

Fall Pasture for Dairy Cattle

To provide a suitable fall pasture for dairy cows, especially in seasons as dry as the one through which we have just passed, is a serious problem. Ten years ago, this matter was less serious than it is to-day. In those days, progressive farmers sowed several acres of rape on summer fallow. This was sown in drills about the same as turnips, only at a later date, generally about the first of July. The rape was cultivated till about the first of September. At such a time, it was about two and one-half feet high. Then the dairy cattle, as well as all young stock, were turned in on it for an hour or two after each milking. They soon got their fill in such a pasture, and were then turned out.

Of late years, our cheese-makers object to handling milk produced from such fodder. One by one all the factories have succeeded in barring such milk from the market. Since that time, the price of cheese has gone up. The quantity, however, has gone down so the farmer is really no better off and gets no more money at the end of the season than he formerly did. I would not advocate going back to the old way, but until we can get something better than what we have now, to take the place of rape and turnips, for fall feed, we will never be able to provide suitable fall pasture.

On several occasions, I have sown clover with the spring grain and have had some success in securing pasture from this. Frequently it would have a heavy top when the grain was cut, but what we are to do when we are advised that it is not to the benefit of the clover to pasture it the first fall? I have also tried sowing mangels for fall feed, but mangels are an uncertain crop. This year they did well to make half a crop. This last fall, I commenced feeding some corn, of which I had a good crop, about September 1. The cows milked well on this so long as it was green. After it was cut and in the shock, it got so dry that the flow of milk went down. When I harvested my mangels, I piled the tops in heaps and fed a wagon load night and morning in the field. This made excellent feed so long as it lasted. A couple of acres of mangels tops, however, go but a short way in a large dairy herd.

A few years ago, at our annual meeting of the cheese factory, one of our buyers advised the growing of pumpkins to take the place of turnips and turnip tops. A number of patrons tried it but met with indifferent results. The cattle would not eat them unless they were fed in the stable, chopped up with the spade and some meal sprinkled on them.

In the early summer, it is an easy matter to sow a mixture of peas, oats and barley for soiling purposes. In the fall months, when it is most needed, good as such a mixture would be, it is almost impossible to get it to grow, as the ground becomes too dry for it. This past season, it would never have come up had it been sown.

This has been my experience in providing fall pasture for dairy cows. The results, in some cases, have not been gratifying. As other farmers have, in all probability, been trying something, I would like to hear of what success they have had. We must not get discouraged on account of a few failures. In all probability, some one from experimenting will get something that will prove a success and help to keep the dairy industry where it belongs—the main industry of this Dominion.—W. G. H., Peterboro Co., Ont.

Milking Three Times a Day

Mr. G. A. Gilroy, the well-known Holstein breeder, of Leeds County, told a representative of The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World recently that he was inclined to believe that it pays to milk three times a day. He stated that last spring he had been milking his cattle three times a day.

When the busy season came on, he milked them only twice a day, with the result that their milk production fell off almost one-third. He did not think that the loss was due entirely to the fact that they were milked only twice a day, as the pastures were not so good at the time that they were milked three a day, but he felt that a good deal of the shrinkage was due to their being milked only twice instead of three times a day.

Breeding for a Purpose.

H. Bollert, Oxford Co., Ont.

The success of every business and of every enterprise depends chiefly upon the carrying out in detail of the fundamental principles governing that special business. The manufacturer employs the most expert and skillful mechanics and inventors who rack their inventive brains to produce the most up-to-date article in their respective lines. What is true of the manufacturer in this respect, will, and should apply to the live stock breeder.

The breeder of heavy draught horses aims to secure the service of a sire that embodies the requirements of a superior draught horse in the highest degree. In order to obtain success, he knows well that were he to use a coach, or even a general purpose stallion, the resulting progeny could not be what he is aiming for and that the result would be disastrous to his enterprise. The breeder of trotting or fast harness horses would not dream of using a coach or a hackney stallion, let alone a draught stallion to mate with his fast mares. He knows full well that in doing so he could not obtain the desired result. He knows, too, that to be successful, he must use the sire

they know that the results would be disastrous to their interests. The Hollander, from whom we have our black and white Holsteins, (the greatest of all dairy cows) fully realized the fact hundreds of years ago that in order to obtain a competency and maintain a living for himself and his family on his very high priced land (which is now valued at from \$300 to \$1,000 an acre) he must produce a cow bred for the purpose of economically converting everything she eats into milk.

Now, should we not benefit by the experience of these people, whose experience also is fully born out and practically demonstrated in this country? The old and all too true saying that the dairy cow is the poor man's friend is as applicable to-day as ever it was. It applies to an even greater degree if that cow is bred for the special purpose of converting the fodder we grow into pure wholesome milk. This much desired result can be attained only by using pure bred sires from our special dairy breeds. Shun the purely beef bred sire if you would have a dry stock. There is a place for such sires but it is on the farm that produces beef only.

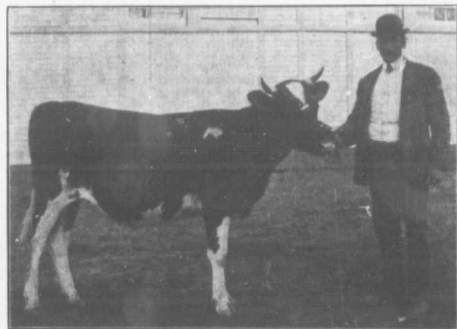
Obtaining Large Records

The question, "what would a cow give if fed two-thirds of a ration?" was asked of Mr. H. Glendinning at the Peterboro District Meeting of the Eastern Dairyman's Association. Mr. Glendinning answered that she would give milk from her body, she would rob herself, for a time at least, if the ration was insufficient. The phenomenal yields which are occasionally obtained for short periods could only be accounted for in this way: The cow being in high condition and in the hands of a skillful feeder who knew how to handle her just right, gave this milk from the feed consumed and from her body as well.

The two-thirds ration, or a lighter one, such as was fed last winter so widely over Ontario, accounts for the light supply of milk during the past summer. It was pointed out that one could not feed a cow so lightly but what she will milk. Mr. Glendinning gave an experience with a cow which was taken down with milk fever before the modern system of treating this disease was introduced. This cow was ill for two weeks after which she died. During this time she never ate a mouthful of fodder. All she got was a little gruel and whiskey poured into her from a bottle. Yet this cow gave milk, and a surprising, large quantity of it, for those two weeks. The milk must have come from her body as it could not possibly have come from any food consumed.

In order to make large records, one must start months before. Mr. Glendinning stated that his cows gave more milk this year than they did last, and more last year than they did the year before. He obtained more milk in October than he did in September of this year. He expected to get much more in November than he did in October. Why? Because he had stabled his cattle and fed silage and alfalfa since the chilly nights began. In September the cows were on more or less of an indifferent pasture, although they were fed fairly well besides.

Photographs and articles are always welcomed for publication in these columns.



Maple Ridge Aurora 22947

The heifer, owned by Mr. Guy Carr, Compton, Que., who is holding her, was the champion Guernsey female at the Canadian National Exhibition, 1906. She is a very nice individual of good size, and true dairy type. She gives promise of becoming a heavy producer.

that possesses the greatest speed, which latter must be inherited through a long line of speedy ancestors. The breeder of the highest type of beef cattle would scoff at the idea of using a dairy bred sire, for he knows that the result would not be that which he desired.

Considering, then, the grounds taken by these other breeders of stock, it is inconceivable why the dairyman of this country should think that he alone could pursue an opposite course and yet obtain success in the fullest measure. It must be perfectly clear to him that the law which governs the one, must also govern the other. If the dairy bred sire cannot produce the ideal beef type animal, why should the beef bred sire, that has been bred for that sole purpose, be successful in producing the most desirable and profitable dairy animal?

The breeders of dairy Shorthorns in England fully recognize these principles. They shun the registered beef bred sire for use in their herds for