

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

FACTS AND FANCIES FOR RURAL READERS.

Bulling Land Has Many Advantages—Important Points about Impurities in Milk—Wintering Feeding—Stock and Dairy Notes—Household Hints.

Effects of Rolling Land. During the spring of 1889, a series of observations was made by the Wisconsin Experimental Station, which indicated that the rolling of land has a very perceptible effect upon its temperature. The results obtained are summarized as follows:

(1) Rolling land makes the temperature of the soil at 1.5 inches below the surface from 1° to 2° F. warmer than similar unrolled ground, and at three inches from 1° to 6° warmer.

(2) Rolling land, by firming the soil, increases its power of drawing water to the surface from below, and this influence has been observed to extend to a depth of three or four feet.

(3) The evaporation of moisture is more rapid than from unrolled ground, unless the surface soil is very wet, and then the reverse is the case; the drying effect of rolling has been found to extend to a depth of four feet.

(4) In cases of broadcast seeding, germination is more rapid and more complete.

(5) In their experiments on oats, the yield stood 61.12 bushels on rolled ground, and 58.89 bushels on the unrolled ground.

(6) The oats from the rolled ground weighed 2.03 pounds per bushel more than that from the unrolled ground; the kernel also averaged larger.

But it must be remembered that this is an isolated case, and the observations should be repeated, to more fully establish the conclusion which we have drawn. The observations were all taken between 1 and 4 P. M., the temperature of the soil was taken by means of cylindrical bulb thermometers, which were pushed down into the soil at different depths, and allowed to remain some time before registering.

The air temperature was taken by whirling the thermometer four feet above the ground. It is plainly evident that rolling tends to raise the temperature of the soil, and there is no question but what this tends to insure a healthy germination of the seed.

Impurities in Milk. There is no subject of more importance to the health and life of human beings, and one so little understood, as the manner in which impurities get into milk, and the effect such have upon the after products of it and the health of the persons who consume them.

The theory that most diseases may be traced to germs in the atmosphere that all animal kind breathe, the water they drink, or the food they eat, is now generally adopted, and upon this theory must be based the precautions to be observed in properly caring for the health of man.

To have pure milk, the first requisite is a healthy cow. It is now beyond doubt that an occasional cow is afflicted with tuberculosis, or cancerous affections, and their milk manufactured into butter and cheese, and then sold on the general market.

Indeed, this has recently been observed by the writer; and it is not fair to presume that these diseases in this manner may be transmitted to the persons who consume the products of this milk? The only suggestive remedy for this state of affairs is that it be made obligatory upon dairymen to get a clean bill of health of their cows from a competent veterinarian at stated periods.

The cow can also contaminate her milk by drinking filthy water from stagnant pools. Surface water is generally unfit to be taken into the stomachs of any animals. The earth beneath its surface is penetrated with streams of pure water, as the animal system is with blood coursing through veins and arteries, and common sense would dictate that there is the place to look for drinking water for cows.

Cows can transmit bacteria to their milk by being compelled to smell putrid carcasses of animals lying in the pasture field or other places, and by inhaling the bacteria-laden atmosphere of unsavory stables, pig-pens and cesspools.

Wintering Poultry. As to the kind of a poultry-house needed, much will depend upon the number of fowls you propose to keep, and also upon the amount you desire to spend for utility or ornament.

Twelve fowls require a room twelve feet square. The cheapest and most convenient poultry-house is built of 3x4 joists for a frame, and covered with matched boards. The roof and walls should be covered with tar paper, and when dressed with a coating of coal tar will be entirely impervious to the atmosphere or storm, and will last for many years.

I build my houses about ten feet wide, with a shed roof, says a writer in American Agriculturist, the front posts about seven feet high, the back posts about five feet. The front faces south and is lighted with one good-sized window every twelve feet.

Most poultry-houses have too much glass, giving too much heat at mid-day and too much cold at midnight. Even with the above described windows, tightly fitting shutters are needed for protection on cold winter nights.

The most important matter in connection with poultry-houses is ventilation. No animal on the farm needs, so a frequent change of air as the poultry.

Some poultrymen prefer a ground floor, others a board floor, and still others a cemented floor. I prefer a tight board floor, with a chance for the chicks to get at the ground through a run into the yard when they desire to.

The Horse Dealer. One of the best authorities on the horse is the Live Stock Journal. It says: Money has been close and too many farmers have sacrificed their young horses to get the cash.

These eastern horse dealers, while they have brought many thousands of dollars of Eastern gold to the west for our horses, they have combined to beat down prices. We advise western

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An' then she breaks up the hearth with that old turkey wing.

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An' Torrey yawns and stretches out an' acts a little slyer.

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The seedling's just brown enough, the breakfast table set.

An' mother says: "Fetch up the cheer, an' my cup runs over with a joy the rest don't know about."

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LOTTE DEANE'S MISTAKE.

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If her mouth was a trifle large, nobody ever noticed it for admiring the scarlet lips and white teeth that gleamed out when she smiled.

which was not seldom, for she was a merry little body, as sparkling and sunny as if she'd never a care in the world.

And really, when you come to think about it, her cares were very few, and her pleasures many.

Hadn't she the handsomest and dearest husband in the world, who petted and humored her to her heart's content? It is very queer the fondness some women have for being petted.

It's rather a cat-like trait, this liking to be petted and coddled so much. Then she had the sweetest love of a baby; but that was rather a partnerable concern—there were grandparents and aunts innumerable, who put in a claim to baby, to say nothing of the little one's father; while her handsome Ross was all her own individual property.

At least she thought he was, till she very unwisely undertook to mend that office coat of his. She had pounced upon it that morning, when previous to a shopping expedition, she had penetrated to his office at the back of the house—being in want of more money—and had confiscated it directly, declaring that it was a shame for anybody to wear such a dilapidated arrangement, and her husband shouldn't do it another day, so there!

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As long as Miss Belle Preston made eyes at handsome Ross Deane, only to be carelessly flattered in return by him, and afterwards laughed at alike by both Mr. and Mrs. Deane, it was very little the latter cared about it.

She called the girl a goose to herself, was politely cordial to her before folks, and never gave the matter another thought.

Miss Preston was a goose, of course, but quite a pretty, winning little goose after all. She was rather dashing in her ways—smoked cigarettes, talked slang—both of which Mrs. Preston particularly detested—and tried to ape the manners generally of the masculine half of creation.

Of course she made a failure of it, but men are remarkably tolerant of bright, saucy, black-eyed failures of the Belle Preston kind; and so they laughed at her a little, but not flattered her a great deal more, and not a few fell in love with her continually.

But Mrs. Deane did not choose that her husband should be caught in the coils of a siren like this; and she was properly indignant at finding that the two were on familiar terms enough for notes to pass between them—and such notes, too.

I think Mrs. Deane managed—women know how to do these things—in some perfectly polite and pleasant way to let Miss Preston know why Mr. Deane did not attend the notes addressed to him were likely to meet. At any rate, the young lady wastes no more of her time on other women's husbands but is devoting all her energies to procuring one of her own.—Evening World.

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