

Quality of Horse Stock Improving

Market Prices for Good Big Animals Are Better and Demand Is Strong.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Although the number of horses in the country has been steadily decreasing and the number of stallions registered for service in the various states has been on the decline in recent years, according to an analysis of the situation by the United States Department of Agriculture, there are indications that this downhill movement is coming to a halt. There is also reason to believe that as a result of the culling that has been going on in the last few years the quality of the horse stock is being improved at a rate greater than usual.

Horses Show Decrease.

At the end of 1922, there were 203,000 fewer horses and 30,000 more mules in the United States than at the beginning of that year. While production has not kept pace with the death rate the demand has been increasing. Last year there was an increase of approximately 40 per cent in the number of horses received on markets over the previous year. During the first three months of the present year there was increase of horses on the markets of 51 per cent over the same months of 1922. Market prices for good big horses have been better this spring, and there is a strong demand for good breeding stock.

A study of the stallion enrollment figures from 22 horse-producing states shows that the number of purebreds has been decreasing at a lower rate than the total number. In 1922, the decrease of all stallions was 15.9 per cent, while the number of registered stallions decreased only 10.7 per cent. The action of a number of state legislatures in outlawing all but purebred stallions and jacks has been a factor in addition to the general tendency in getting away from poorly bred sires. During 1923, Indiana, Michigan, Pennsylvania and West Virginia are licensing only purebred stallions and jacks for public service.

In a recent publication of the department, "Stallion Enrollment and Horse-Breeding Situation," by J. O. Williams and E. B. Krantz, it is shown that in 22 states, including the principal horse-producing sections, there are a few more than 19,000 stallions. Of these practically 15,000, or a trifle more than 78 per cent, are purebreds. In 1921, similar figures showed that there were nearly 23,000 stallions, but less than 74 per cent were purebred. According to the tables, two states, Indiana and Pennsylvania, as a result of laws which bar grades and scrubs, have 100 per cent of purebred stallions. Michigan's purebred stallions are more than 93 per cent of the total, and Montana's more than 90 per cent. In a half dozen other states purebreds are in excess of 80 per cent.

Increase of Purebred Jacks.

Although there was an increase of 39,000 mules shown at the beginning of the year, the number of jacks standing for public service decreased more than the preceding year. Eighteen states having an enrollment of 6,060 jacks in 1921 had only 5,086 in 1922, a decrease of 16 per cent. In these states jacks standing for service constitute 28.8 per cent of all stallions and jacks. Comparable figures from 11 states show that the percentage of purebred jacks has increased from 20 per cent in 1914 to 76 in 1922.

In addition to information on the horse and mule situation, this new publication contains lists of the pedigree registry associations recognized as standard by the National Association of Stallion Registration Boards, foreign books of record recognized by the United States Department of Agriculture, and names and addresses of all state and national officials who have charge of stallion enrollment. Copies may be obtained by addressing the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Destroy Weeds by Using Iron Sulphate Solution

Tests in Wisconsin were successful in eradicating wild mustard from grain fields by the use of a solution of iron sulphate applied at the rate of 52 gallons per acre. The proper strength of the solution was obtained by dissolving 100 pounds of iron sulphate in water and diluting to 52 gallons. The total cost was estimated to be \$1.25 per acre. This treatment also proved efficacious in the eradication of dandelions from lawns, but did not work so well in fields. Cocklebur, ragweeds, daisies, wild lettuce and several other ordinary weeds were only partially eradicated by this solution. Canada thistles were blackened, but soon recovered, even when sulphuric acid was added to the spray. Clean cultivation was apparently the only effective remedy for the most persistent weeds.

It Pays to Keep Garden Busy Throughout Season

It pays to keep every foot of the garden busy throughout the growing season. Beans, tomatoes, beets, corn, celery, endive and turnips, all of these and others, can easily follow in their turn, the early crops such as beets, lettuce, radishes and peas, and the revenue from such cropping will be doubled without any injury whatever to the land if only a little judgment is exercised.

Barley Production Is of Great Importance

Nearly as Valuable as Corn in Fattening Cattle.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Barley production in the United States is undergoing some changes and is becoming of increasing importance in American agriculture, says the United States Department of Agriculture. Barley is finding a place in the feeding of live stock on the farms, where it is grown and is being grown largely for feed outside of regions where corn and oats do well. Under suitable conditions of soil and climate, barley yields more pounds of feed per acre than any other small grain.

Barley generally is considered about 90 to 95 per cent as valuable as corn for fattening live stock. Although it is a good feed for all stock, it should be crushed or rolled for sheep, hogs and all young stock. If ground fine, the flour produced makes mastication difficult and the animals do not like the grain as well and eat less of it than when rolled. It should not be the only grain in a heavy ration for young pigs, as the hulls irritate the digestive system. It is often used in preference to corn for show cattle, because it does not make such hard flesh.

Because of the more general recognition of the value of barley as a live stock feed, and because of its yielding ability and adaptation to some regions where other grains do not do well, barley is being grown on more farms and over a wider area in the United States than formerly, and less extensively in special areas. It is likely also that the proportion of barley consumed on the farm where grown will continue to increase.

To Prevent Robbing by Strong Colonies of Bees

To avoid strong colonies of bees robbing the weak colonies of their supply of nectar, it is necessary to reduce the entrance to the hives of the weak colonies or to unite two of the weak colonies to make one strong one, says A. C. Burrill, extension entomologist of the Missouri college of agriculture. If the colony is weak for some other reason than that due to being a new swarm, it is a good thing to consider re-queening at least by the middle of August, although some do this in July. Colonies so re-queened go through the winter best and make better yields the next year. Keep all comb trimmings or drippings of honey in a covered pail and not scattered about. This cleanliness applies especially to times when there is no nectar flow.

To stop bees from robbing contract the entry of any weak colony being robbed to a space so small that hardly more than one bee can go through at a time. The opening may have to be larger if it is very hot, for ventilation; but in that case, hay, straw, coarse weeds or grass clippings may be thrown in front of the entrance. During fierce robbing, sprinkle the bees with cold water.

Mr. and Mrs. Bobwhite Are Friends of Farmer

Mr. and Mrs. Bob White and their numerous young ones are the best friends a farmer can have, for they eat nothing but waste grain and injurious insects and weed seed. Half of their bill of fare is composed of our worst pests, such as crab, cockspur, witch and foxtail grasses, sheep sorrel, smartweed, lamb's quarters, bindweed, pigweed, corn cockle, chickweed, partridge pea, beggar lice, mall grass, rib grass, and ragweed. So you see they are first assistants to the weed commissioner. Then, too, they eat some wild fruit, some leaf buds, and a great many harmful insects, such as locust, chinch bug, cotton worm, army worm, spotted red cucumber beetle, bean leaf beetle, squash ladybug, may beetles, clover leaf weevil, and cutworms. One man estimated that every quail on his farm was worth \$5 apiece to him as a weed seed and insect destroyer.

Black Teeth of Pigs Has No Special Significance

The belief that black teeth often found in the mouth of new-born pigs have some dire detrimental effect upon the animals, seems to be about as prevalent as is belief in "hollow horn" and "wolf in the tail," two mythical diseases often spoken of in the southern states. Let it be understood that the black color of the small, sharp teeth referred to has no special significance and such teeth need not be removed on that account. As the teeth are as sharp as needles, however, and frequently lacerate the gums, or injure the teats of the sow, or wound the faces of the little pigs when fighting, they should be nipped off at birth. This must be most carefully done.

Close Confinement Will Cure Hen of Broodiness

Broodiness of hens means decreased egg production. Hens that want to set in summer may be broken up by close confinement in a wire bottom coop, built under a shade tree about three feet above ground. Feed the fowls well meantime. Starving a broody hen doesn't pay because she must be fed up again before she will lay. Feed on regular laying mash and whole grain and keep plenty of fresh water within reach. Under these conditions most broody hens will give it up in three to five days.

Modish and Pretty Frocks;

Favor One-Piece Bathing Suits

LIKE the Greeks bearing gifts, each summer comes in with ingratiating new fabrics to catch our wandering fancy. It can look us in the face serenely because it also brings our beloved old favorites. If dotted swiss were not among those present when the roll of summer dress materials is called, there would be rebellion.

The accompanying picture shows dotted swiss in red, with white dots, made up for the lassie who sees the dawn of her teens ahead of her. It is so plain, and so adequately pictured, that it does not need description ex-

cept to state that the binding of the round neck is made of white organdie and that the short sleeves are finished like the neck. It is prettied up with flat organdie flowers which are bought ready made and are among the many pretty trimmings for cotton frocks shown in the shops. One of these is posed on the left shoulder and one at each side of the girdle of narrow moire ribbon.

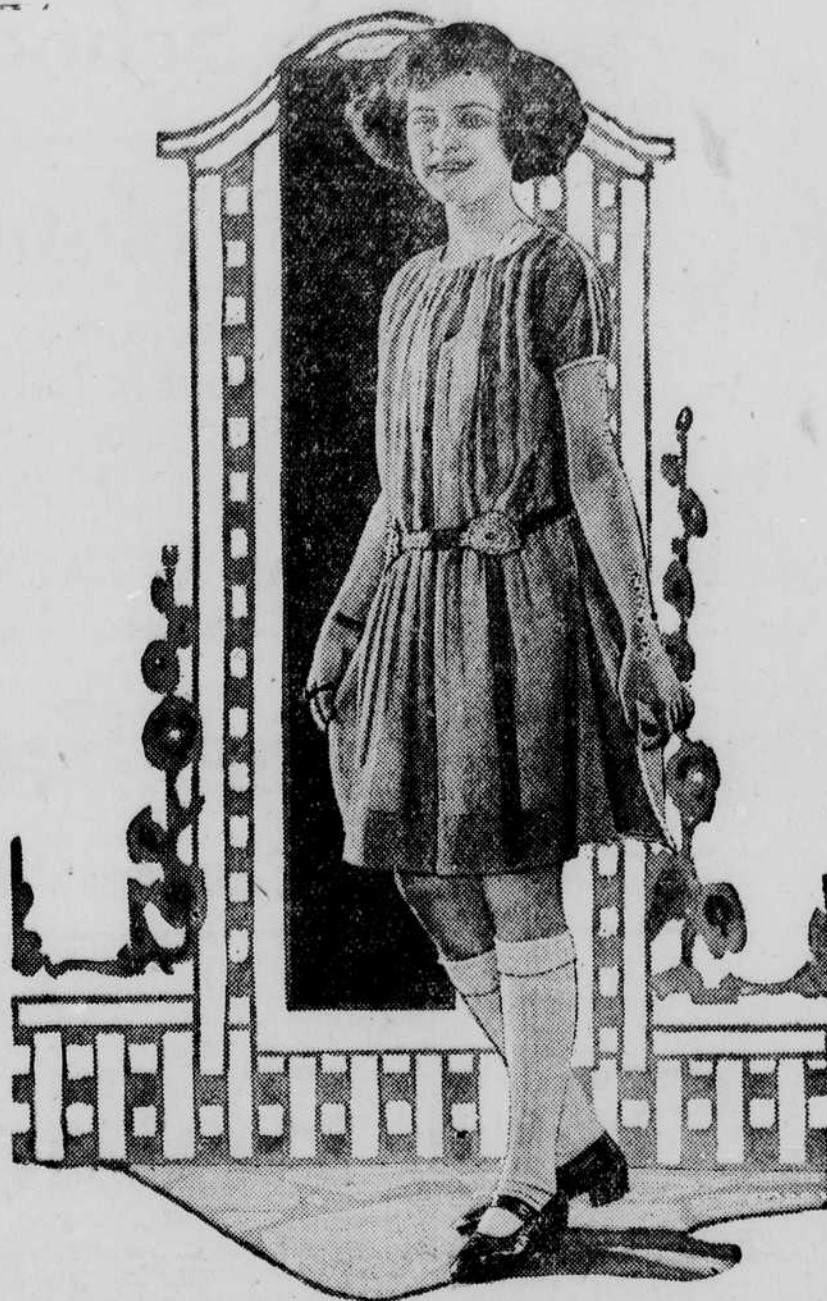
Ribbons and laces, tucks and plaited trills, are all brought into play when

of pure wool with skirt stripes of red, green and maroon, which also appear on the trunks.

Note the rolled hose and smart Kelly green sandals. A bandana square of waterproof silk, in the same vivid green is knotted into a bathing cap of incomparable charm.

The kiddies scorn any but the knitted bathing suit and it goes without saying that it must be one piece, for children demand untrammelled action for water frolic. If the armholes are elongated

Pretty Dotted Swiss Frock



permitted perfect freedom, as shown in the picture, so much the better. It is said that even for the little tots the black bathing suit is preferred, with red next in popularity.

Knitted Bathing Suits in Favor

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Got Away With the Pictures.

An American motion picture operator, who had been taking films of the French occupied area of the Ruhr, was pursued by the French, but escaped in his auto to Berlin. There the film was developed and two copies were sent abroad. Now the negative is stolen by French agents. However, the operator had an additional copy and will make another negative.

Old Colored Mammy Knew What to Do

"I was distracted with fear when my little 9-month-old baby had dysentery, but an old colored mammy told me to give her Teethina and she has given me no more trouble since," said Mrs. Nettie Barnes, South Bay, Palm Beach Co., Fla. "With my last baby I got Teethina before he began teething and he was never sick a day."

It is not always safe to follow the advice of old colored mummies, but when they are as well informed as this one who recommended Teethina no advice could be better. All mothers can inform themselves as to the proper care of their babies by consulting Moffett's Baby Book, which can be had free by sending 30c to the Moffett Laboratories, Columbus, Ga., for a full size package of Teethina.—(Advertisement.)

Pocket Orchestra.

A Hungarian engineer has invented a gramophone no larger than a watch, and his slogan is "carry your orchestra in your vest pocket."

The invention is described as a practical instrument, capable of producing jazz, waltzes and one-steps. "The Mikophone," as it has been christened, winds like a watch, and has a speed regulator. There is room inside for ten plates, giving a repertoire of twenty selections. In the other vest pocket one can carry enough music for an all-night session.

By placing the instrument on a champagne glass the sound is amplified sufficiently for an ordinary-sized ballroom.

SWAMP-ROOT FOR KIDNEY AILMENTS

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However, if you wish first to test this great preparation send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention this paper.—Advertisement.

Hemp in the Philippines.

The Department of Agriculture is going to help the hemp growers of the southern Philippine islands. It will determine which varieties of abaca plants are best suited for given localities, and make them easily available to the growers. Some plants give 90 per cent efficiency; others only 10. Hemp production in 1922 exceeded that of 1921 by 500,000 bales. The harvest was 1,209,088 bales of 270 pounds each.

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HANCOCK LIQUID SULPHUR COMPANY, Baltimore, Md.

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