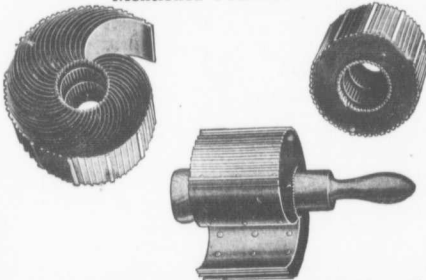


Two Leading Features OF "SIMPLEX" CREAM SEPARATORS

1. The Link-Blade Skimming Device
2. The Self-Balancing Bowl

Note the Principal Advantages of the Above-Mentioned Features:—



The Link-Blades closed for skimming, open for cleaning and held by standard for convenience in cleaning.

1. Increased capacity of from 30 to 50 per cent. over the most efficient of previous devices, combined with very clean skimming under a wide range of conditions as to milk, temperatures, etc.
2. Great convenience in cleaning and handling, because the blades do not come apart, and do not have to be re-assembled in any particular order.
3. The device being expandible, and fitting the bowl snugly, it can never become loose, or shift in the bowl, and throw the same out of balance.
4. The pressure being transmitted through a series of brass rivets, there is no strain on the blades themselves, and there is no rusting formed by the points of contact of the rivets.
5. The device, being much more efficient, is a great deal lighter and smaller in order to do the same amount of work, making it still easier to handle, and requires less power to run than other devices of same capacity.

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Adv. Dept., FARM AND DAIRY, Peterboro, Ont.

It is desirable to mention the name of this publication when writing to advertisers

Our Mistakes in Breeding

B. H. Landels, B. S. A., N. S. Agr. College

One of the most common and most obvious mistakes in breeding that we are making in Nova Scotia is the use of the "scrub" sire, because he is a good individual and the other extreme, that of the weakling pure bred because of his pedigree. These mistakes are in the same class; the one as short-sighted as the other. Our government could well afford to consider this matter with intent to prohibit even the keeping of such animals, because if kept they will be used. France has demonstrated the possibilities of governmental control of breeding sires.

The next mistake is in the choice of breeds for a given purpose. The differences in breeds adapt them for different conditions and expenses. For instance, the hog does not produce the highest class bacon, neither do Holstein cattle utilize rough pasture lands to as good advantage as Ayrshires. Our province, small as it is, has within it many differing conditions. Yet our farmers continually make the mistake of choosing their breed without considering conditions at all. The general result is expensive production, often of poor quality, and degenerating stock. Or the breeder, realizing his mistake, switches over to another breed, at great waste of time and expense, and often, worse still, uses his ill-adapted stock as a basis for future breeding, in order to save present expense, thus making his climb still harder.

CONSISTENCY LACKING

Another error we make, so broad in its scope that it includes practically everything left, is lack of consistency in breeding.

First, consistency in type. Possibly no two breeders quite agree on single type firmly fixed in his mind, or so constantly changes his ideal. More dangerous still, because more insidious, are the methods employed to reach an ideal once fixed. An individual, possessing some good characteristic in marked degree, is selected and used. The next sire to be used may be, perhaps, equally desirable, but from the standpoint of a different characteristic altogether, the special feature of the first being rather weak in the second, the breeder losing sight of the fact that gain in one respect is offset by loss in another.

Great breeders have apparently followed this method at times, but careful study and keen insight into the art and science of breeding are necessary if any measure of success is to be secured except by a rare, lucky accident. Success in breeding for better stock can only be assured by guarding carefully against the loss in any degree of a single desirable characteristic, even if other desirable features are added more slowly.

STAY WITH ONE BREED

Secondly, consistency in the breed. Having desirable type in mind and breed chosen, "stay with it." Failure here is all too common, especially among agricultural societies where sires, first of one breed then of another, are purchased in order to satisfy the demands of the several members. Thus the intermixture runs on, any progress that is made with one sire being promptly lost with the rest.

Thirdly—consistency in progress itself. One of the most common mistakes of all, especially when grading, is to follow the use of a good sire with the use of one of somewhat inferior quality. Better by far to reverse the order if the inferior animal is to be used at all. Then, if his use has raised the quality of the offspring above that of their dams, the better sire will have that much higher class material to work upon. The

other always constitutes a step in the wrong direction.

These are a few of the outstanding mistakes we have made and are still making in our province. Our mistakes cannot be considered peculiar to ourselves. They are not unique in any way. They are made in every province of Canada. Could they be corrected, the nation of the agricultural world would soon be drawn toward the live stock of the "Bluenose" province.

Comments on the Draft Horses

Geo. P. Grout, Minnesota

The breeding of draft horses has come to be a very profitable adjunct to diversified farming, and at no time during the past 15 or 20 years has the price been higher for good draft and heavy farm horses. While the automobile may, to a certain extent, have displaced the horse for city delivery, still the bulk of the farm work is done with horses and good stock of good stock is as high or higher than ever. There is not the demand for medium-quality and light weight horses that there used to be, but good, smooth draft and heavy farm horses are bringing good prices. There is little reason why the farmer should not continue to raise horses of this kind, since brood-mares—and stallions, too, for that matter—will produce stronger and better ones for having been kept steadily at work on the farm.

On the home farm we have raised some of the cleanest, best colts, and worked the mares right along. There are certain conditions under which it does not seem practical to put the breeding stock into harness, but as many farms these conditions are not met. Where a farmer must rely almost wholly on hired help to drive his teams, it may not be practicable to put pure-bred stock into harness. If the farm boy shows an interest in horses, raise some good drafters. Put a good harness on them, and let the boy do his team work, and there will be no question about the care they will get. You will find the boy after a day's work, out cursing off the horses, making sure they are comfortable. I speak from experience and know that when these horses are offered for sale they will bring a good price.

Horse Wisdom

Don't let the horse stand unblanketed while you gossip with your neighbor. Throw the rug over him, and then he will enjoy the conversation as much as you do.

There is lots of wisdom in that part of the horse, "Up the hill drive me not, down the hill force me not, at the level spare me not." It takes a lot of energy to carry a load uphill on a trot. Forcing a horse down a hill at a break-neck speed accounts for defective knees, bad gait and a weak neck in many horses.

Where several colts are wintered it is well to separate them into groups according to size, otherwise the older ones will get all the good things that are going.

Items of Interest

The Nova Scotia Agricultural College has a bull calf that establishes a world's record for weight. This bull weighed when born 145 lbs. 14 lbs. The dam of the calf, "College Fawn," weighed at birth 136 lbs.

All live stock farmers should receive a copy of a bulletin recently issued by the Live Stock Commission of Ottawa on "The Commercial Bull." This bulletin gives a plain concise description of the disease itself, how it spreads among cattle and methods of suppression. The bulletin is written in a plain, simple manner that will be understood by all.