

### Spring Calves Make Better Beef Cattle

Beef calves dropped in the spring have shown 36 per cent better gains between May 1 and November 1 than similar calves dropped in the fall, according to records of the Agricultural Experiment Station at State College.

Acting on this information, the herd bull at the old Blackland Experiment Station at Wenona was allowed to run with the cows during May, June, and July. The calves were dropped during the following February, March, and April and weaned in November, being kept separate from the main herd during

the winter months. If growers will follow this breeding practice, they can save large sums of money, according to Leland Case, in charge of Extension animal husbandry at State College. "It is bad practice to have calves dropped at all times of the year," he says. "Late summer and fall calving is bad for both the cows and their off-springs."

"Usually cows that have to nurse calves during the winter are kept in poor condition, and the calves make poor growth. Death losses of both cows and calves is increased. Calves that do not get good growth early in life seldom develop into high grade animals and put on gains as they should. Spring seems to be the most favorable calving season for beef cattle."

"Allowing the bull to run with the herd throughout the year is one of the most serious faults of our beef cattle industry."

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#### Farm Questions and Answers

QUESTION: How much milk should the average cow give?  
ANSWER: If you are talking about all the cows in North Carolina, the figure is 3,950 pounds of milk a

### AMERICAN HEROES

by JULIAN OLLENDORFF



Forced to leave the tank he was driving when water in the fuel line caused it to stall, Pvt. Abe Fortner of Livermore, Ky., later returned, cleaned the fuel sediment bowl and got the machine in operation, while still under heavy fire. The tank, repeatedly hit, stalled and Fortner repeated his cleaning until it finally went up in a blaze. The private has a bronze medal for his feat but War Bonds must be sold to replace the tank.

U. S. Treasury Department

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Bill Wright, Proprietor

### BARBECUE - DANCING - BILLIARDS

year. If you are talking about good cows, about the 3,378 cows in the Dairy Herd Improvement Association of North Carolina, the figure is 7,227 pounds. The comparison of these two figures shows the need for better cows throughout the state and the unlimited opportunities for milk production. Paul F. Evans, superintendent of the Board of Education, Davidson county, bought a cow last year and she produced so much milk that he was forced to call on Coble Dairy Products company for help in handling the extra milk.

QUESTION: What about farm machinery supplies for 1945?

ANSWER: Government reports show that for the last six months of 1944 production of farm machinery was about 23 per cent behind schedule. This was due to manpower shortages and because certain materials, particularly malleable and grey iron castings, were required for urgent military programs. Take cultivators, for example. A total of about 171 thousand had been manufactured as compared with 273 scheduled.

QUESTION: What equipment is needed for handling bees?

ANSWER: Beginners in beekeeping

should have a veil, long wristed gloves, a good smoker, and a hive tool. Proper use of smoke is an important factor in bee management. "Beginners should not attempt even the slightest disturbance of their bees without the use of a well-lighted smoker," says Prof. Ross O. Stevens of State College. "Smoke subdues the bees and keeps them under control. If bees get into a fighting mood, they are apt to stay in this mood for several days or even weeks. Therefore, it is desirable to keep down the fighting spirit with the proper use of smoke."

QUESTION: What is a good disinfectant for treating barns?

ANSWER: Dr. C. D. Grinnell, Agricultural Experiment Station veterinarian at State College, recommends 1 pound of lye to 20 gallons of water. A good spray pump is needed and the solution should be hot. He recommends the moistening of the litter and woodwork, and then the removal of litter. Walls and ceiling should be thoroughly brushed. Remove all litter and about 4 inches of topsoil. Clean soil should then be substituted for that which has been removed.

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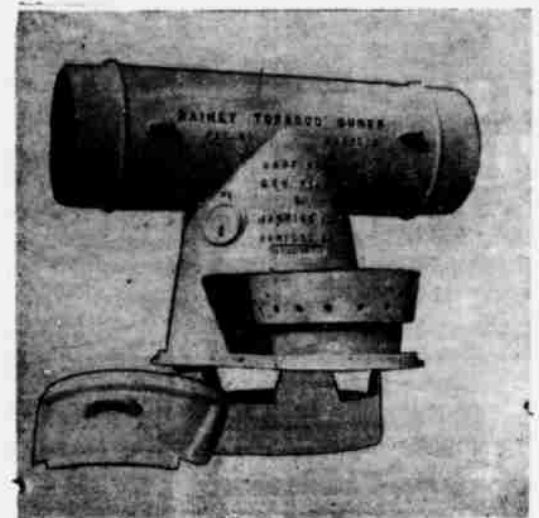
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