

Feed and Comfort For Dairy Cows

A. S. Turner & Sons, Wentworth Co., Ont.

We believe that all stock, pure bred and grade, should be properly housed, cared for, and fed. We believe more. We believe that too much care cannot be given the dairy cow if the best possible results are to be had.

To have the best dairy cow we begin when the calf is dropped. We have always found it best to take the calf away before it takes any nourishment from the dam. We then milk the cow, giving the calf two pounds of this colostrum for its first meal, gradually increasing to eight pounds of milk. This quantity is given until the calf is thought old enough to take other food.

We always keep our calves in good growing condition with plenty of food, especially bran. In fact, they should always be kept growing, and in good flesh to make large, healthy cows. Great mistakes are made in turning calves out when too young to pick their own living in hot summer, when flies are bad. We always keep them in our stables for their first season.

COMFORT IN WINTER QUARTERS

In caring for the dairy cow, we aim to make her as comfortable as possible when stabled. We give our herd of Ayrshires plenty of bedding, also lots of fresh air. We never have them over warm; if anything, they do better with the stable on the cool side.

Two very important points are fresh air and exercise. We always turn six cows out for half an hour in their turn if the weather is favorable, so as to give our entire herd exercise and fresh air.

Grooming the cows is also an important thing. In summer our cows are sprayed with Dr. Williams' Fly Destroyer every morning. We do not believe in leaving our cows out at night when the ground becomes damp and cold in the fall. They are then much better in the stable. A cow should have water before her at all times, as a heavy milking cow partakes of a large quantity in the course of a day.

BACK TO THEIR LIKING

In feeding, we believe in studying each individual, giving her what she will consume and the foods her tastes desire. In our experience we have found no two cows to consume the same amount, or to have the same tastes. For instance, some cows are very fond of bran, while others are fond of oilcake.

No cow is given more to eat than she will eat up clean every meal. Neither should she be forced to eat that for which she does not care. We will not here state what we feed our cows. That is impossible. We could give, however, did space permit, the food consumed by each individual in our herd.

We have found that in order to get the best possible results, the dairy cow must not be neglected. She must be fed at regular hours.

When once a cow gets used to her feeding hour she expects to be fed then. And lastly, always go around the cows as quietly as possible.

Winter Care of Colts

Dr. C. C. Lipp, Minn.

With the winter season at hand comes the increased necessity for the proper care of the spring colts. This is a matter of sufficient importance to demand careful attention. Two fundamental principles must be kept well in mind, because upon their observance depends to a very considerable extent the success or failure of the project.

In the first place, the quality and quantity of feed demands attention. The colts are growing and developing animals, whose value at maturity is measured to no inconsiderable extent by the degree of development of bone and muscle. Satisfactory development can only result when proper feed is supplied. The formation of

We'll Do Better Next Time

Editor, Farm and Dairy,—Your Breeders' Annual was splendid. The pictures were ideal, the ads. so well written that I read them with great delight. From cover to cover it could scarcely be excelled as a farm paper.—James E. Orr, Middlesex Co., Ont.

bone and muscle requires rations containing the so-called tissue builders in large quantities. In a grain ration of oats are combined the necessary elements for the formation of bone and muscle better than in any other single grain, and for this reason oats form a most necessary part of the ration. Other grains and mixtures may be substituted, but none of them are better than oats. However, if other rations are fed, remember that the demands of the animal require a quantity sufficient for tissue formation as well as for energy and warmth. To feed sparingly is to interfere with development to such an extent that its effects may remain in evidence throughout the life of the horse.

WITHOUT EXERCISE—FAILURE

Daily exercise is the second fundamental principle in the successful wintering of colts. Only failure can result even if tissue building material is fed in sufficient amount, but the daily exercise is insufficient. Not only is the maintenance of vigorous health impossible, but the development of newly formed tissue is seriously hindered. It is common knowledge that any tissue not in daily use soon becomes weak, and if the disuse continues long enough, becomes practically worthless. How can strong muscles be developed except by exercise, and how is exercise possible when no opportunity is provided for it?

A Talk on Heredity

"The influence of heredity is a vexed and difficult question," said Prof. H. Barton, of MacDonald College, Que., in conversation with an editor of Farm and Dairy recently. "Before we can draw any definite rules governing heredity, we need the testimony of a great number of cases from which to draw our deductions. In investigations along this line we in Canada are somewhat behind our American cousins.

"The most extensive investigations along the line of heredity are those conducted by Davenport who studied the records of 608 cows. He found, as all investigators must find, that there is a great deal of variation, and that like does not always produce like. He found, however, that the majority of good cows come from good cows and that the majority of poor cows come from poor producing stock. The fact, however, that good cows may produce low producing daughters necessitates close weeding and culling in the best of herds all the time.

"For the same reason the man who sells all of the calves produced in his herd no matter how good may be the mature animal, is in all probability doing his breed some injury as we may expect some poor individuals to appear. I know that many men are marketing calves on the strength of a few phenomenal records. This is not right. The further we get away from the average production of the breed, the harder it is to find a male with qualities equal to the female, and besides there is always a drag to bring the offspring back to the average.

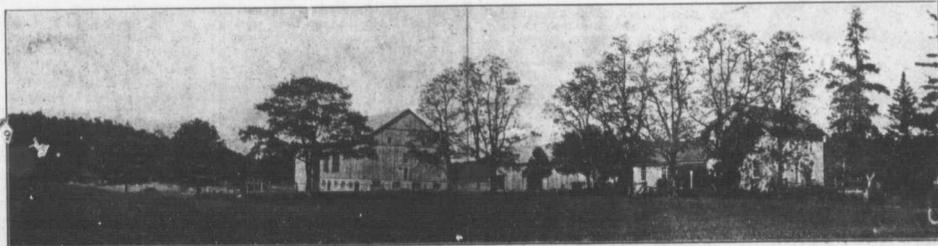
WHAT THE RECORDS SHOW

"A study of Record of Merit tests made by Holstein cows shows that 90 per cent. of the females registered have also ancestors recorded in the record book. The requirements for advanced registry is not a difficult one to make, hence at the bottom many females might get in that have no recorded ancestors. Harper of Cornell, has shown that as production increases the percentage of females making the higher records, and also having record making ancestors is higher than at the lower levels of production. When we double the requirements for registry we find that not a single female qualifying is bred from any other than record making ancestry.

"Then the general conclusion would be that the safest plan in breeding for greater production is to use stock from record ancestry," we suggested.

"Exactly," replied Prof. Barton. "There may be good cows outside of advanced registry lists but all evidence on hand goes to show that in the main A. R. O. cows are breeding A. R. O. offspring."

The man who is emptying his silo with a five-tined manure fork can make no better investment than in a big wide ensilage fork.



Can the Western Prairies Offer Anything so Attractive as This Beautiful Ontario Homestead?

A gently rolling country, a landscape rendered beautiful by many splendid trees and forest groves, and splendid farm buildings, give to rural Ontario an attractiveness that cannot be duplicated in any of the newer prairie provinces. Were the good points of Ontario as widely advertised as are the good points of the West, Ontario people would have a bigger appreciation of the many merits of their province. The standing here illustrated is that of Chris Richardson, Halton Co., Ont. There are many like it in Ontario. Are there any like it in the West?