

HOW TO KILL HOGS

Careful Handling Before and After Slaughter Improves Quality of Meat—Dressing the Carcass.

By U. S. Dept. Agriculture.
A well-selected butchering outfit and a convenient place for working are important considerations at hog-killing time. To aid in this work demonstration specialists of the department suggest as a handy and complete "kit" an equipment consisting of two butcher knives, two "bell" or candlestick scrapers, a meat saw and a sharpening steel. The meat saw is for sawing down the backbone and cutting up carcass. The candlestick scrapers have detachable handles, and are used to move the hair and scurf from the hogs. A long waterproof apron, which will protect the clothing, can be had at a small cost.

Preparation of Animals for Slaughter
A 24 or 36 hour fast, plenty of water, careful handling, and rest before slaughter are all important in securing meat in the best condition for use, either fresh or for curing purposes. Food in the stomach decomposes very rapidly after slaughter, and where the dressing is slow the gases generated often affect the flavor of the meat. Water should be given freely up to the time of slaughter, as it keeps the temperature normal.

It is highly important that the animals be not excited in any way sufficient to raise the temperature of the body. If the animal becomes heated, it is better to allow it rest overnight before killing than to risk spoiling the meat. It is also essential that the hog be carefully handled so as not to bruise its body.

Points on Killing.

It is customary on the farm to stuff hogs before sticking them, although in some localities this is not done. Another method is by shooting the hog through the head with a rifle, although extraordinary care should be exercised in using a rifle around farm buildings. After stunning by a heavy blow on the center of the forehead immediately above the eyes with a poleax, thrust the 8-inch straight-bladed knife into the hog's throat in the under portion of the neck, to a point just in front of the chest cavity, but not into this cavity. The knife is given a twist and sideward motion to sever the blood vessels and allow the blood to flow. By laying the hog on one side and elevating the ham end the blood will gravitate freely.

Proper Temperature of Water For Scalding and Scraping.

A barrel is the receptacle commonly used for scalding. If it is set at the proper slant, with the open end against a table or platform of the proper height and the bottom securely fastened there is little danger of accident. A strong table built for the purpose would be a desirable thing on which to work, though it is not absolutely necessary. A box often serves very well. The water for scalding should be heated to the boiling point. This will allow for a reduction of temperature when the water is put into a cold barrel, the best temperature for scalding hogs being from 145 to 150 degrees. Be careful not to have the water so hot as to cook the skin of the hog. If the water is too hot the hair is likely to set. A small shovelful of hardwood ashes added to the water aids materially in removing the scurf from the body though it has no effect in loosening the hair. A lump of lime, a handful of soft soap, a little pine tar, or a tablespoonful of concentrated lye has the same effect.

The hog should not be scalded before life is extinct, or the blood vessels near the surface of the skin be cooled, giving a reddish tinge to the carcass. While being scalded the hog should be moved constantly to avoid scalding the skin. Occasionally it should be drawn out of the water to air—when the hair may be raised. As soon as the hair has set it is easily removed from the surface, scalding is complete. If it is suggested that the water is too hot scald the hind end of the hog first. If the water is too hot scald one side of the head, you will be adding to the trouble of scraping the part most difficult to clean. When the water is about right, begin by scalding the head.

The scraping and cleaning of the hog's skin should be done as soon as possible after the removal of the animal from the scalding vat. Scalding a cold hog is a difficult, if not an impossible task. When it is necessary to reverse the position of the hog in the barrel to complete scalding, the portion scalded should be attempting to scald the other end of the hog.

When hair starts readily, remove the animal from the water and begin scraping. The "bell" scraper should be used with a long, sweeping movement over the sides and ends while the hog is still hot. The head and feet should be cleaned first, as they cool quickly. Pull the ears through the hands to remove the bulk of the hair. Grasp with the hands the lower portions of the legs and twist to assist in cleaning them. Use the candlestick scraper for removing the skin

and scurf from the flat surfaces and as much as possible from the other parts and finish the cleaning of the entire carcass, removing all hair, scurf and dirt by rinsing with hot water and shaving with the large knife.

Cut the skin on the side of the tendons below the hock to expose the tendons so that a gambrel stick may be inserted. The next step is to hang the hog by his legs by means of the gambrel stick high enough so that his head clears the ground. Wash down with hot water, shave over any unfinished patches, and wash the entire carcass again to remove all loose hair and scurf.

Occasionally a hog is killed that is too large to scald in a barrel. If its covered thickly with blankets or with sacks containing a little bran, and hot water poured over it, the hair will be loosened readily.

Removing Entrails.

In removing the entrails, first split the hog between the hind legs, separating the bones with the knife. This can easily be done if the cut is made directly through the union of bones between the hams. Run the knife down the center of the belly, shielding the point with the fingers of the left hand and guiding it with the right. There is little danger of cutting the intestines in this way. Split the breastbone with the knife or an ax and cut down through the sticking place to the chis. Cut around the rectum and pull it down until the kidneys are reached, using the knife wherever necessary to sever the cords attaching it to the "bed." Remove the sexual organs, then cut across the artery running down the backbone, cut around the diaphragm (skirt) and remove the intestines, stomach, and "pluck," that is, heart, liver, and lungs, with a backward and downward pull—grasping the mass of organs near the union to the backbone and diaphragm, sever attachments with a knife where necessary. In this operation the windpipe down to the head should be removed with the pluck. Do not disturb the kidneys or the leaf fat in carcasses to be shipped, except in warm weather, when the "leaf" may be removed to allow quicker and more thorough cooling. If the hog is to be cut up on the farm and not intended for shipment in carcass form, it is advisable to loosen the leaf fat from the abdominal wall, allowing it to remain attached to the carcass at the ham end. Open the jaw and insert a small block to allow free drainage; then wash out with a coarse cloth. In hot weather the backbone should be split to facilitate cooling. It is good practice to do this also where the hog is to be cut up on the farm and not intended for shipment. The fat should be removed from the intestines before they get cold. Since it is strong in flavor it should not be mixed with the leaf fat in rendering.

THE WAR AND THE JEWS

Will the Jews get back to their own land of Palestine as one result of the world war? Many students of history and Bible prophecy think they will. The man who is said to know more about the Jews—their past history and their present situation—than any other living man is David Baron, of London. He is a distinguished Jewish Christian missionary and leader of missions to the Jews in several of the warring nations. Mr. Baron has written an article on the Jews and their land that throws much light on the question as to what effect the war will have upon Palestine and the Jews. This article will be published in two numbers of The Sunday School Times, an every-week religious paper, issued in Philadelphia. The publishers will be glad to send free copies of the issues containing Mr. Baron's article to readers of this paper who will send a request to The Sunday School Times, 1031, Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

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LESSONS FOR USE IN THE MOONLIGHT SCHOOLS IN NORTH CAROLINA

LESSON NUMBER FOUR.

READING AND WRITING

like do paper book let Bible
Do you like to read?
I like to read and write.
I can read my book.
Let me read to you.
Let me read the paper.
I can read my Bible.
I like to read and write.

SOUNDS, EAR TRAINING.

(Review)
hoe my ray row mew
see too vat few Joe
die hat tie cab tea
dew fat pew mat lie
sat new say by sap

SOUNDS, EAR TRAINING.

lad had hag gag pan
mad mag jag sag man
pad tag sag tan fan
sad hag rag can Dan
bad fag wag ran Nan

ARITHMETIC.

(1) Rapid review of writing and reading numbers to 1,000.
(2) Rapid review of writing and reading numbers from 1,000 to 10,000.
(3) Rapid review of writing and reading numbers from 10,000 to 100,000.

(4) Rapid review of adding units and tens; units, tens and hundreds; units, tens, hundreds and thousands. New Work.

ADDITION WITH "CARRYING."

(1) If a two-horse wagon cost \$50, and a set of harness cost \$19, what is the cost of both?
(2) If a parent buys an arithmetic for 26 cents and a grammar for 46 cents, how much does he pay for both?
(3) Rapid drill on adding units and tens. Add:

65 38 48 63 78
29 39 49 58 19

B

(1) If a farmer pays \$175 a piece for a pair of mules, what does the pair cost him?
(2) Rapid drill on adding units, tens and hundreds. Add:

145 178 139 587 695 729 489
148 135 273 328 227 181 496

C

(1) A farmer raises 2,598 pounds of tobacco on one piece of land, and 1,675 pounds on another piece of land. How many pounds of tobacco does he raise on both pieces of land?
(2) Rapid drills on adding units, tens, hundreds and thousands. Add:

2685 4898 8789 9899
7896 7659 6538 1999

THE COUNTRY MAID AND HER MILK PAIL.

(From Webster's Elementary Spelling Book, copyright 1880 and 1908 by G. and C. Merriam. Reprinted by arrangement with the American Book Company, publishers.)

A country maid was walking very deliberately with a pail of milk upon her head, when she fell into the following train of reflections: "The money for which I shall sell this milk will enable me to increase my stock of eggs to three hundred. These eggs, allowing for what may prove addle, and what may be destroyed by vermin, will produce at least two hundred and fifty chickens. The chickens will be fit to carry to market about Christmas, when poultry always bears a good price; so that by May Day I can not fail of having money enough to purchase a new gown. Green! let me consider—yes green becomes my complexion best, and green it shall be. In this dress I will go to the fair, where all the young fellows will strive to have me for a partner; but I shall perhaps refuse every one of them, and, with an air of disdain, toss from them." Transported with this triumphant thought, she could not forbear acting with her head what thus passed in her imagination, when down came the pail of milk, and with it all her imaginary happiness.

THE BOY THAT STOLE APPLES.

(From Webster's Elementary Spelling Book, copyright 1880 and 1908 by G. and C. Merriam. Reprinted by arrangement with the American Book Company, publishers.)

An old man found a rude boy upon one of his trees stealing apples, and desired him to come down, but the young rascal told him plainly he would not. "Won't you?" said the old man. "Then I will fetch you down"; so he pulled up some turf or grass and threw it at him; but this only made the youngster laugh, to think the old man should pretend to beat him down from the tree with grass only.

"Well, well," said the old man, "if neither words nor grass will do, I must try what virtue there is in stones"; so the old man pelted him heartily with stones which soon made the young chap hasten down from the tree and beg the old man's pardon.

LESSON NUMBER FIVE.

READING AND WRITING

live brother letter on farm he
I live on the farm.
Do you live on the farm?
I like to live on the farm.
My brother lives in town.
I will write a letter to my brother.
He will read my letter.
I will write a letter to my brother.

SOUNDS, EAR TRAINING.

(Review)
Joe wag bad fag Tea
Nat Nan new my cats
pad we can rat hats
Jew ye sat man patch
mow tan rap high rats

ARITHMETIC.

(1) Rapid review of writing and reading numbers from 1,000 to 10,000; from 10,000 to 100,000.

(2) Rapid drill on adding units and tens; units, tens and hundreds; units, tens, hundreds and thousands—without "carrying."

(3) Rapid drill on adding units and tens; units, tens and hundreds; units, tens and thousands—with "carrying."

New Work.

SUBTRACTION WITHOUT "BORROWING"

(1) If one of you had \$78 in the bank and took out \$52, how much money would you have left in the bank?
(2) Rapid drill on subtracting units and tens from units and tens. Subtract:

98 86 89 66 75 49
62 43 55 32 28 27

B

(1) A man having \$678 in the bank buys a town lot for \$653. How much money does he have left in the bank?
(2) Rapid drill on subtracting units, tens and hundreds, from units, tens and hundreds. Subtract:

968 875 899
376 647 808

(1) If Tom pays \$7,888 for one piece of land, and \$5,323 for another piece of land, how much more money does he pay for the first piece of land than he does for the second piece?
(2) Rapid drill on subtracting units, tens, hundreds and thousands, from units, tens, hundreds and thousands. Subtract:

6785 7876 8987 9699
4473 6764 6766 5788

LESSON NUMBER SIX.

READING AND WRITING.

we plow deep raise soil deep plant crops
We raise crops on the farm.
We plow the soil deep.
We plant good seed.
We raise good crops.
Plow the soil deep.
Plant good seed.
You can raise good crops.
Plow the soil deep and plant good seed.

SOUNDS, EAR TRAINING.

dam jam lot lots hot
Sam tax sot jot not
ram Max rot dot top
ham wax pot cot pep
hams rams pots dots got

ARITHMETIC.

(1) Short and rapid review of writing and reading numbers from 10,000 to 100,000.

(2) Short and rapid drill in adding units and tens; units, tens and hundreds; units, tens, hundreds and thousands without "carrying."

(3) Short and rapid drills in adding units and tens; units, tens and hundreds; units, tens, hundreds and thousands with "carrying."

(4) Short and rapid drill in subtracting units and tens; units, tens and hundreds; units, tens, hundreds and thousands, without "borrowing."

New Work.

SUBTRACTION WITH "BORROWING"

(1) If one of you had \$78 in the bank and paid out \$59 for a two-horse wagon, how much money would you have left in the bank?
(2) Rapid drill in subtracting units and tens. Subtract:

58 61 75 77 84 92 93 97 98
29 25 23 49 36 75 66 55 49

(1) Brown has \$788 in the bank but buys a town lot for \$559. How much money does he then have in bank?
(2) Rapid drill in subtracting units, tens and hundreds. Subtract:

688 728 812 922 825 917
499 599 475 784 785 798

C

(1) A farmer having \$7,888 buys a farm for \$5,399. How much money has he left for equipment?
(2) Rapid drill in subtracting units, tens, hundreds and thousands. Subtract:

8888 6888 8888 9225 9754 8275 9000
5999 4999 3999 4596 6596 7899 6999

(3) If the population of Elizabeth City in 1910 was 3,142 and the population of Fayetteville was 7,645, how many more people lived in Elizabeth City than lived in Fayetteville?
(4) If the population of Kingston in 1910 was 6,995 and the population of Washington (N. C.) was 6,211, how many more people lived in Kingston than lived in Washington?

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