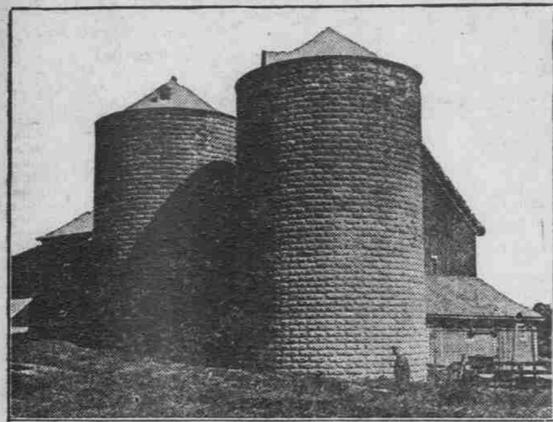


MAKING THE FARM PAY

By PROF. P. G. HOLDEN, Former Dean of the Iowa Agricultural College.



Two Good Silos, Well Located.

BILLIONS WASTED ON FARMS

Many of us fail to appreciate our real blessings, because we regard them as just common everyday things. If some mysterious power were to suddenly change winter into summer, it would be recorded as a miracle. In reality, this is what the silo does—changes winter into summer. The silo makes June grass out of the waste products of the farm. Silage is the winter pasture for the farm animals. The silo is the cow's kraut barrel. No man can get the best out of the business of farming without a silo.

It combines more good things and brings greater profits than any other building on the farm; it provides a cheap and convenient place to store all of the crop; helps utilize cheap roughage, makes it possible to keep more stock on the farm, which means more manure for the land. The silo insures succulent feed in the winter and in dry spells when pastures fail; provides a balanced ration when fed with alfalfa, clover, bran, cottonseed meal and other protein or muscle-building feeds. The silo takes care of the crops and clears the land for early fall plowing, prevents waste in feeding, keeps stock in good condition, makes cheap beef and milk.

Waste With Corn Crop.
The greatest waste in any one industry in America occurs with the corn crop. The grain of the corn crop of the United States every year is worth on the farms about \$1,700,000,000; 60 per cent of the feed value in matured corn is contained in the kernels, and 40 per cent in the stalk and leaves. With the grain worth nearly three-

found corn ensilage to be worth from \$5.50 to \$6.50 per ton when fed to fattening steers and sheep. This is in the light of the fact that corn ensilage will not cost the farmer more than \$2 a ton and should be convincing argument.

Pennsylvania station found good results in feeding steers silage and realized a value of \$6.20 a ton when used in this way. They also found silage superior to hay and much more economic in the raising of young stock.

Ontario experiment station found they could save \$83 on every \$200 invested in feed if they used corn ensilage in preference to hay in feeding cattle.

Kansas experiment station not only produced beef cheaper with ensilage in the ration but also the silage-fed steers sold at a higher price on the market than did the dry-fodder steers. They found corn ensilage when put in the silo would keep for five and six years and retain its feeding value.

Michigan experiment station has been using silos since 1881, and has found in several experiments ensilage to be the most economic form of feeding the corn plant to live stock.

Silage, when fed in conjunction with alfalfa, produced mutton more cheaply than when hay was used.

Many other stations have tested out the economic use of the silo, and one and all have indorsed it as a practical, economic equipment for the stock farmer.

Thousands of farmers and stockmen all over the country have been demonstrating for the last quarter of a century the economic use of the silo, and all who now have such equipment are strong in its praise.

Ensilage vs. Grain.
In a test conducted recently the Ohio experiment station endeavored to answer the question, Can ensilage be made to take the place of a considerable portion of the grain ration usually fed to dairy cows?

Ten cows, representing five different breeds, were fed these rations for two to four months, five cows taking the test the full four months. The cows fed the silage ration produced 86.7 pounds of milk and 5.08 pounds of butterfat per 100 pounds of dry matter.

The cows fed the grain ration produced 81.3 pounds of milk and 3.9 pounds of butterfat per 100 pounds of dry matter.

The average net profit per cow per month over cost of feed was \$5.86 with the silage ration and \$2.40 with the grain ration.

Fodder or Silage.
At the Nebraska experiment station two groups of calves nine months old were fed from March 25 to August 15. In one lot each animal received an average daily ration of: Corn, 7.5 pounds; alfalfa hay, 4.1 pounds; shredded stover (without ears), 3.6 pounds. The animals in the other lot received an average daily ration of: Corn, 6.1 pounds; alfalfa, 3.4 pounds, and corn silage, 15 pounds.

The larger amount of corn was fed to the stover lot to offset the grain contained in the silage. The two rations, therefore, were practically identical, except that to one lot of animals the cornstalks were fed as shredded stover, while to the other they were fed as silage.

The silage-fed calves made an average daily gain of 1.8 pounds each, which was about one-third of a pound more than the average daily gain in the stover-fed lot. The silage ration was 12 per cent more efficient than the stover ration. On that basis the same amount of corn, of the same kind, when put in the silo would make 12 per cent more beef than when cut for fodder and fed dry.

There was a time when silage was considered entirely as a dairyman's feed. It is just as good for the production of beef. One experiment may be quoted, though hundreds have been made with practically the same result. At the Indiana experiment station four lots of steers were fed as follows:

Lot 1—Shelled corn, clover hay, cottonseed meal. Average profit per head when sold, \$3.37.

Lot 2—Shelled corn, cottonseed meal, clover hay and silage, half and half. Profit per head, \$10.51.

Lot 3—Shelled corn, cottonseed meal, and all the clover hay and silage they would eat, given separately. Under this method of feeding the steers ate ten times as much silage as clover hay. Profit per head, \$13.50.

Lot 4—Shelled corn, cottonseed meal and silage only. Profit per head, \$20.93.

The Missouri state board of agriculture asked 200 farmers this question: "By feeding silage have you reduced your feed bill?"

Out of the 200 farmers 106 answered "Yes;" four said they didn't know.

Best Sows for Breeder.
Don't select a heavy, lazy sow for a breeder. She should be mild in disposition, but possessed of sufficient energy to take exercise.

Fill All Post Holes.
When you pull up a post fill the hole so that no animal will step in it and wrench or break a leg.

Diversify Crops.
Grow a diversity of crops; if one or two fail, the others will put you on the safe side.

Charcoal for Pigs.
The charcoal left after a big brush or log fire can be well put where pigs can help themselves to it.

Salt for Cows.
Cows require salt in summer as well as in winter.

Salting Corn.
A good proof of the value of the silo is a record of some work done in a cow-testing association at Albert Lea, Minn., under the direction of the United States department of agriculture.

In this association 12 herds, or 218 cows were fed silage and 10 herds, or 229 cows were not fed silage. It seems to me that when a man will examine these data carefully he cannot but feel that he is the loser if he does not feed a silo.

The results show that it cost \$8.62 more per cow to feed the silage herd than it did to feed the herd which had no silage, but the silage-fed cows produced 59 pounds more butterfat per cow, giving a net profit of \$10.04 more

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LIVE STOCK

ADJUST THE HARNESS RIGHT

Collar Boils Often Caused by Improper Fastening of the Trace Chain on the Hame.

Collar boils are often caused by improper adjustment of the fastenings of the trace chain on the hame. Every hame should have several places for adjustment and the regulation should be made to conform to the slope of the shoulders of the individual horse. Horses with straight shoulders should have traces about midway of the hame, while horses with sloping shoulders should have the adjustment about two-fifths of the way up from the bottom.

Adjustment of the backband will in a measure correct any weakness in the formation of the shoulder. The backband can be made not only to carry a part of the weight, thereby adjusting the dept of the plow, but it can be made to adjust the draft to fit the horse's shoulder. The adjustment can be made either by shortening the backband or moving it farther back on the horse. The length of the trace should be such as to prevent the horse's legs knocking against the singletree and still have no surplus length.

HORSES KNOWN AS 'ROARERS'

Uncomplimentary Terms Used to Indicate Unsoundness in Animals—Trouble May Be Cured.

(By C. N. KENNEDY, Oregon Experiment Station.)
Whistlers, wheezers, blowers or roarers. These uncomplimentary terms were not applied in anger, but merely used to indicate the character of the unsoundness in horses, known as roaring. Their use may be avoided by saying that the horse is afflicted with laryngeal hemiplegia. Horses affected with this disease appear normal while at rest, but when severely exercised the breathing efforts become much greater and the characteristic noises are heard. Ninety per cent of the cases are caused by partial paralysis of the muscles of the left side of the neck. It may be cured in a great majority of cases by an operation on the larynx. The operation is not dangerous if performed by a skillful veterinarian. Most cases are ready to be put back to work in course of eight weeks.

INHERIT FERTILITY IN SWINE
Experiments of Kansas Experts Watched With Closest Interest—Tamworth Most Fecond Breed.

Can litters of 8 to 12 pigs per sow be insured by any system of bonding? Possibly so, is the reply indicated by the work of Westwood and Amel, Kansas Agricultural college. Their experiments in breeding will be watched with the closest interest.

Interest on cost of pasture per cow for the season; interest at 6 per cent on the value of the land, allowing from one to four acres per cow.

On high-priced land, where the problem is to produce a sufficient quantity of roughage, or if the cost of pasturing for several cows for a season. During periods of drought, when both pastures and soiling crops fail, a silo filled with well-matured silage grown the previous year is most valuable.

In planning a summer silo it should be kept in mind that its diameter should be in relation to the number of cows fed daily. As a general rule, under summer conditions, a cow will consume about 20 pounds of silage. Silage enough must be removed daily to prevent excessive surface fermentation. On this basis a summer silo for 20 cows should be eight feet in diameter; for 30 cows ten feet, and for 40 cows, twelve feet. As eight feet is about the minimum diameter of a silo for best results, a summer silo is most applicable in herds of 20 or more cows.

Where the value of land is so high that the cost of pasturing is excessive,

the common red mite which is most active during the warm weather is commonly found about the roosts and droppings boards, also about the nests, and many times in brooders and coops for the hen and her chicks. The mite is easily held in check if proper methods of control are used. While kerosene will quickly kill them it evaporates in a few days.

And of the coal oil tar mixtures are more effective. Carbolicum is recommended highly by the Connecticut station. Containing a coal-tar product and carbolic acid it acts as a wood stain and remains effective for a long period of time, being even more effective than pure carbolic acid. One application a year is generally sufficient, but it must be used with discretion.

An excess amount either on the roosts or on the adjoining boards may result in eye trouble to the hens or chickens. To avoid this it is best to make the application when changing the chicks from one house to another, allowing at least two days for the mixture to dry before using the house. If this cannot be done dilute it with kerosene and apply lightly with a brush.

If roosts are allowed to dry outside of the poultry house there is less danger of injury to the fowls. The roosts should be removed and painted, the roosting boards thoroughly cleaned, then painted, being sure to use the carbolicum very liberally in the cracks between the boards. In badly infested houses or where mites show signs of returning it may be necessary to make a second application.

DRY FOOD QUITE INJURIOUS
Cows and Sheep Grow Feverish and Stomachs Show Effects of Unnatural Food—Give Green Roots.

Cows and sheep fed on dry food in summer grow feverish and their stomachs show the effects of the unnatural food. Green roots, when mixed with the grain diet, will prevent this. If it is not desired to feed the roots while they can be massed by passing them through a pulper.

TRAINING THE PUPPY.
A young puppy should never be given a severe whipping. If thoroughly frightened it is likely to be permanently cowed in spirit, and no amount of petting afterward can overcome it. Of equal importance is a friendly pat and word of encouragement when the dog does something which pleases.

Treating Collar Boils.
If the shoulders of the horses develop persistent collar boils, have a veterinarian examine them. Probably a slight operation is necessary.

SUCCESSFUL FEEDING OF DAIRY COWS



VALUABLE HERD OF YOUNG JERSEYS ON PASTURE.

(From the United States Department of Agriculture.)

One of the most common mistakes in the feeding of dairy cows on the farm is that the good cows are not given a sufficient quantity of feed above that required for their physical maintenance to obtain the maximum quantity of milk they are capable of producing. Successful feeding of dairy cows involves the providing of an abundant supply of palatable, nutritious feed at a minimum cost and feeding in such a way as to receive the largest milk production from the feed consumed. Feeding for profit is defined as liberal feeding, or feeding to the full capacity of the cow, in a new Farmers' Bulletin of the department, No. 748, "The Feeding of Dairy Cows," which discusses many of the factors involved in economical feeding.

From the standpoint of economical milk production, a dairy cow generally should not be fed more than she will consume without gaining in weight. There are times, however, according to the bulletin, when it is desirable to make exceptions to this rule. Practically all heavy milk producers lose weight in the early part of their lactation period; that is, they produce milk at the expense of their body flesh.

When such cows approach the end of their milking period they normally regain the flesh they have lost, and the farmer can well afford to feed them liberally, with the assurance that he will be repaid in the form of milk when the cows again freshen.

Pasture is the natural feed for cows, and for average conditions, with ample pasture of good grasses or legumes in good, succulent condition, good production can be secured.

The cost of land is a factor in the economy of using pasture, however. If pastures are depended upon entirely for four to six months of the year, and production is kept up to a profitable standard, anywhere from one to four acres or more must be provided for each cow, says the bulletin. This is assuming that a permanent pasture is of good, clean turf, with few or no waste places, or that a temporary pasture has a good stand of grass or legumes throughout. Land that will provide such pastures frequently is high priced. The following tables show the cost of pasturing a cow on land ranging from \$25 to \$200 an acre:

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WATCH CHICKS IN INCUBATOR
Abnormal Thirst Caused by Keeping Young Fowls Too Long in Poorly Ventilated Machine.

Abnormal thirst in incubator chicks is generally caused by keeping them too long in a poorly ventilated and too warm incubator. This seldom happens in winter, but occasionally in hot weather. To guard against this, keep them from panting by lowering the temperature somewhat and increasing ventilation.

AVOID BOARDERS FOR DAIRY
Dairyman Should Save Calves Only From Best Producers to Build Up Profitable Herd.

A dairy farmer should never keep boarders for breeders, but should save the calves only from his best producers and build up a strain that are profitable milkers and whose progeny will sell at a good price.

THINNED AND UNTHINNED TREES.
Careful tests show that thinned trees produce as large a quantity of fruit as trees not thinned.

Sowing Small Seeds.
The earliest and best way to sow small seeds is by means of hand drills.

Supplement the Pastures.
If, for some reason, green crops are not available, it will be well worth while to supplement the pasture with good hay and a small amount of grain during the dry season.

Limestone as Manure.
"Ground limestone will be used as commonly as barnyard manure by many Missouri farmers of the coming generation," says M. F. Miller of the agricultural experiment station of the University of Missouri.

Must Rebuild Bridges.
New York state is facing the necessity of rebuilding two-thirds of her highway bridges because they are not strong enough to bear a weight of eight tons. In addition, there are damage suits totaling \$1,000,000 as the result of the failure of bridges.

Opportunity Lost.
What you might have made if you could have delivered your produce to market that day when the price was up, will never be entered on the profit side of your books as long as the road to town is a string of mudholes.

Tile Draining Meets Favor.
Wisconsin Highway Commission Outlines Plan for Improvement of Wet Spots in Roads.

(By the WISCONSIN HIGHWAY COMMISSION.)
Most of the springy places or sink holes in roads are due to two causes: Lack of drainage in the side ditches, and second, and probably the greater cause, lack of drainage beneath the surface. In other words, the underground water flows so close to the surface of the road that there is not sufficient hard crust to hold up the travel, and the whole road surface cuts through and becomes bottomless. Deepening the ditches will help, inasmuch as they will help get the surface water off the road, if the ditches are properly dug. But no matter how deep the side ditches are made (within limits of safety to travel), they will not catch any great part of the underground water, as it flows just so far below the surface wherever the surface is.

In the case of springy places on flats or near marshes, the road should be raised as much as money permits, the side ditches deepened and made with an even grade so that they discharge to some outlet. Down the center of the road, as deep as you can get it, and still get an outlet, should be laid a line of four or six-inch land tile. Inverted sod or burlap should be placed over the tile joints. The trench for this should be dug with ordinary tiling tools to an even grade. It is much better if the trench is back-filled with clean crushed stone or clean stoney gravel. These things being done, you will be astounded at the improvement in conditions next spring and in all wet times. The tile should be given a fall of about three inches in 100 feet, if it is possible to get it, the more the better, though it will flow with a fall of as little as one inch in 100 feet, if well laid. If the trench described above is filled with rock or coarse gravel, results are secured, but tile is much better.

The short spring holes, on hills usually, should be treated by opening good ditches at each side so the surface water flows off readily, and then in the shoulder about ten feet from the center of the road should be laid a four or six-inch tile at a depth of at least three feet below the center of the road. This tile should be placed on the edge of the road toward the side from which the underground water comes (the side of the road on which the land is highest).

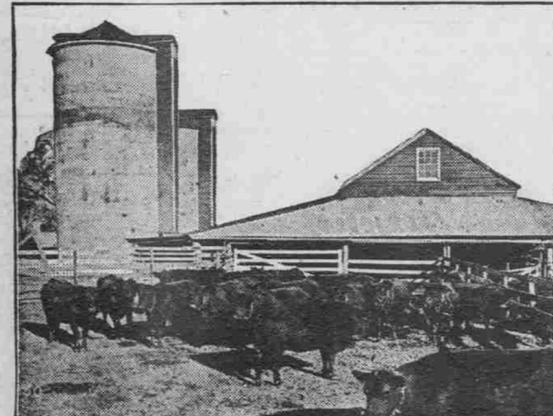
The trench should be back-filled with stone or gravel, and if this work is well done so the tile runs freely, you will be surprised to see the amount of water it will discharge, and the improvement in the road during all wet seasons. In exceptional cases, the tile should be placed on both sides of the road, but usually a line of tile on the high side will intercept the underground flow and lower the water level enough to save the road. Filling stone in sink holes until the bottom is reached will usually improve conditions, but the expense of this method of fixing a sink hole is usually very much greater than tiling it, and the results are not as good, because it does not remove the cause which produces the bad spot, while tile does.

Four-inch unglazed field tile is worth from 3 to 5 cents per foot; six-inch from 4 1/2 to 7 cents per foot; four-inch glazed sewer pipe with bell is worth from 6 to 12 cents per foot; six-inch from 10 to 14 cents per foot. Prices vary with quality desired, kind of delivery and local profit. Your local dealer can give you prices.

As for surface drainage, the only safe rule is to grade the road so the water will run promptly from the surface of the road into the ditches, and to so grade the ditches that water will not stand at any point, but flow rapidly along the ditches and away to some natural outlet. Standing water (except in some cases on marshes) is evidence of lack of care in making and maintaining the ditches, and a sink hole or springy place is an absolute indication that both side ditches and tile under-drain are very badly needed.

FOR BETTER ROADS

TILE DRAINING MEETS FAVOR
Wisconsin Highway Commission Outlines Plan for Improvement of Wet Spots in Roads.



Silage Makes Cheap Beef.

quarters of a billion dollars, the feed value of the rest of the crop is nearly a billion dollars. At least 20 per cent of the feed value of the stalk is lost under the present system of farm management—a waste with this crop alone of a billion dollars annually. No other business but farming could stand such an enormous loss.

Contrast this waste by the corn growers with the practices of large business organizations. For years the great packing houses have sold dressed meat for less than they have paid for the live weight of the animals. Yet every year these packing houses return millions of dollars' profit because they utilize to the fullest extent the value of their by-products. At the same time the corn growers are wasting most of 40 per cent of the feed value of over one hundred million acres of corn.

Great Value of Silo.
The results of hundreds of feeding experiments conducted in the past ten years with silage as a part of the ration gives proof of the great value of the silo to the farmer. There will always be more or less of the corn crop shocked in the field, but corn left exposed to the weather loses the greater part of its feeding value. Why waste the crop after you have grown it, when you can put it in a silo and preserve it with all its succulence?

Have a silo—no matter what kind—but have one.

You may say that you cannot afford

bring big returns. It pays, and is seldom if ever overdone. Frequently it is much underdone. If you must neglect any factors, slight the scientific and the artistic sides.

Charcoal for Pigs.
The charcoal left after a big brush or log fire can be well put where pigs can help themselves to it.

Salt for Cows.
Cows require salt in summer as well as in winter.

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YOU CAN HAVE A SILO

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SAVES THE WHOLE CROP PREVENTS WASTE IN FEEDING CAN KEEP MORE STOCK MAKES CHEAP MILK SAVES STORAGE SPACE HELPS UTILIZE CHEAP RUMAGE INSURES SUCCULENT FEED WINTER AND SUMMER TIDES OVER THE DROUGHT CLEARS THE LAND FOR PLOWING

SILAGE THE WINTER PASTURE
pound by using ensilage than they could when using hay. A like difference was found in milk production.

The Indiana station found the silo the most economic means of producing both beef and mutton in three well-conducted experiments. They also

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