

Dairy Department

Cattle are extremely hard to find, yet dairymen are knocking their calves in the head in various localities. It is my desire to raise some of these calves without milk or with just as little as possible. H. E. M., Fulda, Wash.

Answer: It has been practically impossible to procure a feed that will take the place of milk for a calf that is only three days old. At that age he should still be getting his mother's milk, and not until the fifth day should there be added any milk from another cow. The change from one kind of milk to another should be gradual and especially when the change is from whole milk to skimmilk. By the use of skimmilk and grain we have been able to raise calves economically. In selecting grain to go with skimmilk it must be borne in mind that the fat is all that is removed and the grain we choose should contain a high percentage of fat. Proteina or soy bean meal is very good for this purpose. Whole corn gives one of the best grains for the young calf. If calves are to be raised for breeding purposes it seems that it would be desirable to give them plenty of skimmilk regardless of the price. If the dairy industry is to make much headway in the Pacific Northwest we must stop knocking our calves in the

head as you have mentioned, but raise them instead. Ten or twelve pounds of skimmilk per day for two or three weeks seems a large item, but when we consider that we are feeding a calf that will in three years take the place of its mother and produce probably twice as much milk and fat, we ought not hesitate in giving them the milk mentioned. As a rule we cannot see far enough ahead to see that we are going to obtain any profit from such feeding, but unless we do we will be in the same old rut with the same kind of cows and barely making ends meet.

COTTAGE CHEESE.

Question: We have been experiencing a peculiar difficulty in making cottage cheese from skimmilk, and would like to know the reason if you can explain? When the milk is clabbered and then heated, the curd becomes gummy and forms a sticky mass, which has a sickening odor. The whey separates as usual. The clabber is heated slightly. The cows are on a pasture of alfalfa, brome and bunch grass and have access to the bushes which usually grow about the springs in this region. Is it possible that this lies in some bacteria that find their way into the milk? If so how can they be removed? T. D. A., Chelan, Wash.

Answer: The difficulty that you have mentioned is probably due to some undesirable germs that enter the milk either during milking or while the milk is being strained. There is a class of germs that cause sticky or stringy milk, and instead of having a nice, firm curd, it masses up into some such a mass as you have mentioned. The only remedy that I can suggest is to be sure that everything with which the milk comes in contact is perfectly sterile by being boiled in water. To make a uniform product, we boil all milk while it is sweet and then introduce a pure culture, which we obtain from the creamery supply house. The directions for propagating this culture are found on the package when it is received. I am sure that if you try this method you will have no difficulty in securing the best quality cheese.

FEEDING VALUE OF RICE BRAN.

Question: Can you tell me the feeding value of rice bran and whether it will make suitable feed for poultry and milking stock? S. F. C., Kirkland.

Answer: Rice bran composed of the outside of the rice grain and more or less of the germ is of moderate feeding value to cows. It is not nearly as valuable as wheat bran, either in the digestible nutrients or in the fertilizing constituents it contains.

WHICH SEPARATOR?

Question: I am thinking of buying a cream separator and would like to know which one you would advise me to buy. Mrs. J. H. S., Bangor, Wash.

Answer: It does not make very much difference what make of a machine you buy so long as you take care of it after you get it. We find that there is as much difference between machines of the same make as between machines of different makes, and that the workmanship on the individual machine, as well as the way it is handled, are the factors that determine the life of any machine. You make no mistake in buying any of the standard makes.

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BALANCED RATION.

Question: Will you kindly indicate a balanced ration for a Jersey cow, using alfalfa hay as roughage with any of the common grains? W. H. A., Spokane.

Answer: With alfalfa hay as roughage I would select bran, barley, and probably some linseed meal for concentrates. The latter could be omitted if the cow is on pasture. We usually allow the cow to eat all the alfalfa hay she will consume and then feed a mixture of two parts bran, three parts barley and one part linseed meal. Corn may be substituted for the barley with good results. Feed one pound of this mixture to every three and one-half pounds of milk that the cow produces daily.

GONNASON'S PURE BRED POLANDS.

The illustration on the front page, showing the Poland China sow with the litter of six pigs is from a photograph taken at The Meadows during the King County Fair. This sow is a fine animal and excellently bred, her sire is Western Chief, a grandson of the famous boar, Perfection. I know, and every Poland China breeder knows, that when he sees the name Perfection that it relates back to that famous boar Perfection Second of which it may be said that the world never knew a better hog; the dam of the sow whose picture is presented is Grand Darling, a granddaughter of the famous boar Keep On, 61,015, and her grand dam was Grance Darling Second by Proud, Perfection, this is certainly rich breeding.

Gonnason's herd is Prince Fernwood just a year old on September 5th. His dam was Prince Meddler, a grandson of the famous boar Meddler 99,999, bred by Winn & Mastin of Missouri. This was the boar that helped to make wealthy a man who was formerly a street car conductor. Other splendid animals in the pedigrees are Perfection Monarch, by Perfection King, and the famous dams Water Pearl, whose dam was Watercross. Mr. Gonnason has started right and being the only breeder of the popular Poland Chinas in this neck of the woods, will, without doubt, find all the orders that he can take care of. His post office is Kent, Washington. R. B.

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