

Troubles With Milk and How to Avoid Them

AS IS the case every year on the arrival of hot weather, inquiries relative to an abnormal condition of milk are becoming frequent, and invariably the cow or the feed is blamed for the trouble. As there are several classes of undesirable bacteria, numbers of abnormal conditions are reported, but the following is typical and suggestions as to treatment in this case are applicable to other abnormal conditions of the milk that develop several hours after the milk has been drawn from the udder:

"For a month the milk from two fine Jerseys has been so bad we can't use it. We have changed the feed and pasture three times and are now feeding hulls and meal. After the milk stands a while water will rise between the milk and cream, and the buttermilk soon turns to water with a hard curd at the bottom."

We are inclined to the belief that the trouble lies not in the cow or her feeding but in the handling of the milk.

When milk does not sour as it should and develops such a condition as you describe, after standing awhile, it is quite evident that undesirable "germs" or bacteria are gaining entrance during its handling. Under normal conditions and at normal temperatures, the bacteria that cause the milk to sour are very active and prevent the bacteria responsible for this abnormal condition from working. However, sometimes these undesirable bacteria get into the milk, and by means of conditions favorable to themselves and unfavorable to the bacteria responsible for souring, they multiply rapidly, become very active, and prevent the desirable bacteria from working. When this occurs, we have the condition you describe as taking place in your milk.

The remedy for such a trouble is to prevent the entrance of these bacteria by very careful handling of the milk and milk vessels. But it is often not sufficient to carefully guard the

milk and vessels against contamination, and we therefore suggest that you aid the development of the beneficial or "souring" bacteria by keeping the milk at a temperature of about 70 degrees Fahrenheit, and by adding to each gallon of milk one tea-cupful of milk that has soured normally. In so doing a large number of beneficial bacteria are injected into the milk and by presence of numbers prevent the activity of the bacteria that are responsible for your trouble.

To prevent this abnormal condition of the milk, the following matters pertaining to the handling of the milk must be carefully looked after:

1. Milk in a clean place free from dust.
2. The hands and clothes of the milker should be clean.
3. The flanks and udder of the cow should be cleaned and wiped with a damp cloth which is kept clean and wrung out of a solution of some disinfectants. If the hair on the udder and flanks grows long it should be clipped so as to prevent it gathering dirt.
4. The milk should be removed from the barn and put in clean vessels to cool and kept where dust and other matters will not get into it.
5. Buckets or pails with small tops or openings, or with these openings covered with a strainer, are preferable to large open pails.
6. To clean milk vessels use, first, tepid water and a brush and some good washing powder. Do not ever use a dish rag for washing milk vessels. Then sterilize or rinse with boiling water, not merely hot water, and expose to the direct rays of the sun.

A diseased udder may cause a cow to give abnormal milk and certain feeds may cause undesirable odors or flavors in the milk, but generally if the milk seems normal when drawn from the cow, but afterward develops undesirable qualities, it is the fault of the handling. EUGENE BUTLER.

Don't guess; get busy and find out.

What One Bank Is Doing for Its County in Getting Pure-bred Livestock

IN THE fall of 1916 the National Bank of Granville, Oxford, N. C., under the management of Mr. W. T. Yancey, Cashier, put out in Granville County under the "endless chain" plan thirty Duroc-Jersey registered pigs. In 1917 this number was increased to 122 and at this time they have put out a total of 175 registered Duroc-Jersey pigs, with applications on file for 75 more.

In the fall of 1917 one carload of registered Jersey cows were brought into the county by this bank and sold to the farmers at actual cost, time payments being arranged for those who could not conveniently pay cash. These have grown to a total of 45. A pure-bred registered Jersey bull is owned and kept in the county by the bank at its own expense.

In addition to the pigs and the hogs sold to the farmers under the "endless chain" plan, the bank also owns and maintains throughout the county at convenient points eight high-class pure-bred registered male hogs of the best blood lines and type obtainable. No time or trouble or expense has been spared in obtaining the best.

FRED P. ROSS.

Hargrove, N. C.

Control Watermelon Diseases by Spraying

THOROUGH application of Bordeaux mixture will prevent the spread of anthracnose, downy mildew, and a new disease of watermelons known as Mycosphaerella blight, according to specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture. The control of these diseases means an increased yield and a better quality of fruit.

Great care should be taken to follow directions in making the mixture. Use the correct amounts of bluestone and lime, as a variation may ruin the vines. Be certain that the lime has not air slaked. Directions for making Bordeaux mixture may be found in the United States Department of Agriculture's Farmers' Bulletin 821, "Watermelon Diseases," free on request.

Wants a National Dog Law

THE dogs have killed over a hundred sheep and goats around here in the last twelve months. And the people that have these dogs, the most of them, don't make their own meat, or bread. Can't we have some National dog laws? I would think the Food Administration would try to do something along this line.

We are done with sheep, unless our Government does something on the dog question. I don't feel like spending money in lawsuits for other people's worthless dogs. My loss has been enough.

MRS. LEX ROBESON.

Tar Heel, N. C.

Save Cowpeas From Weevils

BY FUMIGATING cowpeas with carbon disulphid, the large supply of seed now in storage in the Southern States can be saved from destruction by weevil attacks, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. Southern-grown cowpeas usually become heavily infested by weevils in storage, and, as there is a surplus supply on hand at present, the Department specialists urge that growers watch their stored seed carefully. Weevil are particularly destructive during warm weather, and if they are not destroyed soon render stored seed unfit for feeding or planting.

Don't try to garden this year without "Massey's Garden Book." Paper bound copy with The Progressive Farmer one year, \$1.25.

North Carolina Markets

Prices paid by merchants for farm products in the markets of North Carolina for the week ending Saturday, June 8, as reported to the Division of Markets, Wm. B. Camp, Chief:

Town	Corn, No. 2 White	Oats	Wheat	Cowpeas	Irish Potatoes	Sweet Potatoes	Apples
Asheville	\$2.00	...	...	...	...	...	...
Charlotte	2.00	1.10	2.20	2.50	1.80	2.75	1.50
Durham	2.00	.95	2.25	2.75	...	...	...
Fayetteville	2.00	.90	2.25	2.75	...	...	...
Gastonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hamblet	2.10	1.00	...	3.50	3.00	...	...
Lumberton	1.75	1.00	...	2.75	2.25	...	...
New Bern	2.00	1.10	...	2.00	...	...	...
Raleigh	1.93	.91	...	2.75	1.75	...	...
Salisbury	2.00	1.15	2.10	2.50	1.50	...	...
Scotland Neck	2.00	1.10	...	2.50	2.50	...	...
Winston-Salem	1.90	...	2.20	2.50	1.50	3.15	...

*New. Soy Beans—Per bushel: Asheville, \$3; Charlotte, \$3; Fayetteville, \$3.50; New Bern, \$2.25; Raleigh, \$3.50; Salisbury, \$3.50.

PRICES OF BUTTER, EGGS, CHEESE, POULTRY, HOGS AND PEANUTS

Town	Home-made Butter	Creamery Butter	Eggs	Sprng Chickens	Hens	Dressed Hens	Ham Country
Asheville	\$0.35	\$0.48	\$0.30	\$0.20	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$0.40
Charlotte	.50	.55	.40	.30	.25	2.00	.35
Durham	.50	.55	.35	.35	.25	...	.35
Fayetteville	...	...	.35	.35	.20	...	.35
Gastonia	.40	...	.25	.30	...	...	.35
Hamblet	.40	.50	.40	.30	.25	17.00	.35
Lumberton	.40	...	.35	...	...	...	.35
New Bern	.40	.50	.31	.40	.25	21.00	.35
Raleigh	.45	.50	.35	.50	.25	...	.35
Salisbury	.45	.55	.35	.50	.25	20.00	.35
Scotland Neck	.40	.50	.35	.30	.21	22.00	.35
Winston-S'm	.30	.55	.32	...	...	...	.35

Peanuts—Per pound—Fayetteville: Virginia, 12c; Spanish, 14c; Spanish, 12½c; New Bern: Virginia, 12½c; Spanish, 12½c; Scotland Neck: Virginia, 11c; Spanish, 7c.

Hams—Native North Carolina home-cured hams, marketed within the state 30¢@35¢ lb delivered.

PRICES OF COTTON, COTTON SEED AND COTTONSEED MEAL

Town	Middling Cotton	Cotton Seed Per Bushel	Cotton Seed Meal Per Ton	Lib of Meal per 100 lbs of Seed
Charlotte	30.00	...	\$2.00	...
Fayetteville	29.00	\$1.05	52.00	3.00
New Bern	28.50	...	...	...
Raleigh	29.00	...	...	...
Salisbury	29.00	...	...	...
Scotland Neck	26.50	1.40	52.00	3.00

Northern Produce Markets

Chicago, Ill.—No. 3 white corn, \$1.50@1.55 (delivered in Raleigh, \$1.65@1.70); No. 3 yellow corn, \$1.50@1.65 (delivered in Raleigh, \$1.65@1.80).

No. 1 White Potatoes—Sacked for old and per barrel for new stock: Atlanta (new), \$4; Boston (old), \$2@2.15; (new) \$5@6; Chicago, (old) bulk, \$1.10@1.15; sacked, \$1.30@2.10; (new) \$3.50@6; New York, (old) \$1.75@2; (new) \$4.50@5.75; Philadelphia, (old) \$1.60@1.70; (new) \$4.25@5.25; Pittsburg, (old) \$1.40@1.50; (new) \$5@6; Washington, (old) \$1.50@1.60; (new) \$4.50@5.50; Jacksonville, (new) \$3@3.50; Cleveland, (old) \$1@1.15; (new) \$5.40@5.50.

Butter—New York: 91 score, 42¼@43c; 90 score, 41@42½c; 88 score, 40¼@42c. Chicago: "whole milk" 91 score, 40¼@41c; 90 score, 40@40½c; 88 score, 39@39½c; "centralized," 90 score, 41@41½c; 88 score, 39c. Boston: 91 score, 43@43½c; 90 score, 42¼@43c; 88 score, 41¼@42½c. Philadelphia: 91 score, 43@43½c; 90 score, 41¼@43c; 88 score, 40@41½c.

Eggs—New York: fresh gathered, extras, 37¼@38c; extra firsts, 35¼@37c; firsts, 33@35c.

Hog Markets—The market recovered some of the loss of last week and closed 30c to 35c per cwt. higher than a week ago. Chicago: 8th, bulk, \$16.50@16.95. Jersey City, 50c higher; bulk sales, \$18@18.25. St. Louis: 6th, choice Southern hogs, 165-200 lbs., \$16.50@16.75; 135-165 lbs., \$16.50@16.75; peanut and mast led Southern hogs, \$1 to \$2 under above quotations. Richmond market practically closed for summer, except for hogs sold to local butchers. Receipts at 19 large hog markets for five months ending May 31, 12,915,898; same period, 1917, 11,966,073, net increase 7.33 per cent.

The Cotton Market Situation

THE market has ruled fairly steady this week, with some spot business doing at about the basis of 31 cents for good middling. Desirable lines of good cotton will command a fuller premium, but the poorer and the off-color grades are still avoided. Good grades of white cotton are getting scarcer and scarcer, and it looks as if the Government will eventually have to modify its requirements regarding the grades to be employed in filling its orders. It is to be observed that anything that will increase the demand for the lower grades and diminish the prejudice against them will operate to stabilize the future contract and bring futures nearer to a parity with the spot markets.

Recent market developments on the average have been rather bearish. Crop accounts have been quite favorable, and there appears to have been some further improvement in condition since the Bureau report came out. There are complaints of the boll weevil, however, in the productive section from Mississippi to Georgia, that is the lower part of this territory. The Government has not yet issued the acreage statement, but the private reports indicate some increase as compared with last year. There are also increasing reports of a scarcity of labor, and a return of rainy weather over the central and eastern sections would aggravate the difficulty of cultivation.

The appearance of hostile submarines on this side of the Atlantic has necessitated some increase of precautions in shipping, and further restricted exports, both foreign and domestic. Enforced reduction of the rate of consumption has resulted in the leaving of a larger surplus than was expected, but this surplus need not weigh on the market unless it is offered for sale. While there is somewhat more cotton in existence than anticipated, there are smaller stocks of goods, and great deficits which will require replenishing sooner or later. Now, as last fall, next fall and always, the only way to keep the price up is to refrain from offering more than the demand is prepared to take at any given time. Sell when the buyer wants it, but any attempt to force sales in slack demand will result in a collapse in prices. W. T. WILLIAMS.

Savannah, Ga.

Our 1918 Crops Most Valuable In History of the World

THE success or failure of our armies and the armies of our Allies will depend on our ability to properly feed them. It is your Patriotic Duty to do everything in your power to make your fields yield a bumper crop.

Everything will be high-priced, so if only from a selfish motive, a big harvest means riches for you.

If anything should happen to your crops, and you are compelled to buy your food and feeds, it might seriously hurt you financially.

Last year hail storms destroyed thousands and thousands of acres of the finest crops. There is no assurance that hail storms won't be even worse this year.

There is only one way to play safe, and that is to insure your crops against such losses. Insure the highest priced crop you will ever have and one that if lost will almost bankrupt you.

The Home Insurance Company of New York, which is the largest fire insurance company in America, has a department for insuring the farmers against losses from hail storms. The rates are reasonable and the protection absolute. Can you have real peace of mind unless your valuable crops are assured against such losses as hail storms caused in 1917?



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