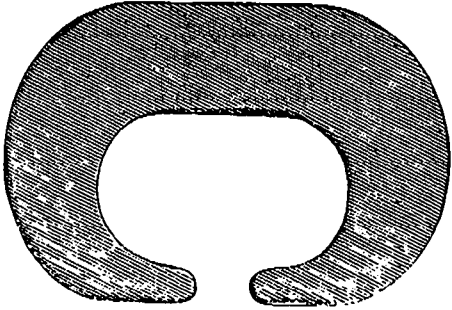


Live Stock.

Nose-Board to Prevent Sucking.

WHEN growing calves are allowed to run together they often acquire an injurious habit of sucking one another, and still more serious in its consequences is the trick, which some cows have, of self-sucking. A very easily made and effective restraint on such animals is the wooden nose-jewel, depicted herewith. It is made of pine or basswood board, half an inch thick for calves and



Nose-Board for Calves.

three-quarters of an inch for older animals. To shape the implement, two holes, an inch in diameter, are bored, a narrow notch sawed in the side to the holes, and then with a knife the whole is finished off and the points rounded, as shown in the engraving. The notch between the points is made just wide enough to allow the contrivance to slip snugly upon the cartilage between the nostrils of the animal that is to wear it. When properly adjusted it does not interfere with grazing, but is an effectual barrier to obtaining surreptitious supplies of lacteal fluid.—*American Agriculturist.*

Too many farmers do not appreciate the value of pasturage for hogs, or if they have pasturage, do not realize the importance of supplementing it with light grain rations.

The proper way to salt horses is to place a big lump of rock salt within their reach, and this need not be done oftener than once every month or two. Rock salt is the cheapest as well as the best for horses and all kinds of stock.

USUALLY no pains are taken to provide hogs with plenty of clean water, which is one reason why they are more liable to disease. The swill-tub, with its dishwater and other slop, is no substitute for pure water so far as health is concerned. In winter especially there is little advantage in giving sloppy food. The hog will thrive better if given meal only slightly moistened, and left to drink that clean water it chooses from another dish. If you want sweet pork the hog must have pure water to drink and for wallow. When shut up to fatten, he must have a clean plank floor, with a little clean bedding, changed often. Give clean corn, either cooked or ground, with pure water. In summer and winter he should have as much as he will eat of lime and salt mixed. Never let him stop growing, and slaughter him in his best flight of growth, and then you will have sweet pork.

The best time, all things considered, to have a foal is soon after she has been turned out to pasture. At this time they get what exercise nature intended they should have, and the fresh mares as a laxative, so that the risk of losing the foal is reduced to the minimum. The foal will thrive better and do better than if foaled early in the spring, especially if the mare is expected to do a share of the "s ring work." It is very essential that the mare should have plenty of exercise. It is not enough that she has a box stall to run in, it is much better that she should be turned out in a yard during the day. In the fall is a good time for a mare to foal, as it is not the busy part of the year. The foal may be weaned in the spring, and the mare will be ready for work; but—too often the case—the foal should not be allowed to go without his regular allowance of food, even when the pasture is the best, during the summer.

SOME stock breeders, especially those who raise fancy steers, are accustomed to feed meal to cattle when at pasture. If the practice were more universally observed there would be better animals brought to our markets, and the results would be more gratifying to the growers. Poor grass pastures do not supply the cattle with sufficient nourishment to enable them to fatten quickly. Milch cows turned from the solid food of the barn to the thin pastures of the field demand some meal ration along with the grass. The milk flow may be kept up for a time under the changed circumstances, but a gradual shrinkage will surely follow. A slight expense in providing the animals with meal will insure a larger flow of milk and be found very profitable. The steers will grow larger in frame, and lay on flesh at the same time. For milch cows that are expected to keep up their flesh as well, the proper meal is corn meal, and for steers and colts that are growing, wheat bran is the best.

A LEADING dairy authority says that a good butter cow should have a long face, the eye alert and expressive, and placed a long way below the horns. A cow with eyes near the top of the head does not know any more than a man with eyes so placed. She should have a large muzzle, a slim neck and a yellow skin, especially inside the ears; the breathing should be regular, the back and abdomen strong, the udder wide where it connects with the body, the teats squarely placed, and the tail slim. Over and above all these points, she must have the dairy form. The points at best are only indications. The dairy form is inseparably connected with a good butter cow. The desirable dairy form is always seen in the best types of Jerseys, Guernseys, Holsteins, and Ayrshires. The best beef form is presented in the Shorthorns, Herefords, and most of the polled breeds. The intelligent dairyman, with a knowledge born of experience, desire, and a capacity for the business, never makes the mistake of choosing his cow with a beef form. Neither will the intelligent beef breeder choose his animal from the dairy form, with her cat head and relaxed expression. Physical structure and natural adaptability embrace the possibilities and therefore increase the probabilities of success with the butter cow.

A SUCCESSFUL sheep breeder says: In order to get a good fleece the sheep must be kept in vigorous condition. It is one thing to feed for vigor, and quite another to feed for fat. In order to obtain vigor we must sustain and build the muscles and furnish food to make activity. To produce fat requires food to fill up the tissues and to store up material for heat and life, or existence. This condition is attained by rest, quiet, and the consumption of starchy and oily foods, while vigor comes from the feeding of bran, oats, linseed meal and foods abounding in muscle material and the phosphates. Wool is produced more by foods of this nature than by the heat and fat-forming kinds. We must then feed the fleece and at the same time feed the body which is to produce it. If the body from which the wool is to come is made feverish there will be a failure, and if the foods be too stimulating the sheep will shed what wool it may have. A moderate amount of oily foods is required to furnish the oil the wool should have, and it is for this reason some farmers imagine there is nothing like corn for sheep, as it is so full of oil and starch. Corn is not the best food; a little in winter is all right, but in summer it should not be fed for wool-growing. The foods which will conduce the most to bodily growth will make the most wool. I have obtained the best results in wool-growing by feeding a mixture of wheat bran, four parts, linseed meal, one part, and oats, one part. This mixture, in proper proportions, is always safe for ewes or lambs. When clover hay is fed a quart twice a day is a liberal ration for ewes, and half of this quantity for lambs, but when timothy hay—the curse of sheep—is fed, more of the grain ration should be given. Sheep will do well on good straw with this grain mixture. Good oat straw is equal to timothy hay, especially if the hay is coarse and ripe.

The Poultry Yard.

IRON drinking vessels are the best, as the rust is good for the fowls.

CHARCOAL should be fed to all poultry, young or old. It assists wonderfully in the growth of chicks, and contributes largely to their healthfulness.

As soon as the poultry get full feathered let them have a full range. They will thrive better, grow faster and keep healthier when they have plenty of exercise.

APPLY coal oil or turpentine on the roosting places occasionally in the morning. This will destroy vermin effectually, and if given time to evaporate will not whiten the yellow legs of your fowls.

KEEPING fowls on hard floors or runs will frequently cause swollen feet and legs. They must have some loose ground to scratch over; it does them good in various ways. The dry grain should be well strewn amongst the loose earth and if they are in a small space, they must and will scratch and find it or go without.

PROVIDE for the comfort of the growing stock, and during the next three months keep them from being exposed to a hot sun during the day. Temporary coverings will do in the absence of shade trees. Fowls suffer much from the hot sun when there is no escape; such little comforts they need as well as other animals, and an agreeable shade in June, July, and August is refreshing to the birds.

As the summer goes on, select your best birds to keep, or to sell as breeding stock. Put by also the strongest, quickest growing ones of the others for roasting chickens, to be sold late in the winter. Then sell the rest as fast as they are big enough, before the markets get their autumn overstocking. You can make any miscellaneous farm poultry profitable, but your work will be more interesting if you have one special kind of fowls, and find out for yourself the pride and pleasure of "high breeding."

A LADY who has had fifteen years' experience in raising poultry writes: "There is not a poultry keeper but has, at times, fowls in his yard with broken legs, and often the most valuable fowls at that. I have mended the broken limbs of fowls, old and young, and have never failed to effect a cure. I do not use splints at all, but rely on pure linseed oil, the thicker the better. Pour linseed oil into a saucer or dish, and set aside uncovered. Exposure to the open air causes it to thicken when a scum rises on top. When you have occasion to mend the limb of a fowl, raise up the scum and dip your finger in the oil and rub the oil well around the broken place, putting plenty of oil on it. Then replace the scum. Handle the wounded fowl carefully and put in rather a small coop; one large enough for it to stand up in naturally, but not large enough for it to take much exercise. You may have to repeat the application if a large fowl, about the next day. You will be surprised how nicely this oil, on the broken place, will form a crust, entirely doing away with splints. It is soothing and healing to the flesh, as well as beneficial to knit together the broken or badly splintered bone. If the fracture is above the knee-joint, push the feathers aside or clip off some with a pair of shears. I have mended a fracture as high up as nearly to the top of the thigh-bone. I always leave the fowl in the coop until it is well, which will be a week or ten days if a large one; more or less according to the age and severity of the fracture. Be sure to water and feed well; if possible give a little bone meal every other day in the soft feed, or if you have none, brown any bone you can find until you can crush it and put in a teaspoonful to a handful of corn meal and bran. Be sure to feed the fowl half bran in its soft feed and put gravel before it."