

**PRACTICAL POINTS FOR FILLING A SILO**



USING PERPENDICULAR PIPE TO FILL SILO.

(Clemson College Bulletin.)  
Distributing and packing silage in the silo is frequently neglected. Unless the blower has a distributor attachment there is a tendency for the cut corn to fall in one place in the silo. If the stalks are frequently blown to the outside and the heavier parts, ears and butts of stalks, are deposited in the center, this causes an uneven distribution of grain and stalk and a consequent uneven quality of silage. Uneven distribution is frequently the cause of soft places and air pockets, which later result in spoiled silage. When the lighter portions are blown to the outside they do not pack well and the silage spoils near the wall. Such spoilage, which really results from careless filling, is often attributed to the silo.  
**Packing is important.**  
Packing the silage is equally as important as distribution. Thorough packing requires persistent work.

Good silage can be had only by uniform packing and uniform distribution of the corn. The entire surface, especially the outer edge, should be packed firmly. The best help obtainable should be stationed in the silo. That is where the silage is ultimately made, and success depends on the ability of the men to distribute and pack the corn properly.  
**Large Cutter Saves Money.**  
The large cutter with the corresponding large capacity frequently saves money in filling the silo, but it may result in a waste of the storage capacity of the silo. If the silo is filled rapidly the corn has little time to settle. Slow filling allows the corn to settle as it is stored, with the result that more corn can be placed in the silo. To overcome the disadvantage of rapid filling woven wire may be extended above the top of the silo, thus increasing its capacity until it can settle.

**LAMBS BORN IN FALL**

Such Animals When Ready for Market Bring Fancy Prices.

Dorset, Rambouillet and Merinos Will Breed at Almost Any Season—Open Shed Will Furnish Sufficient Shelter.

The term "winter lamb" has reference to lambs that are born in the fall or early winter and grown during the winter. Such lambs when ready for the market usually sell at fancy prices because they reach the market at a time of the year when choice, fat young lambs are scarce and in great demand, says D. A. Spencer, sheep expert for the department of animal husbandry of Oklahoma A. and M. college, Stillwater.  
To produce winter lambs it is necessary to have the ewes bred in late spring or early summer, says Mr. Spencer. If the ewes are in good, thrifty condition and have access to plenty of good pasture, they will not need any grain until lambing time.  
Not a very large percentage of the ewes of the most desirable mutton type will breed early enough for winter lambs. The Dorset breed is an exception to this, however, for the Dorset ewes will breed at almost any season of the year. Only a small percentage of the tidy, popular Shropshire ewes will breed before cool weather in the fall. Merinos and Rambouillets, like Dorsets, will breed at almost any season. If one has grade Merino or Rambouillet ewes that he does not care to mate with fine-wool rams, they may be bred to mutton type rams and the lambs will be excellent for mutton.  
Nevertheless, during the hot weather that usually prevails in July and August, only a small percentage of the ewes of any breed will come in heat. It is, therefore, wise to turn the rams with the ewes in May, or at least as early as June, in order to get the ewes to breed before extreme hot weather. The period of gestation in the ewe will average about one week less than five months, so that ewes bred in May or June will lamb in October and November. Just when the weather is getting cool and almost ideal for lambing.  
The mild winters of Oklahoma afford the farmers of this state splendid opportunities for winter lamb production. A shed placed on well-drained land, opening to the south to admit sunlight, so built as to break direct drafts of wind, and with a good roof, will furnish sufficient shelter.

**MAKING MONEY WITH CATTLE**

Possibilities of Beef Production From Winter Grazing Shown at North Carolina Station

The money-making possibilities of beef production from winter grazing have been demonstrated in a series of experiments conducted jointly by the North Carolina experiment station and the bureau of animal industry. The cattle depended upon pasture for food during the winter months. The experiments covered a period of three years. Seventeen steers were used the first year, the average initial weight being 515.5 pounds. The final weight indicated a gain of 55.5 pounds each, and the total cost of wintering was only \$4.88 per steer. For the second year 26 steers were used. The average initial weight was 705 pounds, and the gain during 131 winter days was 17 pounds per steer.  
The cost of wintering each animal was \$5.75. In the third year 16 animals made an average gain of 26 pounds in 119 winter days; the cost for wintering being \$5.50.  
When we take into consideration the fact that wintering animals in this way, in addition to yielding them gains, puts them in such condition that they will readily take on flesh in the spring and summer, it is a strong indication that this plan of handling them is a good one, as there is nothing to lose.

Figure on raising one pig to marketable age for each dairy cow and possibly one or two in addition for the house stops. With exceptionally good cows the number of pigs may be somewhat increased. This is, of course, where the cream is sold, but the skim milk kept on the farm.

Profitable to Buy Up Stock Animals and Feed Them Over Winter—Let Them Run Loose.

Any farmer who has an abundance of corn and roughage can make money by buying up stock mules in the large markets and feeding them over winter. They should be allowed to run loose in rocky barns or sheds and never confined in stalls, as horses.

**SAVE EGGS FROM BEST STOCK**

Evidence of Good Qualities When Fowl Reaches 200-Egg Mark—Should Be Perpetuated.

Eggs from the best hens should not be eaten. When a fowl reaches the 200-egg mark in a season, it is evidence of qualities which ought to be perpetuated. Eggs from this kind of stock should go into the incubator.  
**Keep Horse Doctor Busy.**  
Maybe you think you can save time by feeding the horse enough in the morning to last all day. That is a good way to make a job for a horse doctor.  
**Encourage Pigs to Eat.**  
A small pen built close to the sow's pen, with a hole through which the pigs can pass and eat grain by themselves, will encourage them to eat grain much sooner.  
**Buying Forage Crop Seed.**  
Buy labeled field and forage crop seed—know the man who put it up, its kind, its germination, and, if origin matters, where it was grown.  
**To Destroy Billbugs.**  
Billbugs affecting corn cannot live on cotton, therefore follow corn with cotton.  
**Seeds Are Scarce.**  
Seed of all kinds are going to be scarce next year. Better order your supply early.

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**LIVE STOCK-FRUIT-DAIRYING-BREEDING-FIELD CROPS-SILOS-PIGS**

New Wrinkles in Progressive Agriculture

# FARM AND FIELD

Making the Farmers' Business Profitable

TOLD IN AN INTERESTING MANNER EXPRESSLY FOR OUR READERS

**MENACE TO DAIRY INDUSTRY**

Difficult to Estimate Cost of Contagious Abortion Each Year—Breeders Are Secretive.

Tuberculosis is a dread disease, and its ravages are a heavy burden on the live stock industry. The loss that it entails, however, is not so much to be dreaded by the live stock men as the losses caused by contagious abortion. It is difficult to estimate just what abortion costs the dairy industry each year; breeders are very secretive about its presence in their herds; losses are taken quietly and nothing said. Many, too, have contagious abortion to deal with and are not aware of it. It is not necessary that a cow actually abort to prove that the disease exists. Sterility, irregular heat and retained afterbirth, are all symptoms of contagious abortion. Too often, too, an abortion is explained as the result of an accident or strain, and the dairy farmer lulls himself into a feeling of false security. The first essential toward eliminating the disease from the herd is that we be honest with ourselves and recognize that the disease exists.  
Eternal vigilance is the price of freedom from this disease.

**HEADING BACK FRUIT TREES**

Necessity of Cutting Out Diseased and Useless Branches Recognized by Fruit Grower.

Trees are better with a little pruning annually than with an occasional severe pruning. Some people head back their trees quite freely each year, while others who believe in unrestricted growth do not. Everyone recognizes the necessity of cutting out dead, diseased and useless branches and those which rub or interfere with each other.  
Heavy pruning tends to produce wood. Old trees are rejuvenated by severe cutting back. Weak-growing



Tree Headed Back.

trees should be pruned more closely than strong growers. If a tree's energies are largely devoted to growing wood the quality and quantity of fruit must suffer. Winter pruning stimulates wood growth, and summer pruning diverts the energies to fruit bearing. Do the winter pruning while the tree is dormant and the summer pruning in June.  
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**BLANKET FOR LITTLE LAMBS**

When Animal First Comes Into World He Is Weak and Punny and Needs Some Protection.

The poor little lamb is up against it when he first comes into the world. He is weak and puny, and the chances are he feels chilly and he may take a cold that will end fatally and result in a loss to you. Be on the safe side by wrapping him up in one of the blankets shown in the accompanying



Blanket for Lambs.

drawing. It is attached by straps which pass under his belly and also by one which fastens around his neck. The lamb will be grateful and so will you when he develops into a bigascal worth quite a few dollars on the market.

**FEEDING PIGS FORAGE CROPS**

Greater Returns Made Than From Animals Fed in Dry Lots—Alfalfa Given Highest Rank.

Pigs fed on good forage crops will make many times as much profit as those fed in dry lots.  
The accredited gain in pork to an acre of forage varies, depending upon the crop, the age of the hog, and amount of grain fed. An acre of sweet clover, with corn at \$1.50 and hogs at \$15 a hundred, netted \$42.07; rape, \$37.50; alfalfa, \$65.90, and a combination of oats, peas and rape, \$64.00.  
Of all forage crops, alfalfa is the great permanent crop, while rape is the emergency crop, and green rye the fall and early spring crop. The ideal forage crop should show adaptability to soil and climate, permanency, palatability, reasonable cost of planting, and good pasture at any time during the growing season. Alfalfa, clover and rape have most of these qualities.

**MANY FARMERS HORSE POOR**

Four Animals Are All That is Needed to Work Quarter Section—One Should Be Brood Mare.

Too many farmers are horse poor. They have not only too many horses but horses which are not good. In farming a quarter-section of land there is no need for more than four horses. Three of these should be heavy horses and one should be an animal heavy enough to do considerable work yet light enough to be the family driving. Of these heavy horses at least one should be a good brood mare. While practicing economy in other respects, it is well to study the economical use of horse flesh.

**PASTURE SHEEP IN ORCHARD**

If Turned in Early in Season They Gradually Accustom Themselves to Fallon Apples.

Sheep, if suddenly fed an unlimited quantity of apples, would quite likely choke themselves, or even to such an extent that other diseases result would follow. But, if turned in to the orchard early in the season, they will gradually accustom themselves to the small apples as they gradually fall from the trees, and no harmful results follow. Cows and hogs are equally useful, provided the trees are in such a condition, and of such a shape that the animals will not harm them.  
**Protein and Minerals.**  
While corn is the chief feed for fattening hogs, it is deficient in protein and mineral matter necessary for growing animals. A feed rich in protein and minerals when fed with corn is therefore highly beneficial.

**BRERIES GOOD FOR ORCHARD**

Plants Is Not Complete Without Generous Selection—No Other Fruit to Replace.

An orchard is not complete without a generous selection of kinds and varieties of berries. Without the berry patch the orchard will hardly come up to your expectations in supplying fruits during the fruit-bearing season. In fact you will miss the berries and there will be no other fruit to take their place.  
**Leaf Crop Fertilizers.**  
Hen manure, nitrate of soda or other nitrogenous fertilizer may be put on onions and leaf-crops if they do not seem to be growing well. About 300 pounds per acre is used.  
**Breeding Place for Pests.**  
Do not leave cut fruit, dead branches and other refuse in the orchard. It makes a breeding place for pests.  
**Satisfaction of Customer.**  
It is a whole lot of satisfaction to the consumer to know he can depend upon a farmer. Cash sales and small profits are best.

**SPRAY FOR SAN JOSE SCALE**

Best Material for Insect Is Lime-Sulphur and May Be Applied in November or December.

Orchards known to be infested with San Jose scale should be sprayed as soon as the trees are defoliated by frosts. The sooner this is done the better it will be for the trees as scale insects will soon weaken the trees so no marketable fruit may be expected.  
The best spray material for scale insects is lime-sulphur.  
A good spray pump will be essential. It is highly desirable that the liquid be under high pressure and that it be well distributed. A power sprayer is best, as no-hand power can be expected to equal the original. But if only a few trees are to be sprayed a hand-power sprayer will answer the purpose.  
Spraying may be done in November or December. Then if a second spraying seems desirable it may be given in the spring or late winter before the foliage is out.

**APPLES FOR FAMILY TABLE**

One-Half Acre Could Be Made One of the Most Satisfactory Pieces of Ground on Farm.

Broadly speaking, there are two kinds of apple orchards, one run for profit and one for the family. The commercial orchard is a specialty requiring skill, experience, and above all, a peculiar mental bent.  
As to the small family orchard, there need not be elaborate or expensive. The feed is all at hand on the average grain farm and no one need worry about profits or loss or balanced rations. Give the hen something to balance and she will do the work for herself.  
**Make Needed Repairs.**  
If your house is in need of repair, begin now in your spare time to repair it. Patch the roof if it leaks. There are usually enough odds and ends around the farm to fix it. If it has wide cracks between the boards of the wall, set fender around three sides of it, leave a part of the south or east side open and make a frame covered with cheese-cloth or some other light material for extremely cold and stormy days. Fill in a dirt floor four or five inches higher than the surrounding yard. Clean out the old nest boxes and spray the wall and perches. You will have made a nice start toward winter eggs when these things are accomplished.

**EGGS PURCHASED BY WEIGHT**

Custom Is Growing and Seems to Be Only Fair Way—Light Brahmas Lay Largest Eggs.

The consumer of eggs knows that there is considerable difference in size of eggs. As a general rule a dozen eggs may mean very little as to the amount of food contained.  
The custom of buying eggs by weight rather than by the dozen is growing. Really this is the only fair way to sell or buy.  
There is considerable variation in the size and weight of eggs. This variation is more among individuals than among breeds, yet there is a relative standard for the breeds. Light Brahmas lay the largest eggs, the relative average being 28 ounces per dozen. Eggs of Black Langshans and Barred Plymouth Rock hens weigh a little over 26 ounces per dozen. The weight of eggs laid by Single Comb Brown Leghorns, late-hatched Plymouth Rocks, White Wyandottes and Buff Cochins ranges from 21.7 to 24.7 ounces per dozen. The eggs of Pekin ducks are heavier than those laid by hens, the weight of duck eggs being 35.6 ounces per dozen.

**FLOW UP SOIL IN HEN YARDS**

It Is Good Management to Plant Crop of Rye Before Pulletts Are Put Into Quarters.

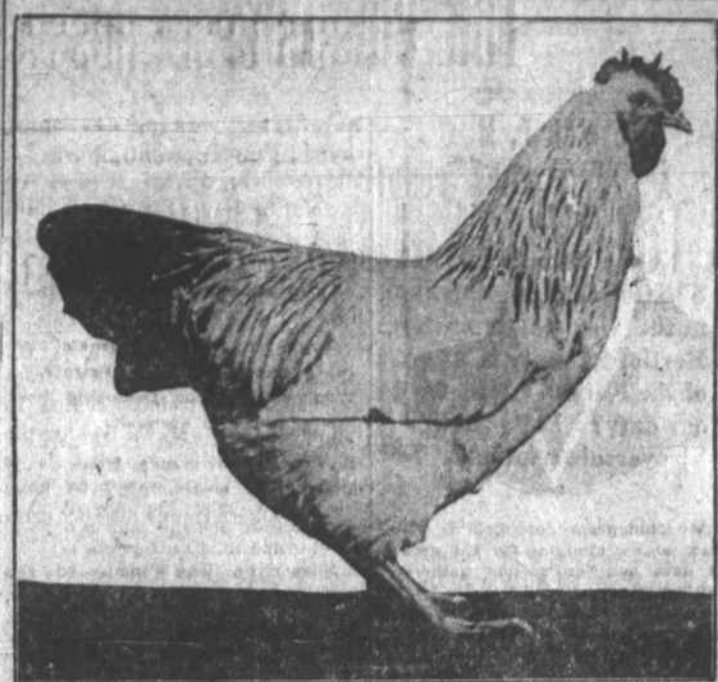
When hens are confined in yards the soil will become unclean and it is good management to plow it up and plant rye before using it for the pullets brought in from the colony houses. Some poultrymen have used air-slaked lime to top dress soil before plowing. Others use two yards for flocks which are harvested. While the birds are harvesting the green crop in one yard the other is developing a thick growth of some other kind of green food. All things of that kind require work and time but they are part of the price that must be paid for success with poultry.

**DETERMINE PROFIT ON DUCKS**

An Experiment Found That Fowls Twelve Weeks Old Required 3.18 Pounds of Feed.

In an experiment to determine the profit on ducks hatched in incubators, reared in brooders, and sold on the local market at from ten to twelve weeks old, 3.18 pounds of feed per pound of gain were required, the average weight at the end of ten weeks being four pounds, 11.3 ounces per duck.  
**Market, Laying and Table Ducks.**  
For market, Pekin ducks are grown; for laying, Runner ducks are one of the best, and for home table ducks there is only one superlative duck, the Muscovy.

**RATIONS GIVEN TO HASTEN NEW FEATHERS**



PRIZE WINNING COLUMBIAN PLYMOUTH ROCK COCK.

Hens must finish molting before cold weather starts or they will not lay in the winter months. Because of this fact a special combination of feed should be given to hasten the growth of the new feathers, according to Ross M. Sherwood of the department of poultry husbandry in the Kansas State Agricultural college.  
**Use Linseed Oil Meal.**  
"Sour milk and beef scraps are useful at all seasons," says Mr. Sherwood, "but linseed oil meal is especially good at this time. There are certain food materials in oil meal which are needed in feather building and which are not found in the other feeds mentioned. Practical feeders of ten point out that oil meal loosens

the old feathers. This may be the result of the rapid growth of new feathers caused by food materials contained in the oil meal."  
**Ration for Molting Season.**  
The following ration is recommended for the molting season: 60 pounds of corn chop, 60 pounds of wheat bran, 20 pounds of meat scraps, and 15 pounds of old process oil meal. This is fed in combination with a scratching feed made up of two or more of the cheapest grains locally.  
After the fowls have completed the molt and are well feathered, this meal may be given: 60 pounds of corn chop, 60 pounds of wheat bran, 30 pounds of wheat shorts, and 20 pounds of meat scraps.

**FOWLS IN WINTER**

Make Profit From Flock During Extremely Cold Weather.

**PREPARE FOR HENS' COMFORT**

All Immature Pulletts Should Be Separated and Forced for Development or Fattening—Make General Cleaning Up.

The showing that the hens make during the severity of winter, is a good index of the person handling them. Spring is the natural laying season. Nature usually lends aid for the hatching and rearing of chicks from March until October, but winter and late fall finds the hen entirely dependent upon her owner so far as the profit she will pay is concerned. The careful farmer or poultryman makes a profit from the flock during the cold weather and prepares the way from the time the eggs are selected in the spring until the snow begins to fly by selecting eggs from tested winter layers, keeping as winter producers only well developed pullets and healthy, energetic young hens by preparing for their comfort in the fall before the rigors of winter set in.  
Granted that one has these well matured pullets or hens that are young enough to be profitable if held over for another year, the problem of winter eggs is not so difficult. No producer on the farm responds more readily to good care than the hen and the cow.  
**Begin Culling Now.**  
In order to get into winter quarters with the best possible prospect, culling should begin now. All immature pullets should be placed to themselves and forced for development or fattening for market and all extremely old hens had best be prepared for the pot. Cockerels intended for next season's breeders should be separated from the others and a general clean up made of all surplus stock. It is possible that it will be more profitable to hold some or all of the surplus for a better market but they should at least be separated from the winter flock and the latter placed in permanent quarters early.  
It is remarkable how well a little flock of 50 or 100 hens and pullets will pay if well attended. The housing need not be elaborate or expensive. The feed is all at hand on the average grain farm and no one need worry about profits or loss or balanced rations. Give the hen something to balance and she will do the work for herself.  
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Owing to High Percentage of Water in Them Large Quantity Must Be Fed Every Day.

**EGGS PURCHASED BY WEIGHT**

Custom Is Growing and Seems to Be Only Fair Way—Light Brahmas Lay Largest Eggs.

The consumer of eggs knows that there is considerable difference in size of eggs. As a general rule a dozen eggs may mean very little as to the amount of food contained.  
The custom of buying eggs by weight rather than by the dozen is growing. Really this is the only fair way to sell or buy.  
There is considerable variation in the size and weight of eggs. This variation is more among individuals than among breeds, yet there is a relative standard for the breeds. Light Brahmas lay the largest eggs, the relative average being 28 ounces per dozen. Eggs of Black Langshans and Barred Plymouth Rock hens weigh a little over 26 ounces per dozen. The weight of eggs laid by Single Comb Brown Leghorns, late-hatched Plymouth Rocks, White Wyandottes and Buff Cochins ranges from 21.7 to 24.7 ounces per dozen. The eggs of Pekin ducks are heavier than those laid by hens, the weight of duck eggs being 35.6 ounces per dozen.

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**DAIRY**



**DEMAND FOR DAIRY ANIMALS**

Time Has Never Existed When Greater Profit From Dairying Was at Hand Than Now.

While it is useless to preach "save your cows and heifer calves" when it is impossible to do so, yet the time has never existed when greater profit from dairying was at hand than now, and the owners of profitable producing cows must reap a reward. There is an unprecedented demand for dairy



Blooded Jersey Bull.

cattle in many sections of our country right now, so that wisdom and foresight would suggest a close scanning of the herd with a view to the use of sires of record that profitable producers may be obtained even from ordinary producers.  
Regardless of price that may be obtainable for grain and hay, the soil must not be robbed for temporary gain. We must believe in the eternity of things and keep up the productive power of the soil, else starvation may stalk the earth. There is no question of the inevitability of dairying in the scheme of profitable agriculture.—W. E. Skinner, Secretary of National Dairy Council.

**BUTTER WITH CHEESY TASTE**

Trouble Usually Due to Decomposition of Curd—Develops Frequently Where Salt Is Low.

Cheese taste in butter is usually due to a decomposition of curd. It is most likely to appear in butter made from cream which has become too sour or it may also be due to failure to wash the buttermilk and curd from the butter after churning. It seems to develop more frequently in butter which is low in salt.  
If it has been the practice to allow the cream to become quite sour before churning, churning before so much acid has developed may help to remedy the trouble. When churning has been completed, draw off all of the buttermilk then add to the butter in the churn an amount of water equal to that of the buttermilk. The temperature of the water should be about two degrees less than that of the buttermilk. Give the churn several revolutions in order to rinse the butter thoroughly and then draw off the water. This removes the surplus buttermilk and curd in the butter. It is also a good practice to strain the cream as it is poured into the churn. Some curd will be removed in this way.

**ROOTS GOOD FOR DAIRY COW**

Owing to High Percentage of Water in Them Large Quantity Must Be Fed Every Day.

Roots are good feed for dairy cattle, but owing to the high percentage of water in them—from 87 to 90 per cent—a large quantity must be fed daily if these are to take the place of the grain ration. Roots may be fed in almost unlimited quantity without danger to the animals. These are like grass in summer, but in feeding economy must be considered. In general from 6 to 8 pounds of roots should be fed for every three pounds of milk. But, where roots bring a high price on the market, it may often be profitable to sell these and to buy grain.  
As a rule two feeds a day are sufficient. For the very highest possible production, it may be advisable to feed oftener but, if the cows are given 'all that they can clean up twice a day, they will usually be contented between meals.

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