

Questions and Answers. Miscellaneous.

Stified Horse.

1. What is the best treatment for a stified horse? A. M.

Ans.—1. The horse should be kept quiet in a level place. Where there is a complete dislocation it will be necessary to place a rope around the fetlock and have an assistant draw the limb well forward, using the hand to press the bones forward and inward. Once it is in place it is best kept there by keeping the limb well forward by means of the side-line. A blister should then be applied and there is possibly no better one than 2 drams each of biniodide of mercury and cantharides mixed with 2 ounces of vaseline. It may be necessary to make two or three applications. Clip the hair off the front and inside of the joint and rub the blister well in. Tie so he cannot bite the parts. In 24 hours rub well again with the blister and at the end of another day, wash off and apply sweet oil. Keep the horse as quiet as possible and apply sweet oil every day. Recovery is oftentimes very slow.

Alfalfa Meal.

How does alfalfa meal compare with corn in feeding value? Is it laxative in its action on the animal's digestion? Would it be a practical means of saving a crop of alfalfa in a spell of wet weather? A. K.

Ans.—1. Alfalfa meal is ground alfalfa hay. It varies in fineness from a product nearly as fine as cornmeal to a coarsely chopped or shredded material. Alfalfa meal varies in composition depending on the quality of hay from which it is made. It is very often compared with bran for feeding purposes. However, in several experiments which have been carried on in the United States, comparing alfalfa meal and wheat bran pound for pound, it was found that there was a slight loss in milk flow when this material was fed to cows. It is rather difficult to compare it with corn as they are two entirely different feeds in composition. Corn is of a carbonaceous nature producing heat and energy, while alfalfa is rich in protein, a material which goes to repair tissues in the animal body and is valuable for milk production. Consequently, it will depend on what results were wanted when figuring a comparative value of these feeds. For a dairy cow or a growing animal the alfalfa meal would furnish the materials wanted. The meal is more or less laxative in nature and it would be possible to save a crop of alfalfa in this way, provided you had the machinery for doing the grinding and then drying it so it could be stored.

Barn Roof.

1. In changing a common roof barn to a hip-roof barn (50 feet wide) what length should the lower run of rafters be, and also the top run of rafters? What height will the per-line plate be above the main or lower plate. Do you think it would be necessary in a barn this wide to have more than one run of per-line plates?

2. Have engines mounted on binders given satisfactory results, that is for driving machinery only? What horse-power is required? Where can they be purchased? Would the same engine be strong enough to operate a power hoist in a barn for hayfork and slings?

A. R. M.

Ans.—1. Not knowing the height you wish to make the roof, it is rather difficult for us to state the length of rafters. Some prefer a much steeper roof for the first run than others. There would be the main plate and then a plate on top of the posts where the pitch in the roof changes. We would advise you to consult a framer in regard to this matter, as you could then explain to him the height you wished to make the roof, etc.

2. Small engines of two to three horse-power, and even smaller, have been used satisfactorily on binders. They are manufactured by different firms and you should be able to secure one through your implement agent. As to whether the engine would be strong enough to operate a power hoist would depend on a number of circumstances, among which would be the size of load to lift and the height of the hoist.



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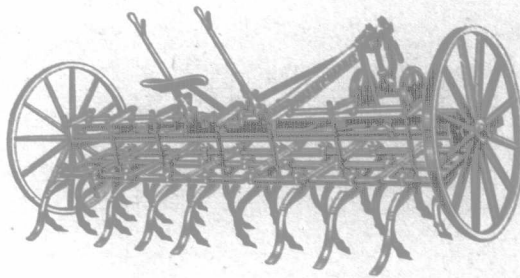
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