

CHAPTER XXIII

BREEDING FACTS WORTH REMEMBERING

341. Salt. Breeding animals should have all the salt they will consume. They are prolific, or otherwise, in proportion to the salt contents of the body fluids.

342. Evidence of Virility. A stallion's desire, or readiness to copulate, is no evidence of his virility. Some of the most virile stallions are very slow servers.

343. Fat. Excessive fat in breeding animals is a potent factor in the cause of sterility, impotency and degeneracy.

344. Death of Foals. Most of the young foals dying are those coming early, rather than those coming later in the season.

345. Evidence of Pregnancy. The only satisfactory way of knowing whether or not a mare is pregnant is by examination via the rectum. After the third month this can be done with certainty, but with sensitive mares may induce abortion.

346. Frequency of Service. A draft stallion will sire more live foals by making one service per day, than he will by making two or more services daily. Excessive service is a frequent cause of sterility, besides producing many weakly foals.

347. Barrenness. If your mare will not breed, ask yourself why. Nature made every female a producer of her kind.

348. Cost of Maintaining Barren Mares. Barren mares are costing the breeders of the United States more than \$200,000,000 annually. This is a tax upon the breeder and the country which should no longer be tolerated.

349. The Brood Mare. Give the brood mare a chance. Her foal will sell for more money than her labor.

350. The Capsule Service. Where the work is properly done, capsule service will result in 30 per cent more foals than natural service.

351. The Care of Foals. To mature a foal into a good horse, requires good feeding as well as good breeding. If five pounds of oats per day will make a good foal, ten pounds will make a better one.

352. The Education of the Foal. An hour spent in the early education of a foal, is worth more than a week spent later in breaking.

353. Pure Air. No tonic ever sold over a drug counter is worth so much to breeding stock as pure air.

354. Pure Water. To do their best, horses require pure water quite as much as yourself.