

Keeping Hogs Cool

By H. T. Morgan

The necessity for providing shade and pure water in abundance for hogs in summer is overlooked by a majority of the swine growers throughout the country. It is astonishing to note the negligence of farmers in this matter. Hogs having access to a wood-lot or orchard will be amply provided with shade. Throughout the greatest hog producing states, however, these animals are pastured in open lots and there they will suffer greatly from heat unless proper artificial shade is provided. A cheap and efficient shade can be erected in a few hours and at no expense, aside from the labor involved, by setting six or nine forked posts in the ground to support some old fence-rails which may be covered with a few armloads of brush and then covering the whole with a load of old straw. This makes an excellent shade and is preferable to one of boards, as the straw roof is far cooler than one of lumber. The shade should be open on all sides and should be built at the highest point in the field, in order to take advantage of every breeze. The loss of hogs from overheating is very great and such losses can be guarded against only by affording the animals a retreat from the sun in hot weather.

Right here a word of advice about treating an overheated hog: Never pour cold water on the animal; pour it under him. A hog that is on the ground, and not too far gone, will respond to treat-

Barnyard Manure

Its Importance to the Farmer—How to Care for and use Manure.

The manure problem is a fundamental problem for farmers of today and tomorrow. One of the most important lessons for them to learn is how to produce good barnyard manure; and then to care for it and use it rationally.

In many parts of Canada the manure is simply thrown away. In other places, notably in the West, it is burned; and in places where the manure has accumulated around the stables, the stables have been moved away, instead of making use of the manure. This means a great annual loss. At the present price of plant food, the amount of manure produced in the United States every year is worth nearly \$2,500,000,000. In 1908, the value of the whole crop in the United States was only \$1,601,000,000. These figures show the very great importance of manure production.

Value as Fertilizer

Manure is usually valued according to the amount of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash it contains. This method does not give any value to the humus, which is a very important part of the manure. It holds moisture which aids in bringing the plant food in the soil into soluble condition and makes the soil more friable and easily tilled.

Experiments at Rothamsted, England, during fifty years on land (1) unmanured, (2) manured continually, and



Overlooking Fitzburg, Alta.

ment if water is supplied in this manner. Never attempt to drive an overheated hog. If possible, after supplying some water, erect a temporary shade, such as a blanket or sheet supported by a couple of poles. On extremely hot days it is an excellent plan to pour a barrel of water under the shade which has been built for the hogs and this will afford much comfort for the entire herd throughout the day.

The greatest care should be exercised in preventing the hogs from having access to streams which may have been subject to disease germs. Under no circumstances should hogs be allowed to run in fields opening on large streams. The almost universal prevalence of cholera last season has taught many a farmer the folly of courting disaster by allowing his hogs to water at a stream which may have watered a score of herds of diseased hogs. In supplying well water to the animals it is easy to make provision against their getting their supply filthy. There are a number of commercial hog-waterers which are inexpensive and are admirable. These may be attached to a water line or to a stock tank or a barrel. They are fitted with a float valve which automatically keeps the drinking vessel full. The drinking vessel is small and does not admit of the hogs getting their feet into it. Where a barrel is used for supplying the animals, it is advisable to add a handful of lime to the barrel of water, since this will render it more palatable after becoming heated by the sun. Stagnant water is wholly unfit for hogs, and it is unwise to allow them to have access to places where it exists.

(3) manured during the first twenty years only, showed a gradual decrease in the crop on the unmanured soil and a gradual increase from year to year on the manured soil. When the application was stopped there was a gradual decrease, but at the end of thirty years after the last application, the yield was still double that on the unmanured part.

Sources of Loss

The greatest sources of loss are from allowing the liquid portion to run away, leaching by rain, and from heating or fermentation.

The liquid is much more valuable in plant food per pound than the solid. In cow manure the total liquid portion is about the same value as the total solid portion. Yet many farmers arrange their stables to drain off the liquid. Don't do it. From \$10 to \$15 worth of fertility can be lost annually in this way from each cow kept. Use some kind of absorbing material to prevent loss of liquid.

How to Apply Manure

Where possible, the manure should be spread on the field as made. It saves handling twice, and there is a greater tonnage then than at any other time. The effect of green manure will be seen for a longer time than rotted manure on account of the decomposition taking place in the soil. If this cannot be done, by all means have a covered shed where the manure is put and where it will be packed by stock tramping on it, and where it will be kept moist. If it is kept tramped and moist and if

The Mischief of Substitution A Warning

Have you met the substitutor? The man who consistently tries to talk you out of buying what you want for something which he says is "just as good." Have you thought why he is so anxious to do this? His motive is mercenary and he wants to take advantage of your confidence for the sake of a few cents additional profit. Your interests would be in safer hands elsewhere. It is solely for this reason that some dealers try to sell you a substitute when you ask for Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, which has no equal as a cure for Dyspepsia and Indigestion or in regulating the functions of the liver and blood.

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