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CASTORIA

Fletcher's Castoria is strictly a remedy for Infants and Children. Foods are specially prepared for babies. A baby's medicine is even more essential for Baby. Remedies primarily prepared for grown-ups are not interchangeable. It was the need of a remedy for the common ailments of Infants and Children that brought Castoria before the public after years of research, and no claim has been made for it that its use for over 30 years has not proven.

What is CASTORIA?

Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. For more than thirty years it has been in constant use for the relief of Constipation, Flatulency, Wind Colic and Diarrhoea; allaying Feverishness arising therefrom, and by regulating the Stomach and Bowels, aids the assimilation of Food; giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Comfort—The Mother's Friend.

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For Frost Bites and Chilblains.—Chilblains come from undue exposure to slush and cold and frost-bite from the icy winds of winter. In the treatment of either there is no better preparation than Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil, as it counteracts the inflammation and relieves the pain. The action of the oil is instantaneous and its application is extremely simple. m

BLACKHEAD OF TURKEYS

Intestinal Disease Which Causes Considerable Mortality.

No Known Cure for the Trouble—Immediate Killing Recommended—Turkeys Affected Should Be Kept From Other Birds—Handling Asparagus After the Cutting Season.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

THE disease of turkeys commonly known as blackhead (entero-hepatitis) is one that has caused untold havoc to the turkey-raising industry in North America. It is responsible for more sickness and deaths among turkeys than all other diseases combined. It has practically stamped out turkey-raising in many districts.

It is an infectious disease primarily affecting the intestines, more particularly the caeca (blind pouches) and later the liver. It is caused by "Entamoeba maleagridis," a minute unicellular animal organism to see which a high power microscope is necessary. This minute organism is picked up with the food on infected soil. On reaching the caeca with the passage of food it penetrates the mucous lining where it induces inflammation, congestion, thickening of the caecal walls and ulceration. The contents of the caeca thicken into a cheesy or hard dry mass mixed with blood and broken-down epithelial tissue from the mucous lining of the caecal walls.

While this condition of the caeca is developing some of the entamoeba make their way to the liver, where they establish themselves and multiply. The areas of the liver tissue in which the entamoeba establish themselves soon become necrotic, that is they degenerate and die. On post-mortem examination these necrotic areas are very noticeable as whitish or gray, round to irregular, flat or slightly sunken patches in the liver tissue. Sometimes as much as sixty per cent. of the liver tissue will be composed of these necrotic areas.

Needless to say the congestion and ulceration of the caeca and the necrosis of the liver interfere very materially with the functioning of these organs and as a consequence the affected bird becomes listless, mopy, loses flesh and the head loses its bright colored appearance, becoming dull in lustre and dark in color. which condition is responsible for the common name of the disease—blackhead.

Turkeys are liable to contract the disease at any age; they, however, mostly become infected when young. Many die as poults from an acute attack of the disease; others have the disease in a chronic form and live to maturity, but these are never thrifty and always look poor and miserable when compared with healthy birds.

There is no known cure for the disease. Turkeys that show the symptoms of the disease should be killed. If the disease be not too far advanced and the muscle meat in fair condition, it may be used for human consumption as there is little or no danger of man contracting the disease or suffering ill effects as a consequence, particularly if the meat is well cooked. The texture and flavor of the meat, however, will not be so desirable as that from a healthy bird.

Immediate killing of affected birds is recommended because the droppings from such are liable to be heavily infested with the organisms that cause the disease. These being scattered around will naturally spread the disease. It is from the droppings of affected birds that the land gets contaminated and other birds contract the disease.

If affected turkeys are out on free range it is practically impossible to control the spread of the disease amongst others of the flock. If, however, they are kept in colony houses and small runs there is a chance to practice hygienic measures which will limit the dissemination of the causal organism to these small areas which can be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after the sick birds have been disposed of.

The ordinary domestic fowl is liable to suffer from the same trouble, but usually much less acutely than the turkey. In fact, the domestic fowl may harbor the parasite without showing any signs of ill-health. For this reason blackhead is found more common amongst turkeys that run with flocks of domestic fowl than amongst those which are kept by themselves, hence turkeys should not be allowed to run with other fowl.—D. H. Jones, O.A.C., Guelph.

Handling Asparagus After the Cutting Season.

Handling of beds of asparagus after the cutting season is comparatively simple. The first thing necessary is to stop all cutting no later than the first of July. At this time give the bed a thorough cultivation and a heavy coat of manure to the depth of about four to six inches. The addition of commercial fertilizer at the rate of 800 to 1,000 pounds per acre made up largely of nitrogen and phosphorous will be a great help to it. Then allow the bed to grow until the fall, being sure that it is kept sprayed with poison Bordeaux Mixture to keep down the asparagus rust and destroy the asparagus beetle, both in the adult and larval stage. To this poisoned Bordeaux should be added a sticker made of resin or soap as the spray will not adhere to the smooth surface unless this is done. In October when the berries are turning red all the tops should be cut off and burned to remove and danger of asparagus rust or larvae being carried over to next year. The final preparation in the fall is by ploughing toward the row. This will give drainage during the winter time, thus drying out the soil much earlier in the spring when the burrows will be throw back and the bed gets a much earlier start.—A. H. McLennan, Vegetable Specialist.

AFTERBIRTH RETAINED

The Cause and Cure of a Not Uncommon Trouble.

Cows of All Ages Are Sometimes Affected — Remedies Suggested Where Veterinary Cannot Be Had—Grape Pruning For the Garden.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

RETENTION of the afterbirth, foetal membranes or placenta, commonly called "the cleanings," is not uncommon in cows. Its cause is not understood. While it is probably more frequently met with in cows in low condition and unsanitary surroundings, no care, food, attention or surroundings act as preventives. It is noticed in cows of all ages, all breeds, cows in all conditions and at all seasons. We cannot understand why it occurs, or why it cannot be prevented, but experience teaches us that such is the fact. Good care, comfortable surroundings, avoidance of cold and dampness, especially in cold weather and giving a warm mash for a day or two after calving tend to aid expulsion of the membranes, but even all precautions frequently fail. The administration of medicines is ineffective. In ordinary cases the membranes are expelled shortly or in a few hours after parturition, while in other cases they are retained for 24 hours or longer and then spontaneously expelled. In other cases spontaneous expulsion does not take place until after decomposition, when they are expelled in pus and small pieces. The symptoms are usually evident by the protrusion through the vulva of a portion of the membranes, but in rare cases this symptom is not present, the membranes being wholly contained within the uterus. In such cases, provided the cow has been untied it is hard to know whether they are retained or have been eaten by the cow. Cows have the objectionable habit of eating the afterbirth. We cannot account for this taste, and when possible it should be prevented. In some cases the consumption of the membranes does not appear to affect the health or general condition of the animal; in others it causes trouble, and in some cases death from various conditions.

Treatment.—When the membranes have been retained for 24 hours or over in warm weather or for forty-eight hours in cold weather they should be carefully removed by hand. Where a veterinarian can readily be procured it is probably wise for the ordinary stock owner to employ him, but a stockman who understands the anatomy of the parts, and is not afraid of a dirty and sometimes tedious job can operate himself. The lining membrane of the womb is covered with many little lumps (called cotyledons) which are attached by constricted necks, with surfaces varying from one inch or less to three or four inches in diameter, to which the membranes are attached. The operator should have an antiseptic lotion as a 2 per cent. solution of one of the coal tar antisetics in warm water. A gallon of two of this should be injected into the womb. The operator then disinfects his hand and arm with the same, introduces the hand into the womb and carefully separates the membrane from each cotyledon, being careful to not tear off any of them. If a few are removed the consequences are not likely to be serious, but it is better to remove none. When the whole has been removed a little more of the antiseptic should be injected into the womb. It is good practice to give the cow 40 to 50 drops of carbolic acid in a part of cold water as a drench, or sprinkled on her food three times daily until all discharge ceases.—J. H. R., O. A. College, Guelph.

Grape Pruning For the Garden.

The average neglected grapevine is generally such a tangled mess that it is very difficult to describe how to prune it. The owner should determine what sort of a trellis he means to fasten his vine on. If there are a number of vines in a row the general practice is to grow it on two wires, these to be drawn tight on posts about 16 feet apart, first wire three feet and second wire five feet from the ground. If only one or two vines are in a place it can be grown on a trellis made of two narrow strips of board nailed to posts.

One thing never to be overlooked is all fruit is produced on last year's wood. Most neglected vines have too much old wood. Try to get one or two upright canes of two-year-old wood or older with four arms or younger canes equally distributed on the two wires. These arms should not be over six feet long, giving four arms of this length. This is sufficient bearing wood for any vine. Suppose the upright part is satisfactory and there are four arms on it, from these arms laterals or side shoots will grow, on which the fruit is produced. A vine should be pruned after it freezes before winter and before it thaws in the spring. Pruning in mild weather causes bleeding from the cuts. The laterals that bore fruit should be cut back, only leaving one bud to sprout the following season and the fruit will grow on that sprout. It is quite easy to occasionally renew one or more arms by training a young branch to take the older one's place. When that is done cut off the old branch. With a little practice pruning is easy, the common fault being to leave too much wood. If in doubt as to the above method of pruning, write for Illustrated Bulletin 237, "The Grape in Ontario."

Scarcity of Feeder Cattle.

With the growing scarcity of feeder cattle and the advance in value of farm lands, the baby-beef industry is of increasing importance and is receiving the attention of farmers in all live stock sections of the country.

Time-keepers.

A professor was in Egypt supervising the erection of a telescope. He learned that a gun was fired every noon and was anxious to know how the system worked. He accordingly sought an interview with the gunner and asked how he knew just when to give the signal. "Oh, I look at my watch," replied the gunner. "And how do you correct your watch?" asked the professor. "I take it to the watchmaker in Cairo," explained the soldier, "and he tells me the error." Forthwith the professor interviewed the watchmaker and asked him to explain how he checked the error of the gunner's watch. "I always get the correct time from the gun," was the reply.

Fewer Bibles.

While the demand for Bibles in Mexico has reached an unprecedented magnitude, the American Bible Society has been compelled by the increased cost of paper and postage to curtail its output of Scriptures.

Women Surgeons.

For the first time in its long history the Dundee Royal Infirmary in Scotland has women alone as house physicians and surgeons.

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