

NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



By William Pitt

Don't plant corn in weedy ground.

It never pays to hurry a colt at first.

Never feed a horse when it is very warm.

Move the brood coops as often as possible.

You cannot begin to feed and train a colt too early.

Lice will find a sitting hen if nothing is done to prevent it.

The alm should be to make each heifer better than her dam.

A thermometer for churning time earns its way summer and winter.

Don't wait for the beetle to appear on the early potatoes before you spray.

Scours are brought on by feeding cold milk and in keeping in dirty, wet pens.

It takes pretty good grit to let some old hens go, and yet it is a wise thing to do.

The Silver Campine is not a new breed, but one not generally known in this country.

The ewe has been found as economical as the cow in turning hay and grain into milk.

Work done for your cows, sheep and hogs will show itself next fall in the returns you get.

The sow that is so clumsy or nervous that she always kills half her pigs had better go to market.

A large udder is not always a sure sign of a good milker, but more often than not it is a good indication.

If you take the young colt with the mother when at work, put a halter on it and hitch it to the side of the mare.

When the lambs are ten days old there is no danger in docking them—after that dock them just as soon as possible.

The printer and butter spade should be soaked first in hot water and then in cold water for some time before they are used.

The horse's stomach is in no condition to receive food immediately after severe labor, hence the necessity of a short period of rest first.

The calf should be taken from the cow very soon after birth. It learns to drink much more easily than if left several days with the cow.

Unless it runs smoothly and does not vibrate, a separator will not do its best work. A solid foundation means long life for the machine.

Dairy farmers wonder how they ever got along without cream separators. Five years from now they will wonder how they ever got along without silos.

Stallions and mares having small heart girths or light flanks are objectionable from the breeder's standpoint. A horse needs lots of room for heart and lungs.

Rape is a cool weather plant and does best in northern latitudes. Drill in 1 1/2 to 2 pounds to the acre as early in the spring as the danger from hard freezing is past.

The value of silage to sheep has been well enough established for us to know that in the future it is going to play an important part in the production of mutton and wool.

If the hogs are lousy get some crude oil and just as soon as warm weather comes pour a gallon or so of the oil on the holes where they wallow. Grease of any kind is death to lice.

Tar paint nor any other application of that kind will kill the peach tree borers already in the tree. The sharp wire is the only remedy then and the closest inspection is necessary to find his lair.

Save "poling" beans whenever possible by planting along the garden fence or in corn. Sunflowers, too, make good supports for beans, but it is preferable that the rows be planted north and south, so that the beans may get plenty of sun.

The value of stable manure or other fertilizer in the orchard depends upon the conditions of soil and climate. Some soils grow excellent fruit without any fertilizer while others must be fed. Simply a case of science and good judgment.

Cherries require very little pruning.

The cow and the sow make a good farm team.

Drive a colt the first time with a fast walking horse.

The hens will relish a feed of scalded oats at any time.

Pull radishes just as soon as they are big enough to bite.

"Study to be quiet" is a fine thing in handling a team anywhere.

Chaff from the hay mow floor makes the best litter for chicks.

Too sudden a change of diet for the young calf is bound to start trouble.

Covered cream or milk cans on the way to town bespeak a careful dairyman.

There is every indication that grass fat beef will bring a good price this summer.

When the calf is two weeks old some skim-milk may be added to the usual feeding.

A horse that is watered two or three times a day is apt to drink too much at one time.

Fine corn meal for the skim-milk calf is a good substitute for the more expensive oilmeal.

Clean the mud from the horse's limbs during seeding operations, and prevent scratches and fever.

Quality in vegetables is the result of quick, unchecked growth, and this means plenty of water at all times.

It is not a difficult proposition to raise calves when the feeder uses some precaution in their management.

After turkey chicks are six weeks old they must be allowed to range else they will be sadly stunted in growth.

It is a mistake to try to fatten the brood sow. She should not be kept with the hogs that are being prepared for market.

While it requires one sort of education to make a good riding or driving horse, it requires another to make a cart horse.

Hens that roost in a damp, close house are apt to give out in the leg joints with a trouble somewhat akin to rheumatism.

It is easy to notice the effect of grass on the milk, but, with the cows that have silage, the change will be less perceptible.

Fruit trees planted in the hog pasture will supply shade and abundance of food in the fall when the trees come into bearing.

Better dairying should be the aim of every dairy farmer. It is only as he strives for better things that he can approach his ideal.

The man who makes a success at dairying or any other line of work starts with the right aim and never changes or loses sight of it.

Tests at experiment stations have shown that 20 per cent of the cream is saved by the use of a separator as compared with hand skimming.

There is no problem that is of greater importance today than conservation of soil fertility. The dairy cow, the hog and the hen help solve it.

Good care consists in doing everything from milking and caring for the cows to marketing the butter or cream as if your whole life success depended upon it.

Mix plaster of Paris and turpentine, mould in the shape of eggs, and put one in each nest to kill lice and mites. Do not use with eggs that are hatching.

There are 28 silos within a short distance of this farm. Many farmers have been closely pressed in order to find feed for their stock but none of the silo owners were.

A city chicken man has found a good way to break a broody hen. He puts an alarm clock in the nest and when the clock goes off that hen goes off too—and never comes back.

The cost of hauling over our country roads is now about 23 cents per ton per mile. In European countries the cost is below 10 cents. Our bad roads are an expensive proposition.

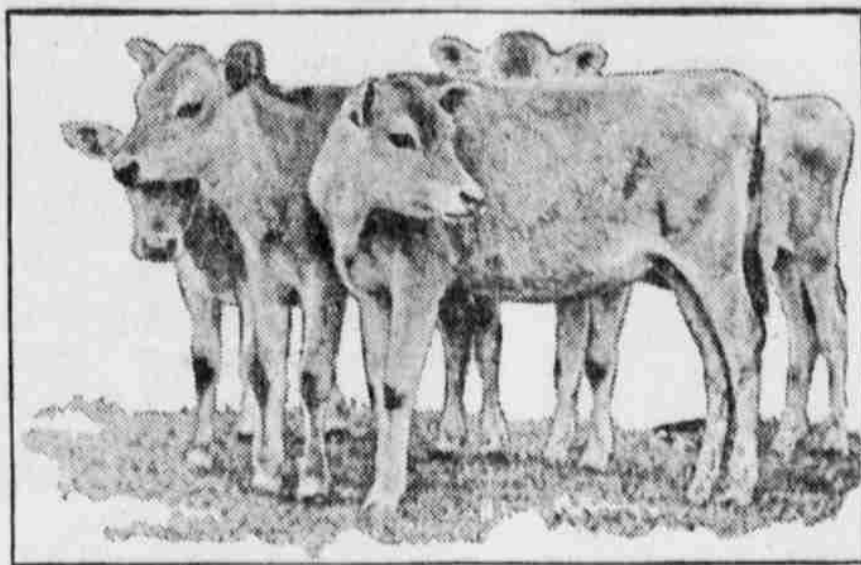
Shallow cultivation of corn is most in favor with the experiment stations, but much seems to depend upon climatic conditions. In dry climates you can safely cultivate deeper—three to four inches.

There is nothing like pasture to make good gains on any kind of stock when fed in connection with corn. In hog feeding we do not think we are putting it too strongly to say that pasture saves 25 per cent in feed.

The injury to various fruit crops by insects of all kinds is very great, as every one knows, but Prof. Stedman says that the damage to truck crops by insects every year exceeds the damage to fruit crops. And yet how few gardeners take steps to protect their crops.

COWS AND CLOVER MAINTAIN QUALITY OF SOIL FERTILITY

Raising Abundant Crops of Legumes for Farm Stock and Selling Butter Should Enrich Any Farm—Sowing Orchard Grass and Clover Together Makes Good Pasture.



A Profitable Bunch of Youngsters.

What should be a strong inducement to every owner of a farm with cows to make and sell butter is the fact that this form of dairying makes it possible not only to maintain the soil fertility, but to constantly add to it.

While the solids in the milk contain the most essential elements of fertility, the butter fat contains no element of fertility at all. Hence, the selling of milk in large quantities inevitably reduces the productivity of the farm, unless a large proportion of the feed for the cows is brought off the farms, instead of being grown on it.

On the other hand, butter contains practically nothing that constitutes an element of fertility in the soil, says a writer in Farm Progress. For this reason, if one has a poor farm, and wants to adopt a line of farming that will soonest and most economically make it productive, the best plan will be to keep cows, and sell the cream or butter. And the more feed one buys, and the less he takes off his own place, except clover, the sooner the soil may be made rich.

Having had considerable experience with clover, cowpeas, Canada peas and other legumes, I have concluded that for soil improvement the red clover or alsike, will be found the best thing for the purpose. I would only use alsike in case the land to be improved was rather moist, as on that sort of soil it will usually make a better growth than common red or any other, except white clover, and that does not make a sufficiently bulky growth to serve the purpose best.

In some experience of my own, I have found that sowing orchard grass and clover together makes a most excellent pasture; and, if one keeps the stock off, it is possible to get a growth that will make a fine mixture for hay; but when clover is cut at the right time and properly cured, there is no more nutritious forage that can be grown.

At the same time be much less conducive to digestive disorders than a ration of cottonseed meal and alfalfa. Peas are strongly recommended for fattening sheep. When fed in combination with either corn, barley or oats, equal parts, better gains are made than when either of the above cereals is fed alone. This is especially true where timothy hay or corn stover is fed as a roughage.

EXCELLENT FEEDS TO FATTEN LAMBS

Use of Alfalfa for Roughage Simplifies Question Considerably—Peas are Recommended.

(By J. R. McNULTY, Colorado Agricultural College.)

The great question which the successful lamb feeder is now trying to solve is that of the most economical concentrate to be used in fattening his lambs.

The fact that most feeders are using alfalfa for a roughage simplifies the above problem considerably. Alfalfa supplies the protein, and when fed with a fattening concentrate, as corn or barley, reduces the amount of feed required for a pound gain to the minimum. Experiments prove that corn is just a trifle better, pound for pound, than barley when both are fed in connection with one of the legume hays, as clover or alfalfa. There is little data on the economy of feeding corn alone with upland or timothy hay or with corn stover. This follows from the fact that such a ration would lack considerably in protein. Doubtless barley would somewhat excel corn, pound for pound, when fed with roughages lacking protein, as the ones last named. Whole barley may be fed very successfully to fattening sheep.

The fact that cotton seed meal can be purchased for a price comparing favorably with that of corn in Colorado has suggested the feeding of this concentrate with alfalfa hay for fattening lambs. In this combination, however, we have two feeds high in protein and consequently an unbalanced ration. Oil meal is fed quite extensively with timothy hay and roots, in which combination it gives very good results. On the other hand, very few records of sheep fattened on cottonseed meal and alfalfa are available, for, as a rule, protein rich feeds (alfalfa and oil meal) are the most expensive nutrients of a ration and are not usually combined. It is very probable, however, that some cottonseed meal can be fed when alfalfa is fed, if we use a mixed ration of corn and cottonseed meal. The best proportion would perhaps be one-third cottonseed meal and two-thirds corn, either shelled or cracked. This combination should give good results and

PROPAGATION OF THE ROSE NOT VERY DIFFICULT TASK

Many Growers Start Flowers on Their Own Roots, but the Majority Prefer the Budded Plants—No Garden is Complete Without Them and Should Be Grown Abundantly.

(By H. ERICHSEN.)

Nothing can be said in praise of the rose that has not been said before. Universally recognized as the most beautiful flower, it is the one child of Flora around which a wealth of sentiment, history and poetry clusters. The maidens of ancient Greece and Rome adorned themselves with chaplets and garlands of roses, as does the maiden of today, and then as now the rose was regarded as the emblem of beauty and true worth, fit to crown a queen. No wonder, then, that it is so highly esteemed that even the orchid, so often regarded as its rival, will never supersede it in popular estimation.

Of late the beauty of the rose has been so widely appreciated that the popularity it now enjoys and the demand for hardy garden roses are annually increasing. No garden is complete without roses and every family ought to grow them in abundance, for never have roses been so cheap and beautiful as now. Moreover, the cultivation of the flower is so simple that no excuse can be offered for its neglect.

The first requisite for success in rose growing is the selection of good healthy plants. Weak, sickly roses are dear at any price. Many of these plants lack vigor because they are stunted by remaining too long in the cutting-bed or in small pots, before they are set out. In order to obtain the best results, therefore, it is advisable to restrict one's patronage to first-class nurseries only, firms that

to argue for their own method of propagation. But of late years many eminent rosarians have pronounced themselves in favor of budded plants. A prominent firm of rose-growers at Rochester, N. Y., that is known the world over for the excellence of its roses, concretely expressed this conviction as follows:

We find many varieties of roses grown on this stock (Manetti) adapt themselves to a greater range of climate and soil, bloom more profusely, endure better the heat of the summer and make far stronger plants than if grown from their own roots. Many object to budded roses on account of the suckers they sometimes throw out; but if proper attention is paid to the planting, this will rarely be an annoyance. Budded roses should be planted sufficiently deep, so that the junction of the bud with the stock is from two to three inches below the surface of the earth. If despite this precaution, a wild shoot should happen to start from the base, the growth and foliage of the stock are so distinct that it is readily recognized by the most inexperienced amateur and is easily removed.

Another authority on this subject goes even further and contends that many fine varieties of the queenly flower are utterly worthless unless they are budded. My own experience coincides with that referred to above. Moreover, I found that it is possible, as a rule, to replace budded roses more cheaply than those grown on their own roots, which is another point in their favor, particularly in localities where many roses are liable to be winter-killed.

Roses may be grown to perfection in ordinary garden soil, provided they are planted in a sunny, sheltered location, away from the roots of large trees, for these will absorb all the life-sustaining nutrition of the soil, whereas young trees and dwarf shrubbery do no harm. If the soil is naturally poor, however, it is advisable to lay a substantial foundation for future good results, by substituting a quantity of loam, sand and fertilizer, in the following proportions:

To each wheelbarrow load of loam—which, by the way, may be readily obtained under the sod of the field or by the roadside—add one-third of its bulk of well-rotted stable manure and some sand, if that constituent should be lacking.

This conglomeration should be thoroughly mixed by being spaded to a depth of a foot, and is then ready for the reception of her majesty, Queen Rosa, as she was termed by Dean Hole, the man who had roses in his heart as well as in his garden. Rose roots penetrate deeply when they have a chance, but it should be remembered that they will not thrive in stagnant soil, hence good drainage is essential.

The question naturally presents itself as to which is the best time to plant roses, but the broad extent of our country precludes a definite reply. Generally speaking, however, mid-spring should receive the preference and it is better to be a little too early than too late.



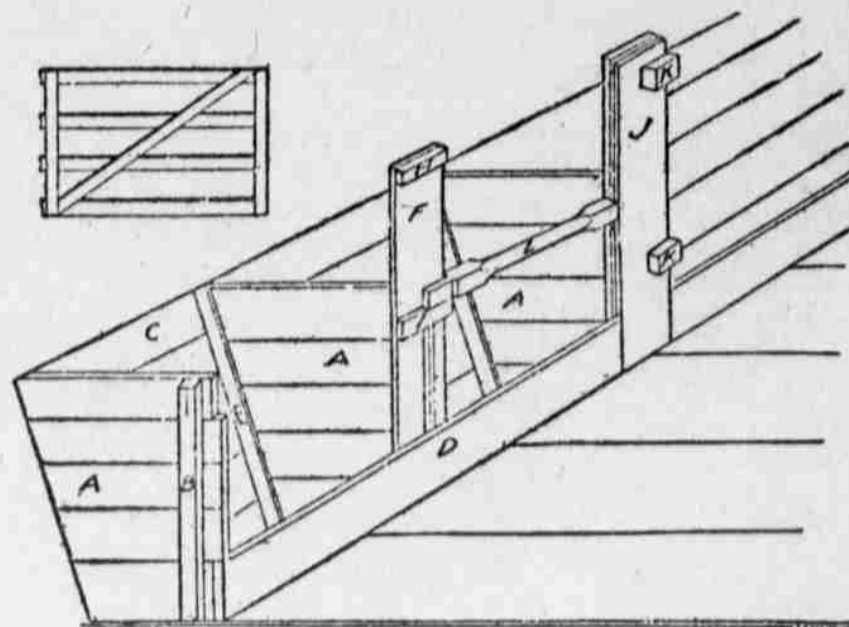
For Cut Flowers Nothing Can Rival the Beauty of the Rose.

are prepared to furnish strong, well-rooted plants, such as will make a showing the first season and develop into vigorous specimens.

In selecting roses for the garden, it is well to know that these plants are grown in two ways, that is to say on their own roots or budded low on the Manetti, a briar-rose that has largely superseded the Dog-rose and other stocks in this country.

Experts are divided on the question as to which should receive the preference, and the beginner is liable to be in a quandary because growers are apt

DEVICE KEEPS A STALL CLEAN



The main feature of the fastener here represented is the bar L which is intended to prevent the cow from crowding forward so that the droppings fall on the platform. The other parts can be modified to suit individual tastes.

A A are the divisions between the mangers, the bottom being 16 inches long and the top 30 inches.

B is a strip 1 by 4 inches, 3 feet long, one to be nailed on each side of the partition A, as shown in the drawing.

C is the side of the manger next to the feeding alley.

D is a 10-inch board separating the manger from the standing floor.

E is a 1 by 3 inch strip in corner of manger.

F is a 1 by 8 inch board, 4 feet long, with a slot 3 feet long by 1 inch wide in lower end to allow its being slipped over partition A, between strip B and board D, and should be securely nailed to B and D.

H and I are 1 by 2 inch strips, 8 inches long, between F and J. The upper edge of I should be 31 or 32 inches from the standing floor.

J is a 1 by 8 inch board, 4 feet long, nailed on D and bolted through H and I to F. This leaves a slot one inch wide between F and J for bar L to play in from I to H.

K K are blocks securely fastened to J to hang swinging partitions. The upper one should be 2 1/2 inches thick and the lower one 2 inches.

L is a bar 2 by 2 inches extending across the stall with a tenon 4 inches long on each end to work loosely in the slot between the boards F and J.

When standing at rest the cow has her head over the bar L. When eating she puts her head under the bar. If she wishes to raise her head while eating she can do so, as the bar will raise to strip H.

For partitions between the cows use 1 by 4 inch strips 5 feet long, and braces of the same material. These partitions are hung by ordinary T hinges to the blocks K K, so they will swing both ways. At the gutter provide chains with a snap on one end, and of proper length to reach from one partition to the next. These chains hold the partitions in place and keep the cows in the stall.