

THE FARM NEWS

SPECIAL PAGE DEVOTED TO THE FARMING INTERESTS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY



Edited by E. F. Tucker

DEPARTMENT

THE NEWS OF THE FARMER AND BREEDER OF PURE BRED LIVESTOCK

WHERE THE HORSES ARE RAISED

A very interesting map of the United States, showing the horse population in various sections of the country, has just been published by the Horse Association of America. The figures upon which the map is based are from the 1910 census report, but they apply with considerable accuracy to present conditions since the increase in the number of horses during the last ten years has been comparatively uniform throughout the country. From this map we learn that over half the horses in the United States are produced in the following ten central western states: North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Indiana, Iowa, Illinois and Ohio. In this group of states 10 per cent of the horses are yearling colts, a larger percentage than is found anywhere else in this country. The horses in this section all contain a great deal more draft blood than those in any other group of states and, therefore, furnish the bulk of the good horses and mules that go to the other sections where less than the required number are raised. This fact is that in these central western states practically all the draft horses produced in this country are raised. Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and Texas produce range horses. Many of them, however, are of good quality owing to the fact that draft sires have been used in this group 9 per cent of the total number of horses are yearling colts, showing that a good many horses are raised.

In the eight states west of the Rocky Mountains a considerable number of horses are produced, but they are all undersized and of the unprofitable kind. Few of them reach our market centers as they are not profitable kind. There are a few good horses in the northern section of those states—Oregon, Idaho and Utah—that produce some draft horses but the number is so small compared with the total production that they have a very small effect upon market conditions. In the northeastern states as far south as Virginia and as far west as Ohio, half the horses raised and purchased are used for non-agricultural purposes. This section buys annually about 150,000 horses and mules, which come principally from the north central group of states, previously mentioned. It is of interest to note that only 4.5 per cent of the horses in the northeastern states mentioned are yearling colts, which in itself clearly shows that that section is not self supporting so far as horses and mules are concerned.

The states of Virginia, West Virginia, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota barely produce enough horses and mules for their own use. The southeastern states, including North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee and Kentucky, raise about one-eighth of the horses and mules required in that section. They depend upon the central western states for seven-eighths of their required horse and mule supply.

The interesting part about these figures is that they bring out very clearly that, practically speaking, the grain belt states must supply the northeastern and southeastern states with a big portion of their horse and mule stock. The only other section that produces any surplus of good horses is that included in the states of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and Texas, but these horses are relatively light and do not fill the present demand, which is for heavy horses of draft type.

The demand for heavy drafters is rapidly increasing. Even in the southeastern states where a very large number of mules are used and where a relatively light class of mules were formerly satisfactory, the best heavy type are now required. With indications of lower grain prices and cheaper roughages, it looks as though it would be good business policy for farmers in the grain belt states to breed their heavy, sound, well developed mares to draft stallions of the best type. Even though tractors are increasing at a comparatively rapid rate in the grain belt states there is bound to continue to be a strong demand in the eastern and southern portion of this country for heavy horses and mules. Tractors are not so well adapted for those sections of the country as they are for the grain belt states, and it is questionable whether tractors will ever be used to any extent in the bulk of that territory.

Much optimism prevailed among the breeders present at the recent national Belgian horse show at Waterloo, Iowa, in regard to the future of good draft horses. One prominent breeder reported a sale of 114 head of purebred draft-

ers made by farmers in his home community during the first six months of this year. This man is living in a Belgian district so it happened that 113 of these 114 head were Belgians and only one Percheron, but similar sales of Percherons have been made in sections where that breed predominates. The average price at which these 114 registered drafters sold was \$835. In other words they brought a total of \$95,150. While first class grade drafters will not bring as high prices at this time, there is no doubt but that they will be profitable property in the near future for it is a well known fact that comparatively few mares have been bred in the grain belt states during the last three years while grain has been relatively high and horses relatively low in price. Buyers are calling for horses standing at least 16 hands high, that have good depth of chest, strong backs, powerful coupling, that are deep ribbed and heavily muscled throughout. It is needless to say that they must also have good feet and legs and be sound in every sense of the word. Don't breed your small, undersized mares even though there is a good stallion in your community, for the chances of getting the right kind of colts from such matings are poor. Don't let the big, well developed heavy mares go unbred. From now on they can be an important factor in augmenting the farm income.

LUCKY WOMAN

Eve never had to sit and darn
A pair of socks for Adam;
She couldn't knit, there was no yarn
Or needles—no one had 'em.
Oftimes with sighs I survey
My mending piling so shocking,
And envy that first lucky dame
Who never darned a stocking.

—Farm Life

N. G. Kraschel, the well known livestock auctioneer at Harlan, held a sale of Duroc hogs at Harlan last Monday week, and the fifty head sold averaged \$152. The thirty-nine sows and gilts sold for an average of \$184, and the eleven boars averaged almost \$112. The highest priced animal sold was a yearling sow, Great Sensation Girl 3d, bred by Great Orion Sensation, out of a Model Sensation sow. She was sold to J. C. Droz, of Fairfield, for \$450.00.

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Orrie Ahart, of Day City, is carrying an arm in a sling these days. He suffered an accident last week while loading his horse. All the horse had been driven into the car except one, which was determined not to enter the car. Orrie picked up a grain sack, trying to scare the hog, when it made a jump and crushed Ahart's arm against the side of the chute.

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The long time between drinks is being experienced by a lot of people who are now lying in the cemetery as the result of wood alcohol confections.

SWINE DAY A BIG SUCCESS

Iowa swine feeders day, November 11, attracted nearly 400 swine feeders and breeders and others interested in the work of John E. Eppard, swine expert, despite the wintry weather that prevailed. Many new features in the experimental work being done with hogs was explained by Mr. Eppard, who is in charge of the Iowa Agricultural Experiment station work at Iowa State college.

Among these were the type tests where it was shown that the larger and medium sized are the most profitable to the breeder. The smaller type being more susceptible to disease. This test is being carried on and other results will be announced later.

Work with commercial feeds showed many striking results, although the variation of feed costs makes them a changeable subject.

That pigs will not root when given a good ration of protein in their diet, instead of an all corn ration, was clearly shown by Mr. Eppard. Pigs which had the protein, which was tankage, were quiet and gained better than those which had to dig for the protein.

One of the most interesting phases of the work was shown when pigs sired by a wild boar on a purebred dam were exhibited. These pigs were small and although six months old were less than 100 pounds in weight. They demonstrated how quickly hogs will revert to undesirable types when the wrong kind of a sire is used, and Mr. Eppard warned farmers to beware of poor boars.

Alfalfa as a forage crop was shown during the past season to give better results than sudan grass, since the sudan grass had a shorter season. Sudan grass was killed by the early frost.

Next year it is hoped to have more results on this line.

Work along the type tests, experiments with the wild boar pigs and commercial feed experiments is to be continued.

The visitors also heard Souss's band which was part of the Armistice day program.

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In an effort to save the dairy industry in France, the Blackhawk county, Iowa, Holstein breeders will probably join in the plan to send 1,000 purebred Holstein bulls to France. Owing to the losses suffered during the war France is in need of purebred animals. The Holstein-Friesian Breeders' association is supporting the movement. There are at least ten animals in Blackhawk county available to send.

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Formerly prices went up because people had more business than they could do. Now prices stay up because there is not enough business to do it economically.

Paper producers can't afford to reduce prices any further. Just what the sugar speculators said when they were getting 25 cents a pound.

POINTS ON STORING THE CAR

In storing the auto for the winter it is a good plan to wash the car and store it clean. According to the engineering department of Iowa State college the tires should either be removed or else the weight of the car taken off them. Rubber deteriorates when a strain in one place is left over a long time.

If the garage is cold the water must be taken out of the radiator or something will freeze. The fine pipes break easily. A petcock is found at the bottom of the radiator and it is a good plan to turn over the engine a few times at the end to get all the water out of the cooling system.

It is often a good plan, especially where the car has been run for more than one season, to drain the crank case of the old oil as it contains sediment and which will harden. After the oil is out flush out the case with kerosene and put in good oil. This will insure free working order in the spring.

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To receive a return of \$1,000 from watermelons raised on two and one-half acres of land was the experience this season of Mrs. Eugene May and her four daughters, living near Parker, S. D. The land is on the river bottom and is sandy and moist—ideal for the production of melons. The watermelons raised found a ready market.

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A lot of people who consented to sacrifice themselves by taking public office have been released by the voters from obligations to fulfill their generous promise and are now free to go to work.

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United States claims to be a healthy country, but you'd not know it judging by the amount of whiskey being prescribed for sick people.

THE FARMER KEEPS THANKS-GIVING BETTER

It was Henry Ward Beecher who said: "Thanksgiving day is our one national festival that turns on home life. It is not a day of ecclesiastical saints. It is not a patriotic anniversary. It is not a day celebrating a religious event. It is a day of nature. It is a day of thanksgiving for the year's history. And it must pivot on the household. Give this one day to thanks, to joy, to gratitude."

The joys of Thanksgiving are not partitioned in the fullness thereof by many city boys and girls. They simply know that it is a holiday, when the pleasures and trials of school life are temporarily laid aside, when churches are open for those who want to return devout thanks for the manifold blessings with which they may have been showered, and when the larger family groups with uncommon delicacies.

It is in the country that the manifold blessings of Thanksgiving day reach their full fruition. It is not a mere episode there, as it is in the city, but an event that is anxiously looked forward to weeks before it dawns. In its celebration it differs from the ways of the city as widely as does the day from night.

The thousands of people who live in the country enjoy a treasure which is denied to millions of their fellowmen—the blessings of good pure, out-of-door air, fragrant in spring and summer with perfume of flowers or new mown hay, and in fall and winter laden with crisp, life-giving ozone. No one enjoys more blessings and treasures of this kind than the man or woman on the farm. Of course, farm work is hard, but there are no easy berths in life.

The average person on the farm lives better, enjoys better air to breathe, better water to drink, better food to eat, better conditions under which to work, better health than the man or woman in corresponding circumstances in the city.

Shade and ornamental trees in the United States represent a value of one billion dollars, according to the estimate of the United States department of agriculture. Ten million dollars damage is done annually by shade-tree insects.

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Increased Efficiency Imperative

MR. H. H. HILL, Chemical Engineer of the Bureau of Mines, in discussing the future of gasoline, says: "It is up to the refiners to extract more of petroleum's useful factors from the crude."

This he says can be effected through efficient management and by improved methods of cracking and blending.

Mr. Hill thus expresses the opinion which has dominated the policy of the Standard Oil Company (Indiana) for many years and has enabled this Company to raise its efficiency peak year after year.

The Standard Oil Company (Indiana) has been a leader in developing processes to increase the yield of gasoline from crude oil.

The best known and most successful of its improvements is the Burton process, originated in the laboratories of the Standard Oil Company (Indiana).

Speaking of the Burton Process, Mr. Hill says that "since it was first installed on a commercial scale it has produced approximately 40 million barrels of gasoline from heavy distillates, and has thus saved approximately 150 million barrels of crude that would have been necessary to produce an equivalent amount of gasoline."

This vast saving has been accomplished without sacrificing quality.

Red Crown, the motor gasoline, made and sold by the Standard Oil Company (Indiana), is acknowledged by petroleum chemists and other authorities to be the standard fuel for motor cars. It more than meets Government specifications, which require an initial of not more than 140 degrees F; 20 percent off at 221 degrees; 50 percent off at 284 degrees; 90 percent off at 374 degrees; and a dry point (complete vaporization) at not more than 437 degrees F.

During the semi-annual test conducted in July 1920, the average for Red Crown Gasoline showed an initial of 102 degrees F; 20 percent off at 210; 50 percent off at 281; 80 percent off at 337, and a dry point of 427 degrees F.

This shows an initial 38 degrees better than Government specifications, which means easy starting; 30 percent off at 111 degrees better than Government specifications; 50 percent off at 5 degrees better than Government specifications; and 90 percent off 13 degrees higher than Government specifications, which is more than made up by the 10 degrees difference in dry point.

This proves that, notwithstanding the greatly increased quantity of gasoline which this Company is able to take from the crude, it has in no way sacrificed quality, and is another indication that the large scale operations of this Company have worked to the distinct advantage of every user of gasoline.

Standard Oil Company

(Indiana)

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The "U.S." Walrus: watertight as a rubber boot—as warm and easy to slip on as an arctic

THE combination you have always needed—something to keep your feet dry and warm and yet easy to slip on and off! Here it is—the new U. S. Walrus.

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Ask your dealer to show you the U. S. Walrus. After you've worn them you'll

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U. S. Boots have the wear and comfort which the accumulated improvements of 74 years have given them.

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