



News of Interest to all Farmers



Cows Need Vitamin A To Maintain Their Health

Cows, like humans, need green leaves in their ration to supply vitamin A and other essentials which are necessary for good health, says Dr. Frank Sherwood, animal nutritionist at the North Carolina Experiment Station.

Vitamin A can be supplied best and most economically by a pasture or a good quality of hay. Not a bleached, pale-colored one containing a lot of woody stems, says Dr. Sherwood, but a bright green leafy hay.

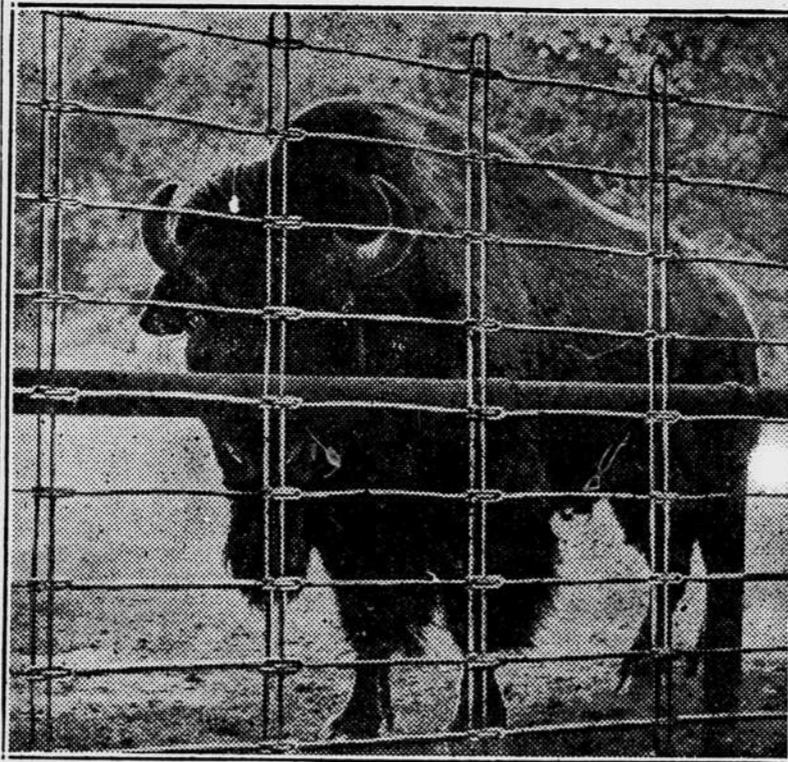
Too often owners feed their cows almost nothing but cotton seed meal and hulls during the fall and winter months when there is little or no green feed available. Cows fed this almost exclusively often contract a condition which some call "cottonseed meal poisoning."

Dr. Sherwood points out that such a condition might occur to dairy cattle which have been given feeds other than cottonseed meal and hulls, such as peanut meal, linseed oil meal, or soybean meal with a poor roughage.

When afflicted with the condition cows become gaunt and phlegmatic, the hair coat is rough and unkempt, the eyes are cloudy, the milk yield falls off, and that which the cow does give has none of the creamy color of good rich milk. Unless supplied with green feed or some other source of Vitamin A in a short time, the animal gets steadily worse, and may finally contract fits and die.

Given cod liver oil or a good quality of alfalfa hay, cows pick up wonderfully, states Dr. Sherwood. Both cod liver oil and a good hay having a bright green color are rich in Vitamin A while cottonseed meal contains practically none.

It's Wanderlust Season at the Zoo



American Bison at Washington (D. C.) Zoo

WITH Spring at hand, wild animals caged in municipal zoos crave the wide open spaces again. This lordly bison at the Washington (D. C.) Zoo has the vernal wanderlust in his heart, but doesn't know just what to do about it with a wall of heavy gauge wire fence in the way.

However, the captives in the zoos are not always in the mood to give up, and fencing does not always escape undamaged when they lunge for freedom, creating a constant maintenance problem for zoo superintendents.

At the Washington Zoo, not only is heavy gauge wire used, but it is assembled and partially fabricated right at the zoo, with double stays and locking clips to provide extra strength and rigidity.

Zinc-coated wire must be used to prevent corrosion which would quickly weaken the strands to the point where the animals could easily break through and escape. To meet the severe bending strains, the friction of the bodies of the large animals and the unusual acid conditions, the Washington Zoo uses betanized fencing wire, made with about twice the normal thickness of zinc coating, integrated with the wire firmly in a newly developed process by molecular deposition through electrolysis.

Since a zoo is primarily a show place, visibility and good appearance are much to be desired. The picket type of fence which is so annoying to the bison visiting the nation's capital against his will permits visitors to get a good look at him, and the specially processed wire, from which the coating of zinc does not flake off or rub off, adds an atmosphere of orderliness.

Farm Questions

Answered At STATE COLLEGE

Q. What is the cause of impacked and sour crops in poultry?

A. When this condition appears suddenly and a large number of birds are affected the cause is usually due to spoiled or poisonous feed. All vessels should be carefully cleaned and the feed examined to see that it is not spoiled or sour. If only one bird is afflicted, the condition is generally caused by a weakened condition of the muscle of the upper digestive tract. In the latter case the bird should be destroyed as there is no way to correct this fundamental weakness.

J. Will a cash tenant receive all soil-conserving and soil-building payments?

A. A cash tenant, under the soil conservation program is classified as the "owner," and as such will receive all the soil-conserving payments. The soil-building payments will be made to the producer who incurred the expense with reference to the soil-building crops or practices. Any fixed commodity payment made as rent is also classified as a cash rental and the tenant paying rent with a definite amount of any commodity is entitled to all benefits of soil-conserving payments.

PESTS ON BIRDS DO NOT AFFECT HUMANS

The idea that swallows, bats, flying squirrels and other wild animals and birds carry on their bodies such pests as bed-bugs and lice of various kinds and that these birds and animals actually bring them into human habitation, to the detriment of the human race, is nothing but superstition, according to George B. Lay, Junior Biologist at State College.

"Most of our native birds carry at least one species of louse, sometimes more than one; and often one species from each of the two orders of chewing lice and sucking lice. Usually, each species or group of birds has a particular kind of louse as a permanent resident or occasional visitor; and such lice, if they try to get along on a different species or group of birds, find the food not to their liking and die," Lay said.

For this reason, man is not troubled by the insect pests of wild birds and animals. Bats do carry such pests, in at least two orders of

insects, but such pests cannot get along on human beings. However, the idea seems to be quite prevalent and I am asked about this superstition almost every week. Of course, the reason is not difficult to find: most lice, to the casual observer, look alike and the differences between species is structural or very insignificant and would not be noticed except with a magnifying glass, due to the small size of the insects.

"To make my point clearer, let me explain. The chances are good that a louse, found on a Red-Shouldered hawk, would not live on the body of a Cooper's hawk, although both hawks are closely related. A louse found on an English sparrow, would not get along well on a Chimney Swift. If the Ruby-Throated Hummingbird has a louse species as a resident, that louse would not live on the body of any other bird. The same is true of other groups of animals, and most birds and animals do have such lice on their bodies normally, which means that water and dust baths are most enjoyable and sought

Complete Information Aids In Testing Of Soils

When farmers send samples to the North Carolina Experiment Station, it is necessary that complete information be furnished so that a comprehensive analysis may be made.

Letters accompanying the samples, says L. G. Willis, soil chemist at the Station, usually give some information as to the crops affected and previous soil treatments but other important details are often lacking.

The soil chemist points out that it is important to know whether the trouble occurs all over a field or only some parts of it. It is usually necessary to report the appearance of the crops, whether corn has striped leaves or the stalks break over, whether the leaves of other crops burn around the edges or are colored yellow or red or whether the injury is found at the bottom or the top of the plant.

One of the most serious difficulties found in this work is that of determining whether the crop failure is caused by a soil condition or a disease, Willis says. Sometimes these are associated and sometimes the disease is independent of any known soil condition.

When the samples are sent in during the summer, the farmer has more information to supply the Station than if he sent the sample during the winter. In the summer he can observe growing conditions and report these accurately. In the winter this is not possible, and the farmer may forget the actual growing conditions of the summer before.

The work of testing soil samples cannot be carried on in a large way at the Experiment Station because of the limited funds for such purpose, explains Willis. However, those that do send samples can do their part by giving complete information.

Plow Will Save the Newly Made Terrace

Proper plowing and running rows instead of across terraces saves soil and prolongs the life of the terraces.

When plowing, divide the space between two terraces into three lands or sections, said H. R. Tribou, agricultural engineer of the Soil Conservation Service in North Carolina.

Land 1 is the terrace ridge; land 2 covers a distance from the terrace channel 10 to 18 furrows up the slope; and land 3 the remainder of the space between the terraces, or the space from the upper edge of land 2 to the lower edge of land 1.

Tribou advised that land 1 be plowed so as to throw furrows toward the terrace ridge both on the front and back side until the terrace channel is reached.

The second land should be started 6 to 12 feet above the terrace channel and furrows thrown uphill away from the channel.

This leaves the dead furrow at the terrace channel and keeps the channel clear, said Tribou. The starting point for the second land can be varied a few feet each year to avoid forming a ridge above the channel.

To give the furrows the same slope as the terraces, land 3 is plowed parallel to the other two lands.

Row crops following the same direction as the furrows protect the terraces against breaks.

Tribou suggests coating one row along the top of the ridge leaving the channel clear for the flow of water.

World Fair Manager



NEW YORK... Here is the man, W. Earle Andrews, who has been made general manager of the New York World Fair, which is scheduled to open in 1939.

To Discuss Care Of The Poultry Flock

Combating diseases and parasites which attack the poultry flocks during the hot summer months will be discussed on the Carolina Farm Features radio program Friday by H. C. Gauger, poultry disease specialist at State College.

With a reasonable amount of precaution and care, deaths among the flock may be reduced sharply, the specialist says. Not a great deal of extra work will be needed to keep birds in good condition throughout the summer, and the owner will be repaid many times over for his added labor.

In addition to watching diseases and parasites in the flock, the farmer must also watch the ration which he feeds his birds if he is to secure the highest possible egg production during the summer. The abundance of green feed at this season makes the task much simpler.

The best type of buildings for raising the poultry flock will also be discussed. As a general rule, the houses should be constructed so that they can be cleaned easily. This naturally cuts down the mortality rate.

The radio schedule for the week of June 1-6 follows: Monday, F. M. Haig, "Grooming Animals for Fairs this Fall;" Tuesday, J. G. Weaver, "Darlia Culture;" Wednesday, Dr. G. W. Forster, "The Farmer's Share of the Tax Burden;" Thursday, Home Demonstration Department; Friday, H. C. Gauger, "Common Causes for Poultry Mortality During Summer Months;" and Saturday, Lentrall Wyman, "Fighting Forest Fires."

Brief News Items

The earliest strawberries might well be shipped by truck but the Shearin, assistant county agent of Columbus county, who rode to New York with a truck load of berries to study their condition on arrival.

Celery is being grown as a demonstration in Washington county.

Dr. W. C. Houston of Cabarrus county is using a combination of legumes and terraces to "make water walk down hills on my farm instead of running."

The brooder houses of Burke county are filled with husky, growing chicks indicating an increase in poultry production in the county.

Side applications of quickly available nitrogen to cotton right after chopping and to corn at knee high will be needed his season.

Edgecombe county will have its largest 4-H club this year with the members securing animals from dairy herds of good breeding.

During the past three years, the farm agent of Currituck county has vaccinated 12,000 hogs. Since 1933, only eight hogs have died from Cholera.

Dorus Ballard of the Balls Creek 4-H club, Catawba county, won first prize for writing the best story on the Jersey Cow in a contest arranged by the Jersey breeders association of the county.

THRIFT	THRIFT	THRIFT	THRIFT	THRIFT	THRIFT
Statement May 1, 1936					
ASSETS			LIABILITIES		
North Carolina Bonds	\$	5,000.00	Serial Stock	\$	203,735.09
Stock in Federal Home Loan Bank		3,000.00	Paid-up Stock		279,700.00
Cash & Bank, Checking Account		10,858.36	Surplus and Undivided Profits		52,405.39
First Mortgages on Real Estate		490,534.12	Indebtedness		NONE
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Real Estate		15,850.00			
		\$535,840.48			\$535,840.48
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