

them all summer (when your time would be better spent in raising feed for them in winter), and when their product brings the lowest prices. When the dry pastures of August come, and you are as busy as you can be with your harvest, you go home tired and do not feel like milking and caring for cows, and they do not get the attention they require and are not milked regularly. The result is, they begin to dry up and you think they are of no account, and just let them go dry. Now to keep up the flow of milk at this time they must have some extra food and be milked regularly.

In winter it is different; you have the highest price, often twice the summer price. You have plenty of time, in fact very little else to do but care for your cows. You would have to feed them hay anyway, and why not feed them a little bran or chops and get good pay for it all, instead of wintering a lot of dry cows that are just an expense? When they are dry in summer you can turn them out and they will cost you little or nothing.

Then in raising your calves. When a spring calf is weaned it goes right into winter, but a fall calf goes onto grass, and in the fall you have a much better calf at a year old than you do from your spring calf. This way of flooding our summer market with more than we can consume, and buying our butter in the east in winter is not a very profitable thing for any of us. Let us keep our money at home whenever we can, and I think winter dairying will help to do it; and it will also tend to keep the prices up the year round. Those milking in summer should not neglect putting in a few acres of corn for a soiling crop. When your pastures are getting brown and bare it will pay better than any crop on the farm. Besides increasing the flow of milk, it will keep your cows milking longer, and will keep your hand out of your pocket to pay for mill feed. I think we are apt to feed too much mill feed in summer. If we had more green feed it would be better for the cows as well as for the purse. When the cows begin to get dry feed in August it is a long time until spring. There is no doubt the cows get tired of the same old feed day after day, and respond quickly to a change. If you can put part of your corn crop into a silo you will have something that will make a fine change with your dry feed. If you do not have a silo, I would advise a few roots every day—carrots or mangels are good—but in most places cannot be raised as cheap as corn. Roots are preferable in my estimation. Cows fed on them have better health and a freer flow of milk.

In feeding ensilage, care must be taken to have the stable free of the odor at milking time, or it will taint the milk. As you well know, milk quickly absorbs any strong odor with which it comes in

contact. Turnips or similar feed can be given directly after milking, thus avoiding any taste in the next milking.

It seems to be the general impression that a cow to be profitable must give milk eleven months out of the twelve. I have found that the cows that paid us best were those that gave a large flow of milk for seven or eight months, instead of driving the same through eleven or twelve months. This point is well worth consideration, as to keep a cow milking you must feed full feed, while a dry cow can be kept much cheaper. I would not dry a cow that is paying for her feed, but consider it advisable to weigh the milk occasionally to be sure that she is paying. I fail to see the good of keeping a cow at work when she is making nothing. It is much better to rest her for two or three months; she will do all the better when fresh, and will last a good deal longer in the dairy work. Always do your milking regularly and never feed your cows at milking time, as they should have nothing to attend to at that time but letting down their milk. It is easy to get a cow into bad habits, and by feeding them at milking time they will often get so that they will not let down their milk unless they are fed. Do not allow them to form this habit. Never allow a dog to chase a cow. It not only interferes with the flow of milk, but often leads to other bad results.

Do not fail to weed out the poor cows. Don't let them eat up the profits of the business, and then say there is no money in it, when it is your own fault and not the fault of good cows. I do not pretend to have covered all the ground in regard to the care of the dairy cow. We are learning every day, and expect to as long as we are in the business. I have only mentioned a few of the most important points.

Just think of living in a dairy country—the finest in the world—and having to import butter from California, and that retailing for 25 cents a pound. That's what we are doing in this valley today. And farmers—mind you, farmers—walking into a store and buying California butter, and feeding from 3 to 15 and 20 cows at home. Is it any wonder they are mortgaged to death and hard up?—Elma Chronicle.

The manurial product in stock growing should pay every expense but that of feeding. Being thus free from charges for labor, care and housing, there should not be much difficulty in making an animal pay for its feed.

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