

RED POLLS IN TEXAS

During the past three years, according to the Texas Farm and Ranch, there have been shipped into Texas from the north something like 500 head of registered Red Polled cattle.



RED POLLED COW.

disclosed the fact that they were bred along dairy lines rather than for beef. This breed of cattle seems to have given marked satisfaction in reference to their capacity for adapting themselves to the changed conditions necessarily experienced in coming from the blue grass pastures and stall fed winter quarters of the north to the open ranges of the Lone Star State.

The exhibition of a few of these cattle at the state fair last year and a very creditable exhibit made at the San Antonio International fair by both Texan and northern exhibitors have created, together with the sales of this class of stock and the advertisements in the agricultural papers, quite a demand for Red Polled cattle, and the editors of Farm and Ranch, in the interest of the cattlemen of the state, are pleased to say that the continued exhibition of these cattle will no doubt in the future be encouraged.

Not the least among these questions, in view of recent experiences with cattle above the quarantine line, the question of inoculation against Texas fever is one that should be considered by new purchasers. Dr. M. Francis of College Station, Tex., has had a wide experience in this matter and in his recent utterances has expressed his conviction not only that inoculation will prevent any material loss in importing stock, but has said that the proper method of inoculation where persons buy enough cattle to make it worth while is to have the work done after the cattle come to Texas and at the home of the owner of them, so that not only may the inoculation be conducted in the immediate presence of the owner, but that the care and treatment of the cattle may be at a place and time where the experience of such men as Dr. Francis may be available to the owner of the cattle inoculated and the advice and direction as to the care may be had at the time and in personal conversation between the owner and the veterinarian who does the work.

Stock Raising For Young Farmers. Young men who are just starting the business of farming should make up their minds as to what kind of stock they will handle and should secure the best of the kind that can be obtained for by so doing they are laying a foundation for a fortune later on. There is no money to be made in raising scrub stock, says a correspondent of The Prairie Farmer. Suppose a man feeds a bunch of common steers and another a bunch of high grade. It will take the same amount of feed.

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and perhaps more for the scrub lot if prepare the animals for market; then when they are sold the market will be from 50 cents to \$1 higher in favor of the high grade cattle, and the owner of the scrub lot has lost just that much for the labor and expense of raising the two lots have been the same. Nor is that all. The man who is satisfied to handle poor stock never has anything that will induce a buyer to offer a fancy price for from the fact that his cattle never attract any attention. The cattle I would advise the young farmer to handle would be the Shorthorns. They are not only beef cattle, but they are fair milkers and average butter makers. Their fine form and beauty are attractive to the eyes of buyers. But they must be well taken care of. They must be provided with good shelter and not allowed to run out in the stalkfields all winter. They must be fed well so as to keep them in good condition.

CHEAP THINGS ARE COSTLY.

In Starting in the Poultry Business It Pays to Buy the Best.

"I wanted something cheap, and I have concluded that I got just what I wanted." That was the remark of a gentleman who had been trying in vain to successfully hatch chickens in a cheap incubator. The man who made the remark was a man of wealth and has made his mark in the business world, but when it came to investing in an incubator he fell into the same error so many others have fallen into and bought the kind he could buy cheapest.

As this gentleman related his experience with his cheap incubator to me I recalled the many opportunities amateur poultry men have to invest in something cheap. One of the most tempting of these opportunities is found when the purchase of an incubator is contemplated. To one who has studied artificial incubation the impossibility of success with an incubator which extends below a certain point in cheapness is apparent. An incubator to do satisfactory work must be constructed of good material, and the material must be put together in the best possible manner. If one will stop to figure out the cost of material and skilled labor, it will be found that there is an approximate figure below which a really good incubator cannot be sold.

It is not alone in the purchase of an incubator that the beginner makes the mistake of letting something cheap influence his judgment. Any one who has had much correspondence with beginners who are looking for eggs for hatching or fowls for breeding knows how great a figure cheapness cuts with them. The majority of such persons would much rather get three sittings of eggs at \$1 per sitting than one sitting for \$3, and yet, as the more experienced breeder knows, eggs at \$1 per sitting, when the object desired is prize winning chicks, prove to be about the costliest investment that could be made. If the beginner resolves to buy a pair, a trio or a pen of breeding birds, this same tendency to get something cheap shows itself. I remember in particular one letter I received the writer of which had evidently taken a copy of The Standard and, with that before him, had written out a description of a pair of birds which, had it been followed, would have scored 90 points each at least, and then for a closing paragraph he said: "I do not want exhibition birds; simply good breeders, and I cannot afford to pay over \$2 each for them." I could have filled that man's order, but the pair of birds would have cost him \$30. I broke this to him as gently as possible, but I never heard from him again. He doubtless found some one who sent him a pair of birds worth just about as much as he wished to pay, and he either became disgusted because they did not produce winners for him or else, possessing the spirit and grit of the true fancier, he tackled about on a different course, paid fair prices for some good birds and finally attained success in the showroom.

While cheap incubators, eggs and fowls prove to be dear in the end, there is another investment which every breeder is called upon to make and in which cheapness also proves costly to the investor. This is in the purchase of feed. Good, sound, wholesome grain is far cheaper in the end when the prevailing prices are paid than damaged grain at one-third the regular price. In the vicinity in which I live great quantities of wheat and corn are annually damaged by fire or water, and a number of men are engaged in the business of drying or sorting the damaged grain into different grades and then offering it for sale. I have seen wheat sold to poultrymen that had been so badly charred that it was but little better than charcoal. Corn after having been for days in the bottom of the harbor is raised, partially dried and then offered for sale and sold, too, after it has turned black from heating. Most of this damaged grain goes to feed the fowls of men who think they are getting a cheap ration, and they congratulate themselves on the imagined saving effected.

Cheap equipment also proves to be costly in the end. Buildings should be well constructed, and good material should always be used, although there is no necessity for adding to the cost by ornamentation.—Henry L. Allen in Feather.

Keep Them Quiet. The Farmers and Planters' Guide says: While fattening young geese they should be kept as quiet as possible. No excitement whatever should disturb them. When feeding, approach them quietly and do not irritate them in the least, or they will not fatten, but will "throw out" or grow another crop of feathers.

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