

The Feeders' Corner

The Feeders' Corner is for the use of our subscribers. Any interested are invited to ask questions, or send items of interest. All questions will receive prompt attention.

Winter Sheep Feeds

As indicated by the make-up of its stomach, the sheep is an animal designed for the consumption of rough feeds, such as various sorts of hay and fodder, to keep up the fertility of our soil and to keep our land clean, it is necessary to grow hay crops containing some clover, in rotation with crops that may be cultivated, such as fodder or shock corn. Such hay feeds have no particular market value, and should be valued according to the cost of producing them. Grains have a market value, and may be deemed of a dollar invested in producing rough feeds will produce more feed than a dollar invested in grain at market price. Rough feeds, therefore, should be grown and used as feed for sheep.

Breeding ewes, if in fair condition when put into winter quarters in the fall, are sufficiently prepared for their work by a gain of from 15 to 25 pounds per head. This gain allows for the development of the unborn lamb and the wool crop. Rations to make the ewe gain slightly and yet keep her thrifty, must be carefully made up. Some rough feeds contain considerable fibre. With them it is necessary to feed succulent or oily feeds. For example with oat straw, timothy or oat hay, roots or oil-cake should be fed. With clover, which is naturally laxative in effect, such a supplement is not needed. Exercise for the ewes, regularity in feeding, watering and salting, are the factors that count in sheep-raising.

RATIONS FOR EWES IN LAMB

- A few rations that have been fed in ewes in lamb with good results follow. They are the daily feed per 100 pounds live weight:
1. Second crop clover hay alone, 3.5 to 3.7 lbs.
 2. Corn fodder in which are rubbins, 3.7 lbs.
 3. Second crop clover hay, 1.5 lbs.; corn fodder, 1 lb.; oats and corn, 3 lbs.
 4. Second crop clover hay, 1.8 lbs.; roots, 1.5 lbs.; shelled corn, 3.
 5. Second crop clover, 2.5 lbs.; barley, .55 lb.
 6. Corn fodder, 2.6 lbs.; roots, 1.5 lbs.; oats and corn, 3 lb.
 7. Oat hay, 1.5 lbs.; 1.7 lbs. a pound of grain composed of barley, 98 parts; flaxseed, 2 parts.
 8. Oat straw, 2 lbs.; roots, 1.6 lbs., and 6 of a pound of grain composed of oats and bran equal parts.

Skim Milk Feed for Live Stock

Prof. H. H. Dean, O.A.C., Guelph Unfortunately we have very little data on the question as to the value of skim-milk as a food for live stock. This is a question so complicated with the value of other feeds, price of hogs and cattle, skill of the feeder, and so forth, that it is a well-nigh hopeless task to get accurate data on the counts raised.

In some experiments conducted at the Ontario Agricultural College during the years 1908 and 1909 (for full details of which Farm and Dairy readers are referred to the reports of those years) it was found, in 1908 that "skim-milk gave the largest gain per pig, as well as the most economical gain." It was further found that the skim-milk was worth 68 1/2 per cent. more than separated whey, and 38 1/2 per cent. more than ordinary whey.

In 1909 the skim-milk proved to be 29 per cent. more valuable than ordinary whey and was equal to 13.25 lbs. meal. If we allow one and a half cents per pound as the value of the meal, we have nearly 20 cents as the value of 100 lbs. skim-milk fed to pigs.

Near Guelph we have to pay the farmers 20 cents per 100 lbs. whole milk, in addition to the price paid for milk fat, in order to retain the skim-milk for educational or experimental purposes.

A prominent farmer in a dairy section of Ontario when asked about the prospects of securing milk for a "dried-milk plant" in his locality said, "The farmers around would not sell their skim-milk for 40 cents in cash."

At the present price of hogs and hog products, and considering the great demand there is for stockers, helters and milk cows, we do not see how farmers can afford to sell skim-milk for 15 cents per 100 lbs. for the manufacture of casein or for any other purpose. Either the price paid for this dairy by-product must be increased, or else the business cannot be profitably conducted in this great stock-raising Province of Ontario. There are dairy districts, possibly, where farmers are not in a position to go in for stock-raising at present; or they may be afraid that if they go in for hogs extensively the price will tumble to a point below profit, as it did a few years ago, but as soon as the dairy farmers can do so, and as soon as the packers can assure them of a profitable and steady price, I feel sure that skim-milk will be utilized as a food rather than as a commercial product. It was intended by nature as a feed for nearly all classes of farm animals as well as mankind.

Combining the items of road construction and supervision (the latter about \$75,000), the total cost of road construction is \$1,404,197.88. With 1,125 miles of road built, the average cost per mile has been approximately \$1,250. This estimate, however neglects a large amount of incomplete and scattered work, so that the average cost per mile would be less—Highway Improvement.

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SYNOPSIS OF CANADIAN NORTH-WEST LAND REGULATIONS.

A NY person who is the sole head of a family, or any male over 18 years old, may homestead a quarter section of available Dominion land in Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta. The applicant must appear in person at the Dominion Lands Agency, or Sub-Agency, for the District. Entry by proxy may be made at any agency, on certain conditions, by father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister.

Duties—Six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each of three years. A homesteader may live within or near the land in each of three years on a farm of at least 80 acres solely owned and occupied by him or by his father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister.

In certain districts, a homesteader in good standing may pre-empt a quarter-section alongside his homestead. Price \$1.00 per acre. Duties—Must reside upon the homestead or pre-empted site six months in each of three years from date of home-earn homestead patent) and cultivate fifty acres extra.

A homesteader who has exhausted his homestead right and cannot obtain a pre-emption, may enter for a purchased homestead in certain districts. Price \$1.00 per acre. Duties—Must reside six months in each of three years, cultivate fifty acres and erect a house worth \$300.00.

W. W. COBY,
Deputy of the Minister of the Interior,
N. B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.

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These courses are free and are intended for FARMERS and their Sons. Board may be secured near the College at \$4.00 per week. Send TO-DAY for a copy of our Illustrated Calendar.

G. C. CREELMAN, President