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### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. Miscellaneous.

#### HARD MILKERS--FLY MIXTURE

Will you please tell me, in your next paper, if you know of anything to put on milch cows to keep flies off; also if there is any cure for a cow that is hard to milk?

J. J. M.

Ans.—1. To keep flies off of cows, use the following mixture: Fish oil,  $\frac{1}{2}$  gallon; coal oil,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint; crude carbolic acid, 4 tablespoonfuls. Mix, and apply to all parts of the cow except the udder, once or twice a week.

2. To cure a hard milker, the use of a wooden plug has frequently been resorted to. This is whittled to such shape that it remains in the teat, and is of such a size as to distend the muscles closing the orifice at the end of the teat. Hard wood is preferably used to make this pin. Others have used a sharp, small knife-blade, and slit the end of the teat just a little. Would suggest that you try the plug first, leaving it in the teat all the time between milking, for a period of a week or longer. If it fails, you might try the second method, though it is less desirable. Before and after using the knife, wash the end of the teat with an antiseptic solution daily.

#### COURSES AT O. A. C.—COWS NOT COMING IN HEAT.

1. To whom should I write for information regarding the winter courses of the Ontario Agricultural College? Are any of the courses advisable for a young man of 22 years of age?

2. We have six cows which have been milking for two or three months that do not come in heat. Is there any remedy? Would forcing do any good? Were grainfed until middle of June.

D. MacC.

Ans.—1. Address Dr. G. C. Creelman, President, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Ont. The question whether it is advisable for a young man of 22 to attend any but the special short courses, must depend upon circumstances. If possible to get away, however, we believe a two-years' course will pay in the long run, especially when one considers the increased satisfaction of living that results from education and culture of the mind. Money is not everything, but even on a strictly financial basis, it might easily pay to attend the Agricultural College, if one made good use of his time while there.

2. Forced service might possibly prove effective, though it is an expedient we always hesitate to recommend. Letting the cows down in condition, and then flushing them up, sometimes induces them to show oestrus.

#### MILK-GIVING MARE.

I am writing you about a mare I have; she is giving milk and never had a colt; has a bag the same as a mare that had foaled. She had the service of a stallion about the 5th of April, 1910, and again the 22nd of June, 1910. After the last service, she has been giving milk. I have milked it out on the ground occasionally. She is in good, healthy condition. Her food is clover and grass.

1. What would be good to feed her?
2. Will driving hurt her while under treatment?
3. What treatment should I give her?
4. Where had she better be kept, in the barn or in the pasture?
5. Is there danger of any disease setting in?

W. D. S.

Ans.—1. It is a rather unusual condition to have a mare continue to give milk, though it is not an unknown thing for mares to give a little milk while in oestrus. Evidently, the maternal instincts are particularly strong in this mare, and the flow of milk once started has continued. Feed her upon dry hay, using grasses, such as timothy, in preference to clover.

2. Work will do her good, and will help to more quickly stop the flow of milk.
3. Feed her upon dry feeds, feeding rather lightly; keep her off the grass and put her to work.
4. Keep in the barn.
5. There is no particular danger of any disease setting in.

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