

LIVE STOCK.

This is a good time to get the sows which have farrowed late the past spring bred again so as to produce their fall litters before the weather gets too cold.

If it is impossible to get the pigs out in a grass plot, at least keep them supplied with green feed by throwing into their pen some freshly-cut alfalfa or red clover each day. It will lower the cost of gains.

Keep the watering troughs well supplied during the hot weather. It is impossible to estimate the advantage of an abundance of fresh water to the grazing stock, especially when the pastures become dry and parched.

When beef stock has become so scarce that leading American dairy papers, like Hoard's Dairyman, commence talking about raising dairy-bred calves for beef, it begins to look like a pretty good proposition for the double-decker cow.

Be sure to keep water in the calf stall or paddock. Very often the comparatively small allowance of skim milk which the calf gets is thought to be enough drink for him. Not so. A healthy growing calf will take and requires considerable water during the summer season.

The very hot days of the midsummer season, and the myriads of flies which pester the cattle should impress the advisability of keeping the young calves in a darkened box stall during the day, feeding liberally, and allowing out in a small field or good-sized paddock at night when it is cooler and the flies are less troublesome.

Pine tar is an excellent preventive from attacks of the gadfly in sheep. A little dropped on their noses throughout the season does the trick. Some sheep men arrange their salting troughs so that as the sheep inserts her nose to lick the salt she rubs it against some of this soft tar. In this manner tar is kept on the nose continuously. It will remain on however for some time if the sheep are caught and the top of the nose well covered with the tar.

Old beans are more valuable than new ones, says a leaflet of the English Board of Agriculture. They are suitable to mix with oats for feeding. Large quantities given to milk cows tend to prevent the cream from churning in a satisfactory manner. A few whole beans are very useful when given to growing store pigs, but the use of large quantities of bean meal when fattening them should be avoided or the lean meat will be hard and the bacon when cured will not be of the highest quality.

Rape Pasture for Hogs.

In reply to a question as to the best forage crop for hogs, sent out over the State of Missouri, the Columbia experiment station had twelve correspondents name rape. After many years' experience with rape as a hog pasture Prof. Carlyle, of the Wisconsin Station, concluded that "With pigs from four to ten months old, representing the various breeds of swine, an acre of rape, when properly grown, has a feeding value, when combined with a ration of corn and shorts, equivalent to 2,436 pounds of the mixture of these grain feeds.

"Rape is a better green forage for growing pigs than good clover pasture, the pigs fed upon rape having made on the average 100 pounds of gain on 33.5 pounds less grain than was required by the pigs fed on clover pasture.

"Rape should be sown for this purpose in drills thirty inches apart to facilitate cultivation of the ground after each crop of forage is eaten off.

"Hogs should not be turned in until the crop is twelve to fourteen inches high, and should be prevented from rooting while pasturing rape.

"Rape alone is not a satisfactory feed. Hogs will just about maintain their weight on it."

The value of rape, as compared with clover and tested at Wisconsin, is shown in this table.

	1898		1899	
	Rape	Clover	Rape	Clover
No. of pigs	19	19	21.0	21.0
Initial weight	111	110	101.9	101.8
Grain per 100 lbs. gain...	391	439	332.0	346.0
Daily gain per pig87	.78	1.27	1.22

A saving of grain is shown as well as more rapid gains when rape was used as pasturage.

At the Kansas Station a number of 52-pound pigs were tested on rape and alfalfa. The results are shown in the following table:

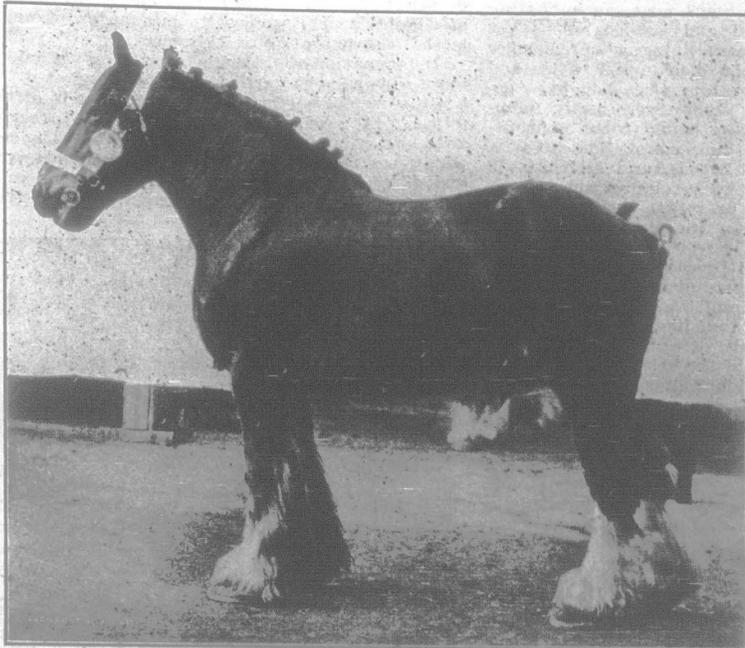
Pasture	Gain per pig	Average daily gain	Grain per 100 lbs. gain
Rape	107.6	1.09	301
Alfalfa	107.8	1.10	300

The pigs on rape pasture made almost exactly the same gains as those on alfalfa pasture,

disked into the ground. When sown in drills, about two or three pounds of seed per acre is sufficient, but if sown broadcast, three to five pounds, and sometimes more are needed.

"When pasturing rape, the hogs should not be turned on until the plants are twelve to fourteen inches or, better still, sixteen to eighteen inches high. When pastured before this time the hogs pull up the young plants and kill them, thus destroying the pasture. Rape should not be pastured so closely that nothing except the bare stalk remains. A few leaves or parts of leaves should be left to start new growth. If planted in drills and cultivated after each period of pasturing, three crops may be obtained from each set of plants yearly.

"Rape can be sown so as to furnish a forage at any time of the growing season, and if necessary can be used as the principal pasture for hogs. It must not, however, be pastured too closely, and must be given opportunity to get well started after being pastured. The amount of land sown to rape need not be large, because it is worthless except for pasture or soiling, and one acre will pasture fifteen to twenty hogs for a period of two or three months."



An English Cart Horse

The champion gelding at the London Shire Show, 1913.

with the same amount of grain required to make a pound of gain.

Commenting on these results the Missouri bulletin says:

"Since experience shows that for a short period rape makes a splendid hog pasture, there is no reason for a lack of forage when clover is winter-killed, or land is pastured too heavily, because rape can be sown very early or very late, thus making pastures at any time of the spring, summer or fall.

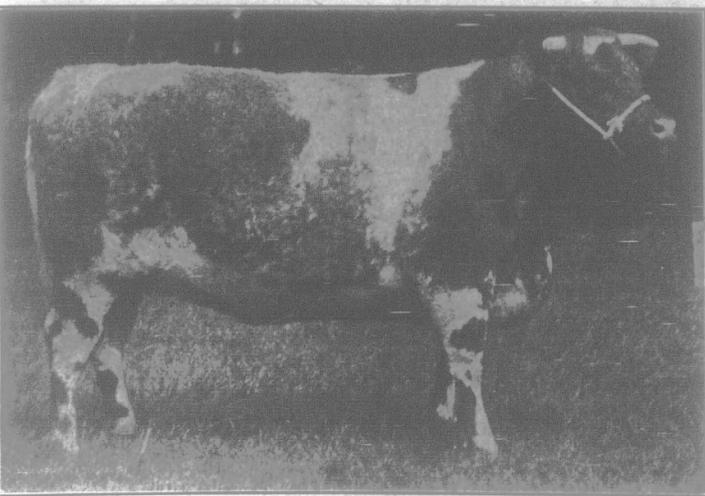
"Rape is a plant of the cabbage family, closely resembling it in manner of growth and character of forage. It is a rather cool-weather plant, and can be sown very early in spring, as soon as there is no danger of a severe frost. It will endure a pretty severe frost in the fall before it is injured; in fact, it may often be used for pasture after it has been partly frozen, provided stock is kept off when it is frozen.

Black-nosed Cattle.

Quite frequently one sees a beef animal or a pure-bred of some of the beef breeds which should have a light-colored nose, but whose nose is black. Several Shorthorn cattle are found each year with this defect. Of course, this can be no objection in black-nosed breeds of recognized merit. A writer in the Live Stock Journal believes that:

"In most cases the objection to the black nose is well founded where the animal is needed for grazing; but if it is not derived from a good black-nosed breed it is not objectionable. If it comes from a Channel Island cross, it is not difficult to trace, because as long as there is black on the muzzle the "horse-shoe" marking can be traced. This is often not objectionable, but rather the reverse, in dairy cattle, as a streak of Channel Island blood in a cow of bigger breed often improves its value for milking purposes. Not at all a bad beast may be found with a black nose where it traces back to a cross with a good Welsh breed. As a matter of fact, a black nose now-a-days does not necessarily indicate that the animal is unthrifty by descent. The origin of the objection to the black nose dates back a very long time; at any rate, as long as any care has been taken in the improvement of breeds, though the cause for the objection was not removed, even from English cattle, until comparatively recent years. England had its black-nosed brindle breeds, like the Irish, unthrifty and unprofitable to keep; and when the Shorthorn, with its white nose, began to influence local breeds throughout the country,

it was seen how much better they did than those with colored noses. The Hereford and other good breeds soon had their influence, so that the objection became established. A brindle-coated or a black-nosed beast was at once objected to in a bunch of cattle, just as speckled-faced sheep were unpopular because they showed that the influence of improving breeds had not stamped out the features of the unimproved heath breeds, which were so slow in maturing and



Windsor Belle.

Champion Shorthorn heifer at the Royal Counties Show in England. Owned by H. M. the King.

"It is a gross feeder, and does best on very fertile or heavily manured soil, but does fairly well where corn and wheat thrive. It is a very rapid grower, and if sown alone on good land, will be sixteen to eighteen inches high in six to eight weeks. When sowing rape alone it is best to have a well-prepared seed bed, well pulverized, to sow in drills two and one-half feet apart, and cultivate until eight inches high. It may also be sown broadcast, and either harrowed or