

Summer Care of Calves

If we would have cows that will produce large yields of milk and return the profits which are so much desired we must invariably raise that cow from calfhood. The practice in handling calves during the summer months, usually is to turn them to grass as soon as possible and let them take their chances from that time forward. Where the best advice prevails, is it any wonder that we hear so much of cows being kept at a loss, and cows that return but a meagre profit? How could it be otherwise? If we would have the cow, we must take care of the calf.

Our most successful dairymen are all agreed that the best results cannot be obtained from calves that are turned to grass during the first summer. Calves that are turned out to grass and allowed to shift for themselves are continually plagued by flies and other insects, besides suffering from the heat, and in some instances enough pasture for a bare sustenance is all that can be obtained. To rear the best calves, one must stable them during the first summer. A clean, airy box stall should be

provided for them and they should be fed and watered regularly. If they are still receiving milk, great care should be exercised to keep the vessels in which they are fed, absolutely clean, for in hot weather, they will soon become filthy if not carefully attended to in this respect. Freshly cut grass or a good quality of clover hay should be supplied them in quantities that they will eat up clean. A little grain, such as oats or bran, fed the youngsters along with their other feed at this time will not be wasted. Any care and feed which this method of handling the calves throughout the summer may entail will be more than paid in the future when the calf becomes a mature cow and yields her product at the stall.

Weeds

The Agricultural College extension bulletin for May of the State University, Columbus, Ohio, is a very timely treatise upon weeds by Vernon H. Davis, Assistant Professor of Horticulture. Weeds, he says, injure the farmer chiefly in two ways, first by offending his idea of the

beautiful and second by the crop loss, the second being the loss that receives the more common estimate from the farmer. In the battle weeds are dealt with to their relation to soil moisture, to the crowding of cultivated plants, to the robbing of the soil of food elements, to the injury to plants, to their tendency towards harboring injurious insects and diseases and in that they render certain products of the farm unavailable. A summary is given of some of the more important artificial methods by which the distribution of weeds can be checked. Successful measures in destroying weeds are founded upon a knowledge of the life of the weed and the manner of its propagation; to avoid introducing or spreading weeds is always better than destroying them. It is to be remembered, also, that while some weeds may be completely eradicated, others can only be held in check and subdued. In conclusion Mr. Davis states that weeds have to do with the conditions of agriculture existing in any given region. We no farmer, however, good, can ever hope to completely rid his farm of weeds, the easiest and cheapest way to keep them in check is by methods of tillage that increase the productiveness of the soil by—

1. A system of rotation.
2. The growing of hoed crops—corn, potatoes, etc.—upon the land infested to the greatest extent possible.
3. The growing of clover and alfalfa whenever practical, because these crops occupy the soil well and may be cut several times a year, thus preventing seeding to a great extent.
4. The growing of soiling crops, both because of the fact that they may be cut at almost any time and because of their smothering properties.
5. Keep the land constantly at work growing some crop. Avoid fallows. When one crop comes off start another immediately, for you may be sure if you don't start one Nature will.
6. Stimulate the soil to a vigorous production by means of thorough cultivation and liberal use of fertilizer. The cultivated plants make a vigorous growth, there will be less room and less chance for the weeds.
7. Weeds in many cases have been a blessing in disguise. They have taught us how to cultivate the soil, and they never allow us to forget the lesson—"Solomon went by the fields of the lotful and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding, and lo! it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof."

It is like a man with a black eye, they don't want other people to know it. Our friend thought that it would be a great deal better if the Department would not send out the summaries of the herds tested, as then there would not be this bad spirit of rivalry amongst the different members of the association, and the work would thereby be greatly facilitated.

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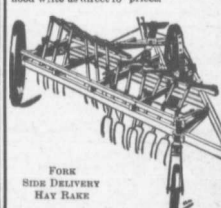
Why Some People Oppose Cow Testing

One of the leading farmers of Peterborough County who called at the office of The Dairyman and Farming World recently is an enthusiastic supporter of the work of the cow testing association. While speaking of the work of these associations, he stated that the great trouble with such organizations is that people do not want their neighbors to know what their cows are doing. It is all right for the ones who have good cows, they will spare no pains in letting their neighbors know that they are doing them out. But, with those people who have poor cows,

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