middlesex, 179; Duncan A. Brown, Sheldon, Elgin, 178; Howard Groff, Waterloo, Waterloo, 177; Geo. Toole, Locust Hill, Ontario, 176; W. G. Shaw, Mono Road, Peel, 175; Harold Clark, Smithville, Lincoln, 174.

Total number of entries, 56.

Dairy Cattle.

Possible Score, 200—Stanley White, Toronto, 177; W. A. Hume, Campbellford, Northumberland, 175; Alfred Dickout, Salford, Oxford, 170; R. Bruce Ness,

Howick, Que., 164; Clarence Anderson, Terra Cotta, Peel, 161; Alexander McKinney, Brampton, Peel, 159; Leo Challand, Simcoe, Norfolk, 158; Douglas A. Ness, Howick, Que., 154; W. J. Crysler, Allanburg, Welland, 152; Milton Bird, Georgetown, Halton, 151; Frank R. Petch, Cheltenham, Peel, 150; Roy Thompson, Glanford, Wentworth, 149; P. L. Wilson, Delhi, Norfolk, 147; Frank Stark, Milton, Halton, 144; Max Butcher, Embro, Oxford, 143; Geo. A. Pack, Byron, Middlesex, 141.

Total entries, 59.

Swine.

Possible score, 200—John E. Hurd, Grimsby, Lincoln, 175; T. Douglas, Stony Creek, Wentworth, 173; Blair Ferguson, Galt, Waterloo, 166; John Tull, Christina, Middlesex, 165; N. McCutcheon, Glencoe, Middlesex, 162; James Beaton, Hamilton, Wentworth, 161; Clarence S. Wood, Freeman, Halton, 160; Percy Mitchell, Fergus, Wellington, 158; W. L. Snowden, Bowmanville, Durham, 157; Herbert Kane, Gormley, York, 155; Harry Gray, Puslinch, Wentworth, 154; George C. Jackson, Elia, York, 153; Albert Whitfield, Dundas, Wentworth, 152; Clarence Ford, Milton, Halton, 149; Clifford Parker, Smithville, Lincoln, 147; Jack Blair, Embro, Oxford, 142.

Total number of entries, 35.

Sheep.

Possible score, 200—Ross Anderson, Edgeley, York, 161; J. Young, Smithville, Wentworth, 158; Raymond McKnight, Rockton, Wentworth, 153; Willis Marshall, Woodstock, Oxford, 140; Gordon Jamieson, Galt, Wentworth, 136; Clarence Wright, Woodville, Victoria, 131; Clifford Clarkson, Weston, York, 129; Leslie Martin, Hannon, Wentworth, 124; B. A. Wilson, Woodville, Victoria, 123; W. B. Rettie, Fergus, Wellington, 120; Dannie Fletcher, Hannon, Wentworth, 119; Leslie Clarkson, Weston, York, 118; W. Patterson, Caledonia, Wentworth, 115; Morley A. Stafford, Shedden, Elgin, 112; Murray McKnight, Rockton, Wentworth, 108; Robert Clark, Smithville, Wentworth, 103.

Total entries, 27.

Poultry.

Possible score, 300—Arthur Crowhurst, Port Hope, Durham, 260; H. T. Ednersby, Highland Creek, York, 255; C. M. Howarth, Toronto, York, 252; R. Rowcliffe, Ridgeville, Welland, 231; Clarence Partridge, Norfolk, 220; Clarence E. Deavitt, Aurora, York, 219; Arthur Wilson, Perrytown, Durham, 214; Harry Daboll, Ridgeville, Welland, 200; W. J. Hansler, Ridgeville, Welland, 189; V. A. Alexander, Jordan Station, Lincoln, 176; S. W. Wilton, Mt. Brydges, Middlesex, 150; Harold McKague, Woodville, Victoria, 135.

Total number of entries, 12.

Grain and Roots.

Possible score, 500—Allen F. Balston, Markham, York, 388; Oscar Lerch, Preston, Waterloo, 384; W. H. Hoiles, Maple, York, 383; Roy Thompson, Glanford, Wentworth, 378; Harry Jose, Newcastle, Durham, 377; Wilfred Holden, Markham, York, 374; John Tull, Christina, Middlesex, 371; Robert Peacock, Jarvis, Haldimand, 369; Arthur Wilson, Perrytown, Durham, 367; J. B. Maitland, Elora, Wellington, 366; Harold Anderson, Fergus, Wellington, 365; T. A. Trick, Clinton, Huron, 363; Milton W. Staples, Orono, Durham, 361; D. J. Lerch, Preston, Waterloo, 358; Cecil A. Newton, Egbert, Simcoe, 351; Howard Turvey, Vittoria, Norfolk, 348.

Fruits and Vegetables.

Possible score, 1,100—Howard A. Jamieson, Canborne, Northumberland, 897; Harry Daboll, Ridgeville, Welland, 894; N. T. Sanderson, London, Middlesex, 870; Geo. A. Pack, Byron, Middlesex, 860; Vernon Plunkett, Weston, York, 857; Bruce Ness, Howick, Que., Quebec, 853; Harold Pack, Byron, Middlesex, 838; Albert Whitfield, Dundas, Wentworth, 791; S. W. Wilton, Mt. Brydges, Middlesex, 784; W. Lloyd Snowden, Bowmanville, Durham, 778; Jas. Pepper, Simcoe, Norfolk, 764; V. A. Alexander, Jordan Station, Lincoln, 763; Roy Weir, London, Middlesex, 758; Chas. E. Langdon, Port Hope, Durham, 751; Peter J. Marlow, Smithville, Lincoln, 749; W. J. Hansler, Ridgeville, Welland, 744.

Total number of entries, 24.

Grade up the Herd.

Many are of the opinion that a herd sire of good type, supposing he is of scrub breeding, has the ability to produce good stock when mated with the breeding herd. However, one seldom hears of a breeder who has improved his herd by the use of a scrub sire, whereas there are numerous instances where the continued use of a pure-bred sire of the proper conformation, character and quality has resulted in the building up of a very creditable herd from rather mediocre breeding females. The following table shows how the unimproved blood disappears by the continued use of pure-bred sires.

Generations	Sires p. c. of Pure Blood	Dams p. c. of Pure Blood	Offspring p. c. of Pure Blood
1	100	00	50
2	100	50	75
3	100	75	87.05
4	100	87.05	93.75
5	100	93.75	96.87
6	100	96.87	98.44

Thus it will be seen that the offspring from the sixth generation retains about 1.56 per cent. of unimproved