

THE HERALD'S UP-TO-DATE FARMERS' PAGE

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POULTRY and EGGS

CATARRH OF FOWLS.

Medical Treatment For the Contagious Form of Roup.

The affections of fowls that give the poultry raiser most concern, especially during the fall and winter, are those showing catarrhal manifestations in the head. Two kinds of catarrh may be recognized—the simple form or common cold and the contagious form, also known as roup. The latter is distinguished from another disease sometimes called roup, but more properly designated diphtheria because of its characteristic membranous exudate in the mouth.

Contagious catarrh, or roup, is an infectious disease of great economic importance because of its wide distribution and the usual severity of its attack. Briefly stated, its symptoms are a sudden and severe cold, with increased temperature of the head, generally



Introduced to America direct from its home in Italy about the middle of the last century, the Brown Leghorn soon became most popular and is still the idol of a great host of breeders. The plumage color is a mixture of glossy black, red and brown, a combination which is rich and beautiful. The Brown Leghorn is also profitable in a commercial way, as the females are great producers of large white eggs. The cock pictured is a Brown Leghorn.

diarrhea and extreme debility. In very acute cases death may ensue within a few days after the bird is observed to be sick. Usually the bad cases linger for a week or more and show progressively increasing symptoms. The secretions instead of remaining fluid, as in simple catarrh, become thick, purulent or cheesy, and may obstruct the nasal passages, causing the mouth to be kept open to facilitate breathing. The inflammation may extend to the eye, and the resulting secretion accumulates, obstructing vision and occasionally forcing the eyeball from its socket. The fowl becomes emaciated, sleepy and unconscious, strength is soon exhausted, and death follows. Milder cases may assume a more chronic form, symptoms being apparent up to six weeks or longer, when recovery may follow, or fowls may be more or less sick for several years, acute attacks developing when the vitality is lowered as a result of cold and dampness or other unfavorable conditions. It is these chronic cases that serve as carriers of infection and furnish the source of new outbreaks. Roup spreads rapidly through a flock, affecting a large percentage of the birds and causing the death of a variable proportion, according to the virulence of the contagion. Young birds are especially susceptible, the mortality reaching 95 per cent at times. Adult birds frequently recover.

Medical treatment may be undertaken with good chances of success. One of the best methods is to plunge the fowl's head into a vessel containing a 2 per cent solution of permanganate of potash and hold it there for half a minute. By this method the lining membrane of the nostrils and mouth is thoroughly bathed by the solution. Previous to the above treatment, any secretions which have dried over the nasal openings should be removed. Affected eyes will respond rapidly to argyrol in 15 per cent solution. One or two drops should be placed in each eye twice daily. At the beginning of an outbreak the entire flock should be given epsom salts in the proportion of a third teaspoonful to each adult bird. A convenient way of administration is to dissolve the salts in water and use the solution in mixing a mash.

Poultry in Winter.

Every chick that starts on the winter campaign is entitled to a good start, says the Kansas Farmer. To have a good start it should be free from lice. At times the chicken can keep itself free from lice when it has the proper environs and the right kind of dusting material. At other times it must be helped by the owner to get rid of these pests. This can be done by dusting the chicken with insect powder. After the chicken is in proper condition the building where it is to pass the winter should be in proper condition before it occupies it. The house should be clean and sanitary, free from lice and mites, well protected from cold weather and especially free from all drafts. With the chickens and the house in good condition to start with, there should be comparatively little work to keep them in the same condition all winter. This would mean lots of eggs at the time that eggs are worth the most money.

THE STOCKMAN.

The horse that wins is the horse that holds out. Be careful that the boar cleans up all the grain fed him, and give him a chance to stretch his limbs all he wants to. Never let the sheep run in the yard with cattle. Horses may be made hard bitten by the treatment given them when colts. A man robs himself when he keeps hogs or pigs in wet pens. Feed corn sparingly to sheep that are with lamb.

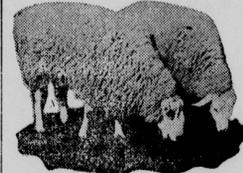
DAIRY WISDOM.

Don't sacrifice a fall calf from a choice dairy cow. Give it good care, and it will be ready to go to pasture in the spring, not far behind the earlier calves in growth. Provide some shelter in the fall pasture for the cows to reach when they actually need it. Prepare a stable for the calves and yearlings in the sunniest corner of the barn. Get the silo filled before the corn is frost bitten. In dairying there is no excuse for the man who goes at it blindly to blame luck and weather for his failure.

HINTS FOR BEGINNER IN SHEEP RAISING

A beginner, a young man who has never handled any sheep, wants to know how he should start in the business of raising lambs, says the National Stockman. If his farm and its locality is overrun with dogs, better not start at all. Successful sheep husbandry requires a farm not too low or wet and a man who is quiet and gentle among his animals.

Perhaps the best way this young man can start now is to buy a bunch of good, straight, fine wool ewes bred to a mutton buck, if he can locate such a flock. These are suggested because they are hardy and require less attention or expert care than the mutton breeds. They should be kept through the winter in good, healthy condition. They should be allowed to raise one lamb apiece and no more. The fine wool ewe is a good mutton lamb raiser when crossed with a ram of almost



The Lincoln sheep originated in England and is large in size. It is not as heavy as formerly, either in carcass or fleece, but its quality has been improved by the refinement it has undergone through many years of careful breeding, making it a desirable sheep for mutton and wool and for the improvement of the common flocks. The sheep pictured are Lincoln.

any mutton breed, but as a rule she will not raise well more than one lamb.

At lambing time care for the ewes and the lambs. If any ewe loses her lamb get her to adopt a twin from some other ewe, which can usually be done by putting the hide of the dead lamb on the living one for awhile and sometimes by continuing eye and lamb and seeing that the lamb suckles. Castrate the buck lambs. Keep the lambs growing until ready for market by seeing that the ewes have enough to make milk and by feeding the lambs, too, when they need more than the mother's milk. Market them when they are fat, no matter when that is.

Always remember that a sheep will not eat or drink anything that is not fresh and clean. Breeding ewes must have fresh air and exercise. Never shut them in a warm barn or deprive them of exercise. Don't let them crowd through narrow doorways. Feed clover or alfalfa hay. Their mixture of corn and oats is all right for grain. A little oilmeal helps if the feed is all dry. Don't try to carry too big a flock; a small one will give a beginner something to do and think about too. This is a crude outline, but a trial of it may make a shepherd out of a beginner and a profit out of his flock.

Ophthalmia in Horses.

Periodic ophthalmia (moon blindness) is incurable when established. It causes blindness of one or both eyes after repeated attacks which come on at intervals of a month or thereabout. Bathe the eyes with a 10 per cent solution of boric acid twice daily. At time of attack keep the eyes covered with a soft cloth to be kept wet with a lotion composed of half a dram each of sulphate of zinc and fluid extract of belladonna leaves and ten drops of carbolic acid in a quart of cold water. If the eyeballs remain clouded after the inflammation subsides paint them once daily with a solution of two grains of nitrate of silver in an ounce of distilled water to be kept in a blue glass bottle. Slightly darken the stable.—Farm Journal.

Feeding Breeding Ewes.

To have strong, healthy lambs the ewes before lambing should have all the exercise they can be induced to take, and it is important that they should be fed liberally with bran. The feed should be carefully regulated both before and after the lambs come. It should consist of fine early cut hay, roots, clover and bran. They should be fed only what they will eat clean.

For Better Horses.

To produce better horses, first of all, use better sires. There is a scarcity of really high class stallions. Pure bred stallions of good breeding and individual excellence should be used. There is no place in a modern, scientific plan of breeding of any kind of live stock for a grade or scrub sire.

KEEPING A LINE ON DAIRY PRODUCTION

Records of each cow in the dairy is rapidly becoming a slogan in all America where cows are milked, writes H. E. McCartney in the Iowa Homestead. This is a sign of progressiveness and a mark of the establishment of good business practice. Cows are uncertain until they have been tried. Some are heavy producers. Some are very poor producers. Some make a profit for the owner. Some lose money. Records, yearly records, show exactly what each cow has done in the herd.

The growth of the cow testing association movement speaks well for the value of testing, and it speaks equally well for the progressive American farmers and dairymen who are so rapidly placing their herds under the detective eye of the association tester. Not many years have elapsed since the first testing association was established in Michigan. This was a central location, as we may see by looking at a map of America. Now associations are located at very frequent intervals from the Pacific on the west to the Atlantic on the east.

Everywhere individual herds are being tested. Young men who have attended an agricultural college who desire to put into practice the best the college has given are testing their herds regularly and carefully. Men who



The Ayrshire cow is very intelligent, quick to learn and of a retentive memory, easily taught to take the same place in the stable and, if required to change, will in a few days readily take the new place. She is quiet and pleasant to milk, not easily disturbed, and will, as a rule, yield her milk as readily to one milker as to another and does not seem disturbed by any amount of noise in the stable. The bull pictured is an Ayrshire.

have never been to college but who believe in applying business methods to their farms and barns are testing just as carefully. Without having been to college the latter may not know as much about the chemistry of the process. However, they do know from yearly records just which cows are profitable and which are not. This is the main object of keeping records. Records on dairy cows give us ideals. The average production of herds has been doubled. Once the herd that would average 400 pounds of butter fat per year was thought impossible. Now leading dairymen are striving for an average far in excess of that. The phenomenal record cows of the world are ideals for us. We can never hope to have herds that will average the enormous production of the latter day champions, but every time we read of a new world record we raise our hopes and ideals just a little higher. The keeping of dairy records is to be commended. It is good business.

Flaxseed For Calves.

It is very often desirable to use a little ground flaxseed in skim milk when the calves are changed from whole milk to skim milk, says Hoard's Dairyman. The ground flaxseed is rich in oil, while oilmeal is rich in protein, and so is skim milk. A teaspoonful of ground flaxseed is often added at the beginning to each mess of milk fed to the calves. It may be gradually increased until a tablespoonful is fed. It is the practice of some to cook the ground flaxseed the same as oatmeal and feed it in this way, but experiments have shown that there is no advantage in cooking it, and unless care is taken there is likely to be a disadvantage, as the cooked ground flaxseed is likely to sour. If sour feed is fed it will cause scours.

Beaver Tales.

The Indians say that if a beaver sent out from the parents' lodge fails to find a mate he is set to repair the dam. If he fails a second time he is banished.

An Arab writer has the same story. He tells us that those who buy beaver skins can distinguish between the skins of masters and slaves. The latter have the hair of the head rubbed off because they have to pound the wood for their masters' food and do it with their heads.



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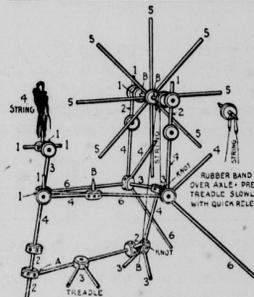


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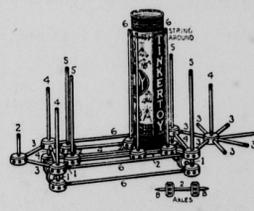
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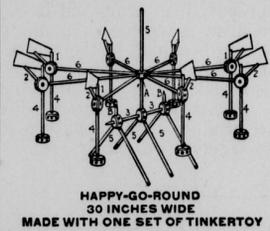
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