

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.
Miscellaneous.

Veterinary.

SLINGS.

What is the best kind of slings to be used in a barn, 35 feet high? Which would be better, a wooden track or steel track?
I. W.

Ans.—Experience invited.

REGISTERING A CLYDESDALE.

Could you inform me if a Canadian-bred Clydesdale stallion has to have six crosses, with dam and grandam registered, in order to be eligible for registration? Please give me full information or registering one.
S. W.

Ans.—The rule governing entries of that class is as follows: Clydesdale stallions having five top crosses by recorded sires, and Clydesdale mares having four top crosses by recorded sires. In all cases of Canadian-bred animals, the dam must be recorded before the male foal is eligible, or in case of a female foal with five crosses, the dam must be recorded before she is eligible. Write "Accountant," National Live-stock Records, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, asking for blank forms for registering Clydesdales, stating the number of these forms you require. Full information as to fees, etc., are printed on these forms.

BREEDING YOUNG BULL—UNTHRIFTY CALVES.

1. I have an Ayrshire bull, calved August 10th, 1907. He is large and well developed for the age. Would it hurt his growth in any way to breed a few of my best cows to him? I would not want to breed until last of July or during August. If you think it safe, how many could I put to him?

2. Have a couple of calves that got sucking each other in the summer, and are now very unthrifty; can not get them to eat roots or any good, succulent feed to get them started growing. What would you advise?

Ans.—1. It is not uncommon to breed a strong young bull of the dairy breeds to a few cows at the age of twelve months. We would, however, limit the number to eight or ten, and avoid giving him more than one on any one day, and would permit only one service.

2. Would advise giving each a half pint of raw linseed oil to purge them. Then take one ounce each sulphate of iron, gentian, ginger and nux vomica. Mix and make into twenty-four powders, and give each a powder three times daily in a pint of cold water as a drench. Feed good clover hay, and ground oats and bran as much as they will clean up.

MOTION OF FETUS IN WOMB—WHEAT FOR IN-FOAL MARES.

1. Is there any foundation of truth in the saying that in case of a mare carrying a foal, that to see the fetus rolling or kicking, as it is commonly called, frequently is an indication of a weak foal? I have been told that it is a sure sign of a weak foal.

2. Has the feeding of a small quantity of wheat to a mare in foal any effect to the producing of a strong foal?
SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—1. Journalistic experience brings to one's notice a long list of absurd notions, but this is a new one to us. Such misconceptions are probably formed by someone having observed, or thought he observed, one or two weak foals from mares showing the signs mentioned, and like many other people unscientifically trained, he jumped to the conclusion that coincidence must necessarily spell cause and effect. Hypothetically speaking, we should say a strong foal would be more likely to manifest its vigor in this way than a weak one. If there be any substratum of truth at all in the notion quoted, we should say it was explained on the ground that careless treatment as to working, allowing ice-cold water to drink, etc., adversely affected the development of the fetus, the immediate effect upon which would be to produce unusually violent conditions within the womb. But we would not advise paying any attention to such barnyard vapors.

2. A number of good horsemen make a practice of feeding a small quantity of wheat to in-foal mares, but we opine that oats and bran are better.

ALOES FOR CATTLE.

Is bitter aloes a valuable medicine for cows?

Ans.—Aloes has very little action on cattle. It is supposed to have an action upon the third stomach, but, in practice, we generally fail to notice much results. Those who understand the action and uses of drugs, do not administer aloes to cattle, except in cases of fardelbound (impaction of the third stomach), when, occasionally, it is given in conjunction with saline purgatives. Aloes is not harmful to cattle, except from the fact that it gives an unpleasant odor and taste to the milk of milking cows.
V.

LAME MARE—UNTHRIFTY MARE.

1. Mare galloped to stable door and stopped short. Next morning she was lame in both fore feet. She got better, but was a little stiff. The foot bulged out at the coronet. This has now grown down, but the feet are very irregular in shape, and she goes stiff when in harness.

2. Five-year-old mare is in poor condition. She has lampas. She urinates frequently, and little at a time, and sometimes the urine is whitish and thick. She sweats easily, and remains damp for a long time.
W. R.

Ans.—1. The trouble is doubtless in her feet, and it is doubtful if she will ever get right. Make a blister of two drams each of biniodide of mercury and cantharides, mixed with two ounces vaseline, and blister the coronets once every month for several months in order to encourage the growth of hoof. Details for blistering are frequently given in these columns.

2. Get your veterinarian to dress her teeth and scariify the lampas. Give her four drams nitrate of potassium in soft food every night for three nights. Feed well, and give regular exercise. As soon as the weather becomes warm enough, have her clipped.
V.

SELECTING A STALLION.

1. I have a mare by a Standard-bred stallion, out of a well-bred mare. She is 15½ hands and weighs 1,150 lbs. Should I breed her to a Hackney, Thoroughbred or Standard-bred? Would breeding to Hackney or Thoroughbred be called cross-breeding? How should I breed her to produce a harness horse?

2. Five-year-old mare has never been bred. Her mammae enlarged and run milk occasionally. Would it be wise to breed her?
E. D. W.

Ans.—1. As this mare is not pure-bred, it might be called cross-breeding to breed her to any stallion. She is a mare that should give fair results if bred to any of the classes you mention. The selection of a stallion should be governed largely by the general characteristics of the mare. If you want a saddle horse, one that will also do fairly well in harness, breed to a Thoroughbred. If you want to produce a heavy-harness (carriage) horse, breed to a Hackney, and if you want a road horse, breed to a Standard-bred. Unless she has considerable quality, do not select a Hackney, as this class of horses do not produce well out of coarse mares.

2. This phenomena is occasionally noticed, and is supposed to be due to irritation of the genital organs, usually occurring about the period of oestrus. It is not serious, and cannot be checked. It would be all right to breed her.
V.

TRADE TOPIC.

Farm and garden seeds of the most approved varieties are advertised in this paper by the old and reliable seed house of John A. Bruce & Co., Hamilton, Ont. It is the part of wisdom to secure select seed early, before the stock in the market has been culled. See the advertisement of this firm, and write them for their free catalogue, giving particulars.



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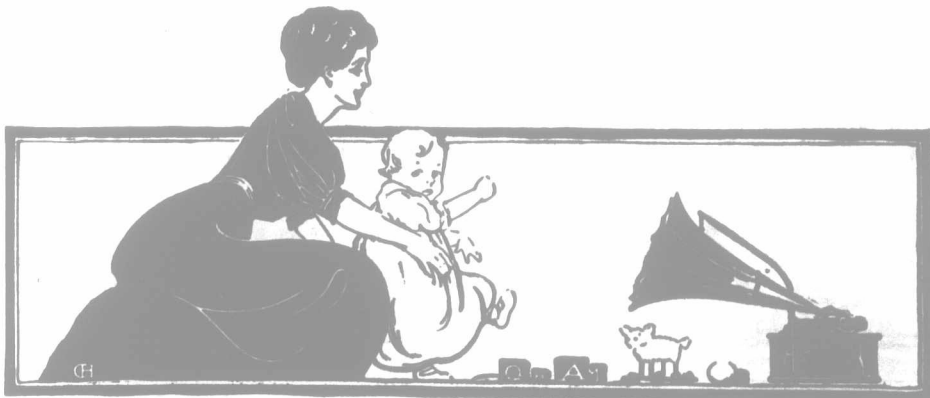
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