

Farmers' Column.



Give foots their gold & know their power. Let nature's bobbies rise and fall. Who sows a field or trains a flower. Or plants a tree, is more than all.

Raising and Feeding Swine.

At the Swine breeders' meeting in Chicago, the committee on raising and feeding swine, in their report made the following suggestions:

That the most important point in raising swine is health. Only the strongest and most vigorous sows are fit to be used as breeders, and they are to have only one litter a year. The boars should be pure bred and healthy. It is desirable to have the litters come early in the spring. While breeding the feeding should consist of grass and clover in summer and rye, roots and bran in winter. High grain feeding is not good for breeding sows in summer. They should have a large range and good grass and clover. Pigs should be weaned when 10 or 12 weeks old. If pigs are to be fattened for killing the year they are born they should have most liberal feeding and good management. If they are kept over the winter they should have the run of grass or clover, with little or no grain feeding.

Hog Cholera.

This disease is prevailing in some parts of Baltimore county, Md., with marked fatality. At the recent convention of the National Home Breeders, Col. T. D. Curtis, from the committee on Sanitary Conditions and Diseases, made the following report, concerning this subject:

That owing to the improved sanitary condition in the management of hogs on the farms, the disease known as hog cholera has been almost entirely eradicated. In most of the States there are no traces of it at present, and your committee was entirely satisfied that with more care in providing a greater amount of succulent food and green pasturage, with pure water, with less exposure in cold weather, and the keeping of swine in smaller herds, so that in sleeping there would not be so much piling upon each other, thereby producing excessive condensation of moisture and subsequent chilling, and also partial suffocation, this disease would be entirely eradicated. We do most emphatically urge upon the porcellan raisers the paramount importance of using the utmost means in their power to better the condition of their swine, and especially to provide them with as great a variety of food as possible during growth, and always with shelter from inclement weather, which is undoubtedly one of the chief causes of sickness among hogs. Inbreeding should be avoided, to prevent the spreading of any contagious diseases among swine. We recommend that laws should be passed by all the States placing all animals thus affected immediately in quarantine, with restrictions and severe penalties in any case of violation of the law.

Seasonable Hints.

Chickens should not be allowed to roost on trees this kind of weather. It is cold, and will injure fowls, except turkeys, thus exposed.

If one wants plenty of fresh eggs from his hens in winter, they must not only have warm shelter but plenty of nutritious food from which to produce the eggs.

In these inclement days it is not so surprising, when numbers of fowls are kept shut up in poorly ventilated houses, that some of them fall ill.—This is almost inevitable.

Ground bone, bone meal, and fine granulated bone are all merchantable articles nowadays, and large quantities of this economical provision for poultry are used by those who understand its value.

To fatten fowls, cooked corn meal and potatoes served to them in regular meals for three or four weeks immediately prior to slaughtering is as good a regimen as can be given; and this is quite as economical a standard feed as they can have.

To cure rot, look out that it doesn't get started in your flocks. It is helped by colds, dampness, exposure to rough weather, and neglect. Prevent its presence by constant care, good shelter, and dry, clean hen houses. This is the surest method.

Keep the snow from drifting into young chicken houses. Straw the floor with fallen leaves, or coarse cut straw. Feed the morning meal to your fowls warm. Scald the meal, boil, and mash the potatoes or turnips, and mix these for the early days of food.

Never let poultry forage and shift for themselves, for at least ten days before killing, for they are apt to range in the barn yards and pick up filthy food which permeates all through the bird's flesh frequently becoming so tainted that it is unfit to be eaten.

A fowl that costs sixteen cents per pound dressed will cost twelve cents when undressed; or, the dressing costs four cents, and a pound of once fowl not dressed, will when dressed, weigh 7 pounds 9 ounces, so that a dressed fowl will, if a large one, weigh a pound and a half less than when dressed.

Fruits as Food and Medicine.

Of all the fruits with which we are blessed the peach is the most delicious and digestible. There is nothing more palatable, wholesome and medicinal than good ripe peaches. They should be ripe, but not over ripe and half rotten, and of this kind they may make a part of either meal, or be eaten between meals; but it is better to make them part of the regular meals. It is a mistaken idea that no fruit should be eaten at breakfast. It would be far better if our people would eat less bacon and grease at breakfast and more fruit. In the morning there is an acid state of the secretions, and nothing is so well calculated to correct this as cooling sub-acid fruits, such as peaches, apples, etc. Still most of us have been taught that eating fruit before breakfast is highly dangerous. How the idea originated I do not know, but it is certainly a great error, contrary to both reason and fact.

The apple is one of the best of fruits. Baked or stewed apples will generally agree with the most delicate stomach and are an excellent medicine in many cases of sickness. Green, or half-ripe apples stewed and sweetened are pleasant to the taste, nourishing, cooling and laxative, far superior, in many cases, to the abominable doses of salts and oil usually given in fever and other diseases. Raw apples and dried apples stewed, are better for constipation than most liver pills.

Oranges are very acceptable to most stomachs, having all the advantage of the acid alluded to; but the juice alone should be taken rejecting the pulp. The same may be said of lemons, pomegranates, and all that class.—Lemonade is the best drink in fevers, and when thickened with sugar, is better than syrup of squills and other nauseous drugs in many cases of cough.

Tomatoes act on the liver and bowels, and are much more pleasant and safe than blue mass and liver regulators, rejecting the skins.

The small seeded fruits, such as blackberries, figs, raspberries, and strawberries, may be classed among the best foods and medicines. The sugar in them is nutritious, the acid is cooling and purifying, and the ganners if we would look to our gardens and orchards for our medicines and less to our drug stores. To cure fever or act on the kidneys, no febrifuge or diuretic is superior to water-melons, which may, with very few exceptions, be taken in sickness and in health in almost unlimited quantities, not only without injury, but with positive benefit. But in using them, the water, or juice should be taken, excluding the pulp; and the melon should be fresh and ripe, but not over-ripe and stale.—J. S. Wilson, M. D., in Southern World.

Proverbs.

Be wary of false prophets and patent medicine drops. Experience is a high grade school, course thorough tuition, but in most emphatically urge upon the porcellan raisers the paramount importance of using the utmost means in their power to better the condition of their swine, and especially to provide them with as great a variety of food as possible during growth, and always with shelter from inclement weather, which is undoubtedly one of the chief causes of sickness among hogs. Inbreeding should be avoided, to prevent the spreading of any contagious diseases among swine. We recommend that laws should be passed by all the States placing all animals thus affected immediately in quarantine, with restrictions and severe penalties in any case of violation of the law.

Pearls of Thought.

Anger and haste hinder good counsel. Ridicule dishonors more than dishonor. No solitude is so solitary as that of inharmonious companionship.

One ungrateful man does no injury to all who stand in need of aid. Kindness is the only charm permitted to the aged; it is the coquette of white hair.

Experience is a torch lighted in the ashes of our hopes and delusions. Comparison, more than reality, makes men happy, and can make them wretched.

We should seek more of the practical realities of every day life and less of the ethereal.

We must consider humanity as a man who continually grows old and always learns.

Wisdom is the strength of cheerfulness; altogether, but calculation increases its power of endurance.

It is so easy to mediate on a far-off heroism, so difficult to cut off a little self-indulgence quite near at hand!

VARIETIES.

School Inspector—Well, sir, and what is the plural of baby? Small boy.—Twins.

'Young women often keep their lovers by tears.'—Yes, says Crumwigg, 'love, like beef, is preserved by brine.' Why is a crow following a plowman like a hungry boy at breakfast time?—Because he is intently looking out for the grub.

'It is easy to pick out a journalist in the crowded street, because he is the only person who always keeps to the right. The author of this has been penned up.

Mr. Watterston thinks that the lady who carries a dog to match her freckles should call him 'Spot.' Tray will be just as good, or, for a compromise, Tray-Spot.

At one of the customary school examinations an urchin was asked, what was the chief use of bread? To which he replied, with an archness that implied what a simpleton you must be to ask such a question, 'to spread butter upon.'

'Sire, one word,' said a soldier one day to Frederick the Great, when presenting to him a request for the brevet of lieutenant. 'If you say two I will have you hanged, answered the King. 'Sign,' replied the soldier. The King stared, whistled and signed.

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