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LIVE STOCK.

DISEASES OF SHEEP

Perhaps no class of farm stock fewer diseases than are sheep. With reasonably good management, they are liable to but few ailments, though, like other stock, if neglected, they may contract illness, unsoundness, causing much extra labor, and possibly considerable loss of condition, or of life. As prevention is always better than cure, it pays well to see that, as far as possible, the conditions as to care and feeding are cenducive to constant healthfulness. In order to do this, an important provision is that of treating the flock regularly, twice a year at least, for the destruction of lice and ticks, and to prevent such skin disease as scab or scables, which, if contracted and neglected, may prove very troublesome, and cause much loss. The proprietary sheep dips advertised are easily prepared and applied, and if used according to directions, are almost invariably effectual in the destruction of ticks, lice and the parasites of scabies. flock should be treated in the late fall, before winter sets in, and again in the spring, immediately after shearing, when any ticks present on the ewes will transfer themselves to the lambs, where more wool is found as a covert. The lambs, at least, should be dipped a few days after the ewes are shorn, and it will be all the better if the ewes are also treated to the same process, for the cleansing of the skin and the promotion of the health of the flock. When treated in the late autumn or winter, dipping may not be so easily practicable, owing to the length of the wool, especially in the case of the long-wool breeds, and is more expensive, on account of the amount of the solution wasted. But, pouring the warm solution from a coffee-pot may be done so as to make the treatment quite effectual. By this method three men or boys can easily treat 50 to 60 head of sheep in a day. One man sets the sheep on its rump, one divides the wool at intervals of four or five inches, first on throat, breast and belly, then on sides, and finally along the back from head to tail, while the third pours the liquid into these openings at the rate of a quart to each sheep, by which means the skin is pretty thoroughly covered.. If any indication of scab is found, of course, extra attention should be given to breaking up the scab, so that the solution may soak into and reach the bottom of the disorder; and in such a case, a second treatment should be given at the end of two weeks to insure the destruction of the parasitic affection.

To guard against the danger from foot-rot, the hoofs of the sheep should be carefully trimmed with a sharp knife at shearing-time, or earlier, as the horn of the hoof is liable to become overgrown from standing on the manure and soft bedding during the winter, and disease of the feet is apt to occur which may assume the form of an infectious class of foot rot, causing much trouble. is well, at all times, to keep on hand a small phial of powdered bluestone to apply after trimming the hoofs, if any sign of soreness is found. If contagious foot-rot break out-which is very rare in this country-the diseased members of the flock should be isolated, and the whole flock, after trimming of their feet, treated, by standing them for a minute or two in a solution of bluestone in a tub or trough. A box of air-slaked lime, placed where they must pass through it to get to their salt or feed, is also a good provision.

Grub in the head is due to the sheep gadfly laying its eggs in the nostrils of animals in summer-time, which eggs find their way into the head and hatch out the larve or grub, which in some cases seriously affect the health of the sheep, causing giddiness and loss of flesh. common to find these grubs in the head of healthy sheep that have been slaughtered. Usually they do not affect the health of the animal, and are expelled by sneezing, or find their way out by natural process. Preventive measures are: Tarring the nostrils of the sheep in the fly season, placing salt in a trough and smearing the edges with tar, and giving the flock access to a darkened shed during the hot weather, when the fly is most troublesome. In the case of a sheep showing signs of grub in the head, such as giddiness, or holding the head to one side, placing a piece of plank on the crown of the head and striking it with a mallet, is said to have, in some cases, dislodged the grub. Some writers have claimed to have dislodged them by syringing spirits of turpentine into the nostrils, and others by filling the nostrils with tobacco juice, holding the head high in the meantime. This is, however, rather heroic treatment, and probably had better not be adopted

Stomach worms, usually found in lambs, have except as a last resort. caused considerable trouble and loss in United States flocks, but, fortunately, very little has been heard of this ailment in Canadian flocks. These worms are described as very small, one-quarter to one-third of an inch long, reddish in color, being found in the fourth stomach only. Lambs affected are thirsty, pale in the eyes, are dull, lose weight, and may scour or eat dirt. Benzine or

milk, given three mornings in succession on an door of the pen, and a pair of low hurdles, hinged empty stomach, is a prescription that has been highly recommended. Creolin and milk in similar doses may also be used. But the latest specific saved. advocated is the feeding of cheap or waste tobacco, mixed in dust form with salt and ashes, kept where the lambs may take it at will-this as

a preventive, as well as a cure. Sniffles or nasal catarrh is not as serious as it appears. Sudden changes in the weather, getting wet, and confinement in ill-ventilated stables, are the chief causes. As a rule, no treatment is necessary, but a successful Canadian flockmaster recommends the following prescription: One ounce rhubarb (ground): two ounces ginger (ground) two ounces gentian (ground). All to be simmered in 11 quarts of water for 15 minutes, then strained. Add 8 grains corrosive sublimate, dissolved in a small quantity of water. Mix all thoroughly, shake well before using, and give three tablespoonfuls twice daily.

A word in closing about drenching sheep. Nothing should ever be poured into the nose. desired that the medicine should go into the fourth stomach, the sheep should be allowed to stand upon its feet. In any other position the medicine will pass into other compartments of the stomach. The medicine should be given from a long-necked bottle, slowly and carefully, a little at a time, to avoid choking, and if coughing occurs, the head should be at once lowered.

two to four drams in six ounces of new stand on. By having a loading thute near the together, the work of directing hogs where needed, is greatly facilitated, and much time and worry

ECONOMICAL FEEDING OF BEEF CATTLE

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate"

In considering economical feeding of beef cattle, you must make use of considerable rough foods of the farm, and less meal, as the latter is very expensive, especially during recent years. By adopting the following system, I have been able to reduce the quantity of meal to a minimum

We select stockers and feeders of the best quality, and of the beef breeds-those with a tendency to put on flesh where the most costly cuts of beef are obtained-having them in a thrifty, healthy and fleshy condition when winter sets in. we accomplish by having our cattle on good pasture during the previous summer and fall, generally having a few acres of rape for pasture near some rough grass, to which the cattle have access. If no rape is provided, a few sugar beets are thrown to them, with the tops on. Such foods seem to tone up the digestive organs as no other foods will at this period of the year.

During the latter part of October, and in November, we have a quantity of corn, unhusked, in stack or in shock, by the side of the pasture. quantity of the corn is given on the grass each

day, because the grass has lost much of its vitality by drouth or frosts, and the corn makes up for the deficiency, and also keeps up the animal hoat. I always keep in view the importance of having a shelter for them by a thicket of trees, or provide a shed to protect them from the cold winds.

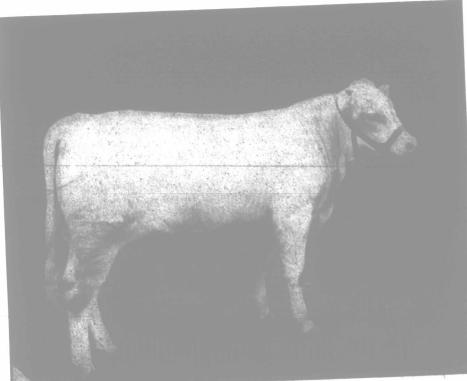
Before the cattle have lost any flesh, we take them to the stable. I consider that any loss of flesh by exposure, which is often the case with beeimen, is a triple loss; First, there is the time lost; second, the derangement of the constitution, which naturally takes place, and is difficult to recuperate; third, the cost of replacing this firsh. The barns are of brick, and cement-block basement ten feet in height; well lighted, well ventilated, and kept comfortably warm. In those stables the cattle are kept free from vermin,

treated kindly, and fed regularly—fed loose in box stalls, or tied by stanchions only when eating. They have access to water in the stable at any time, and are let out while the litter is being removed from the stable, every day (excepting Sunday), and fresh bedding given, consisting of long, cut staw, which absorbs the liquid and does not gather in heaps by the feet of the animals.

To the beef-man, I would say, do not fight nature by tying your cattle. It is as important to have the beef animal loose as it is to exercise the horse that you fit for sale, or the bacon hog that is fed for market; and more so, as the steer has a long journey of 3,500 miles, and it is important that the flesh be firmly on, as you can only do by feeding loose. You can find this out by shipping some cattle fed under those conditions, and you will readily see that the loose fed cattle stand the journey better than those that were tied.

In feeding in stables, we strive to have food as near like nature's food as we can with the foods available, namely, good corn silage (about 30 pounds) mixed with cut straw, clover hay and Hungarian grass, mixed together from twelve to twenty-four hours before feeding, all meal being mixed with the above mixture to make it more digestible. A little lucerne or Hungarian grass is fed at noon, and the mixed food morning and

By selecting stock, and feeding as above, had a load of cattle weighing an average of 1,260 pounds the first of December, last fall, that were sold the first of April, to be lifted the 15th of April, and the load averaged 1,505 pounds. They were shipped to Toronto, and killed, to be sold to Toronto's wealthy people. The price realized was \$5.75 per cwt., and the purchaser received a good commission for buying them. When the cattle



Prince Ideal =71512=.

Shorthorn bull calf; born January, 1908. Bred and owned by Sir George Drummond, Beaconsfield, Que. Sire Cicely's Pride (imp.) =40369=; dam Queen Ideal =64221=.

BREEDING SOWS.

If it is desired to have litters of pigs born about the first of April, the sows should be bred about December first, as the period of gestation in the sow is sixteen weeks. There may be some advantages in having the pigs come in March, especially if it is desired to have the sows raise two litters a year, but there is more danger of loss of the pigs from cold weather if born in the earlier month, and also more danger of them becoming ill from close confinement and lack of exercise, as it is essential to their health that they have access to roomy yards and to a taste of grass or grit. Where a number of sows are to be bred, it may be well to have such as come in season near the end of November served, as service at the next period of heat would throw the litter as late as the middle of April, and there is always the chance that some of the sows may not conceive to the first service. Young sows, as a rule, should not be bred before the age of eight months, though strong, well-developed ones may be a month or two younger. As sows generally remain in heat two or three days, it is safer to have them served the second or third day of the period of cestrum, and they should be kept quiet and separate from other hogs for two or three days after. economy of time, a breeding crate, in which to place the sow during service, is a very handy and desirable device, which can be made in an hour or two by anyone at all handy with a saw and It is practically a common shipping crate, closed in front, and open at the other end, the sow being kept in by means of a cross-bar above her hocks, while a false front is provided, to slide down between cleats when a short sow is being bred. A platform six inches high is placed behind the crate, if needed, for the boar to