

## Utilizing Pig Pen By-Products

One of the first necessities in feeding pigs is a first class pen. The permanent hog-house should be very light and well ventilated, with no dark corners. It should be built so that it will be warm in winter and cool in summer. It is usually better to have two pens, one for the feeding and the other for the breeding stock, as the breeding pigs require more attention than the feeding or finishing animals. While we need warm, well ventilated pens for winter feeding, our summer feeding should be done on pasture, if possible where lucerne will grow. The pigs will thrive on lucerne pasture and will also do well on clover, timothy vetches, rape and rye. When they are turned out on pasture, small moveable pens should be provided for sleeping quarters and shelter from sun and storms. These pens should be permanently fastened to 4 x 4 skids, so as to be readily moveable from place to place with one horse. The manure dropped on pasture finds its way directly to the soil and has a very beneficial effect as fertilizer.

Attached to the permanent feeding pen should be a yard, preferably with a cement bottom shaped somewhat like a saucer in which all the liquid and solid manure can be saved. If the manure from the horse stables is daily scattered in this yard the undue moisture of the pig manure will be absorbed and the horse manure will be prevented from fire-fanging, two important considerations. In this connection I should like to draw attention to the value of pig manure, which on a good many farms is practically wasted. Owing to the mixed nature of the food supplied to swine, their manure is of course quite variable in composition, but it is generally rich, although containing a high percentage of water. The urine is valuable also, but not so valuable as the manure itself. With other domestic animals the reverse is true. Still hog urine should be carefully saved along with the solid excrement.

### FIGURES THAT COUNT

The following extracts from a table prepared by the late Sir John B. Lawes, the famous English experimentalist, show the relative values of the manure resulting from the feeding of one ton of each of the feeds mentioned:—

Corn Meal.....	\$ 6.65
Wheat.....	7.08
Barley.....	6.32
Oats.....	7.70
Fine Shorts.....	13.53
Coarse.....	14.36
Wheat bran.....	14.59
Clover Hay.....	9.64
Tares.....	15.75
Linseed cake.....	19.72
Linseed meal.....	15.65
Peas.....	13.38
Mangel Wurzel.....	1.07
Swedish Turnips.....	91
Common Turnips.....	86
Potatoes.....	1.50
Carrots.....	80

Paranips..... 1.15

The probable value of manure in producing 100 pounds of pork is as follows:—

From Indian Corn.....	\$ 1.78
From peas.....	3.56
From clover.....	4.82
From skim milk.....	5.00

The average value of the

manure.....\$ 3.79  
It is estimated that the value of the manure, liquid and solid from a brood sow or stock pig for one year is about \$12.00.

The question can be very properly asked, What precautions are we taking to save this valuable product? More manure means heavier crops; heavier crops mean more manure; and if we exercise care in this respect, our farms will grow richer yearly.

F. W. Hodson,  
Live Stock Commissioner.

### The Cost of Raising Hogs

In your issue of Feb. 2, there is an interesting article on the bacon hog, by Mr. F. W. Hodson in which he holds the farmer and drover largely responsible for the price of hogs. If, as he says, the quality of hogs for one week decides the price for the next week how is it that hogs remain steady for a while then take a rise of from 25c. to 25c. and then drop steeply at about the same rate for some time. Are the hogs to blame, the farmer or the drover? Of course the packer wouldn't do such a trick! There is not much in the raising of hogs anyway for when the farmer gets his hogs ready for market the price is probably down at the bottom.

The farmer, generally speaking, does not know what his hogs cost but it is generally conceded that it takes between four and five pounds of feed to make one pound of gain according to age. We will suppose it only takes 4 lbs. which will make eight hundred pounds of feed at 1c. per lb., or \$8 to raise a hog up to 200 lbs. Little pigs around here six weeks old sell for \$2.50 to \$3.00 each. This brings the first cost of raising the bacon hog up to \$10.50. The hog weighing 200 lbs. will be worth, say, \$5.75 per cwt., perhaps not that, making a total of \$11.50, which leaves a profit of \$1.00 per hog for pen room, labor, profit, etc.

While I do not want to discourage the hog raiser, I believe it is right that he should know the dark as well as the bright side of hog raising.

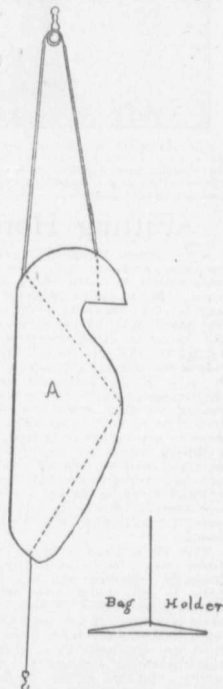
"Farmer," Huron Co., Ont.

Note.—There are a great many farmers who have been raising bacon hogs for several years back and have made money out of them, who will no doubt take exception to "Farmer's" method of estimating profits. We have not space to go into details here, or it would be easy enough to show that a hog weighing 200 lbs. could be produced for less than \$10.50. For instance "Farmer" does not deduct

the weight of the young pigs he buys at \$2.50 or \$3.00 each from the total weight when estimating cost. If the young pig only weighed 10 lbs. it would add 40c to profit account. We would be glad to have the experience of feeders as to the profits in hog raising.—Ed.

### Device for Hanging a Pig

Make a block (a) out of maple or any strong hard wood, in size according to the rope used—No. 40 twine will require a block 3 inches by 1½ inches by ¾ of an inch thick. Bore on the dotted lines and pass



the cord through as shown in the drawing. For the top use a small pulley or round stick for the line to run smoothly over. For the bottom have a hook or bag-holder. Then with one hand lift on the weight to be raised and with the other pull down on the block, and it will hold all you can raise and never slip.

For a heavy pig or calf, use one for each hind leg, with rope and block according to weight to be raised. For the bag-holder have a strong stick about twelve inches long with a wire nail driven in each end and filed to a point. Let the cord pass through the middle and attach to the lifting device and you can raise or lower to suit any sized bag.

C. O. Simpson, Hastings Co.