

# The Farming World

A Paper for Farmers and Stockmen.

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## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### SKIM-MILK CHEESE

A subscriber at Kingston, Jamaica, B. W. I., writes for information how to make cheese from skim milk or separated milk or if there is any book published on the subject.

Canada is a full cream cheese country, and consequently is a poor place to come to for information about making skim-milk cheese. In many European countries skim or partly skim cheese is made largely for domestic use. Cheese from separated milk is practically no use, it is more like leather belting than an article of food. Fairly good cheese for domestic use has been made from milk with about one per cent. of fat left in it, and we would not advise our West Indian friend, if he goes into the business to have less than one per cent. of fat. There may be a market for this class of cheese in Jamaica, but it would be better to stick to the full cream article if a permanent trade is to be built up.

The only book we know of giving information on the making of skim-milk cheese was published several years ago by J. H. Monrad at Winnetka, Ill., U. S. A. It was entitled, "A B C in Cheese Making". The price was 50 cents, but it may be out of print now. An enquiry to the above address might find out.

### SCOTCH AND SCOTCH-TOPPED SHORTHORNS

I am a little interested in Shorthorn cattle and would like to get some further information, especially about Scotch Shorthorns and Scotch-topped Shorthorns.—C. H. T., New Brunswick.

Scotch Shorthorns, as the name implies, are Shorthorns bred in Scotland. The founder of this strain was Mr. Amos Cruickshank, who, a number of years ago, selected some Shorthorns from English herds of various families, with Bates, Booth and other blood, took them to Scotland and bred them together. By inbreeding and selection, coupled with their environment, he built up a family with characteristics peculiarly their own. His ideal was a Shorthorn that would mature early, medium sized, short-legged,

beefy animals, with their milking qualities largely undeveloped. Other Scotch breeders followed in his footsteps, and so we have the Scotch Shorthorn. When cows of other families are bred to Scotch Shorthorns the produce is referred to as Scotch-baropped Shorthorns. Mr. Cruickshank did not, nor do Scotch breeders generally pay any attention to the dairy qualities of their Shorthorns, the aim being the production of a high class beef animal. In this they have succeeded so well that wherever beef-making is the object, whether on the farm, the ranch, or the open range, the Scotch Shorthorn is wanted. If Shorthorns are wanted that will make fairly good dairy animals, then some of the older families or those with Bates blood will be found best suited for the purpose.

### LAYING A CEMENT FLOOR

I have a cattle shed in which I wish to put a cement floor and would like to get some information. How much cement will it take for the square yard? What proportion of cement and sand shall I use? In laying the floor shall I put it down in strips?—W. E. L.

If Portland cement is used it will take about one barrel of cement to lay ten yds. of floor. A good preparation for the cement is about four inches of coal cinders well tramped down. The first or bottom layer of concrete should be composed of one part cement to seven parts of coarse gravel or broken stone. This should be thoroughly mixed while dry, and afterwards wetted and well stirred. It should then be evenly distributed inside of four inch scantling and well packed down, leaving the surface about half or three quarters of an inch from the upper edge of the scantling. The first coat should be made level by running a straight edge over it, the straight edge being notched three-quarters of an inch so as to leave the surface just this distance below the top of scantling. The second coat is made by mixing together one part of cement to three or four parts of sand. Some use two parts of sand to one of cement, but ordinarily this is a little too rich in cement. The surface coat is applied after the concrete layer has begun to set, but before it has dried. When the second coat has partially set and before it will sustain any great weight the surface should be kept well pressed down by a trowel. A strip of almost

any width may be laid at once, though one yard in width across a stable or barn is about all one can handle unless there is abundant help available. The scantlings should be spiked down so as to hold them firmly in place. Too much pains cannot be taken in thoroughly mixing the mortar before and after setting.

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