

CHEAP FEEDS FOR LIVE STOCK DURING WINTER



A bunch of hogs just finishing a field of soybeans. Many farmers plant enough to provide feed for their hogs long into the winter months. (Edgecombe Branch Experiment Station).

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Farmers who have made proper use of our Southern cheap feeds for live stock will probably accept the title of this article in the same way that the man who visited the menagerie for the first time accepted the reality of the giraffe. After examining the giraffe from the front, side and rear, and taking into consideration his long neck and general ungainliness, he said that he had always believed that there was "no such animal" and he was now, after seeing him, thoroughly convinced that there was no such thing. In like manner farmers who have never made use of our really cheap feeds are apt to say, at the present time, without an investigation, that "there is no such thing."

The doubting farmer, however, as well as the visitor to the menagerie, is mistaken, because there are cheap live stock feeds even at the present time, but they are not found among purchased grains or by-products. There are two classes of cheap feeds to be secured for the coming winter—silage and pastures, especially the latter. All kinds of live stock make use of pastures if the opportunity is offered. Some kinds of live stock make use of silage. The live stock farmer expects to avoid an expensive winter's feed bill must supply either silage or pasture or both. If these two feeds are to be provided the preliminary work must be done in September.

There is plenty of evidence at hand to show that our farmers are awake to the fact that these two feeds are our cheapest ones. During June, July, August, and September hundreds of silos were built in the state. During August, September and October these silos will be filled with various kinds of silage crops and during this same time thousands of grazing crops suitable for fall, winter, and spring grazing will be sown.

The majority of farmers who keep beef cattle and dairy cattle should certainly provide a silo and all of them should provide some kind of fall, winter, and spring grazing. Various kinds of crops may be used for grazing purposes. In the first place, many of our farmers have failed to appreciate the value of the old corn and cotton fields, and these we have with us always. As a result of this neglect vast quantities of roughage are wasted each year which should be turned into meat and milk. The good farmer allows none of these cheap feeds to go to waste. We should not only not allow the feeds usually produced to go to waste, but just now an effort should be made to create new feeds by putting many of our idle acres to work.

Under the direction of Mr. R. S. Curtis, of the Animal Industry Division of the N. C. Agricultural Experiment Station, experiments have been under way for several years to determine the value of permanent winter pastures in the western part of the state. The work has been done in co-operation with Mr. T. L. Gwyn of Haywood County, a prominent beef cattle raiser of that section. Those who know the agricultural conditions of the western part of the state know that one of the greatest problems is to develop a system of farming which will employ some of the lands lying idle at the present time.

In these experiments the beef cattle carried through the winter upon various rations and an accurate account kept of the amounts and costs of feeds of each winter together with the gains made by the stockers. One carload of stockers each winter was fed upon ear corn, corn stover, hay and straw. A second lot was fed upon corn silage, corn stover, hay and straw. A third car of stockers was fed during the winter months upon corn silage, corn stover, hay and straw, while a fourth lot was given no feed at all except that obtained from the winter pasture.

Mr. Gwyn made these winter pastures by first clearing the mountain sides of the trees. A contract was made with the mountaineers giving them the free use of the land for two years if they would deaden all of the large trees, clear out the small brush, and put the land in cultivation, planting corn each year. The second year at the last cultivation of the corn a mixture of 15 pounds of orchard grass, 4 pounds of blue grass, and 7 pounds of timothy and clover were seeded broadcast through the corn. The corn was permitted to grow through the following summer without being grazed. It, of course, grew up and before the roots protecting the roots during the winter months. Young stockers were carried for two years on the pasture.

the early winter and spring months furnishing considerable green feed along with the cured grass. During the cold months the fourth lot of cattle was permitted to run upon this left-over summer pasture receiving no feed in addition to the pasture except a few days when everything was deeply covered with snow.

Mr. Gwyn has done, in making pastures, upon his farm what thousands of others can do upon theirs and obtain equally satisfactory results.

In the experiments referred to it was found that the stockers grazing upon the winter pasture did much better and were wintered much more economically than those kept around the barn and fed upon dry feeds. The stockers which ate nothing but winter pasture gained, during the winter, from 17 to 26 pounds each. The stockers which were fed upon ear corn, corn silage and other stored feeds all lost in weight. On the average it cost about \$10.00 to feed each one of the dry-fed steers through the winter months but the expense of getting the pasture-fed steers through the same length of time was just half as much, even when each steer was charged \$1.00 a month rent for pasture.

Farmers raising hogs and poultry should, by all means, during August and September, take steps toward providing cheap feeds for the winter. The only available cheap feeds, as far as hogs and poultry are concerned, are pastures. Corn, wheat, oats and other grain feeds and by-products are all unusually expensive unless fed in conjunction with pastures. Many temporary pastures are suitable for both hogs and poultry. An acre of good land planted in rape affords grazing for five or six 100-pound fattening pigs throughout the winter provided a half ration of grain is employed as a supplement. Or, one acre of good rape should make from 300 to 500 pounds of pork. An acre of rye, oats, barley or wheat will usually do just about half as well but in addition will yield a partial crop after the hogs are removed.

The value of pastures and range conditions was emphasized again in some poultry experiments conducted at the Pender Test Farm during 1916. One lot of Buff Plymouth Rock hens was given the range of the farm where many green crops were available the year around. A second lot of hens was confined in a dry lot and fed upon dry and other high-priced feeds exclusively. During the year the range lot of hens produced 2651 eggs while the hens in the dry lot produced only 314 eggs, although they were fed about as well as could be expected under dry-lot conditions. The hens in the two lots were fed exactly the same feeds except those in the range lot had the freedom of the farm and obtained green feed, bugs, and worms. The range lot of hens returned a clear profit of \$41.02, while the flock of 22 hens in the dry lot suffered a total loss of \$33.66.

TEN POULTRY CLUB HINTS THAT STAND FOR SUCCESS

CLUB MEMBERS WHO FOLLOW CLOSELY THESE TEN RULES SHOW GOOD REPORTS.

1. Dust your hens just before setting and three days before they hatch.
2. Do not feed chicks until they are forty-eight hours old.
3. The first food for chicks should be grit or sand; this will start their grinding mill.
4. Later on, feed hard-boiled eggs and oatmeal, mixed together, or well-baked Johnnie cake or cornbread for the first week.
5. Then feed a mixture of two parts of cracked wheat, two parts of oat flakes, and two parts of cracked corn, or a good commercial chick feed.
6. Keep clean water or milk before the chicks at all times.
7. Clean the brood coops once a week and examine the chicks carefully for lice.
8. Give the chicks the best of care and keep them growing.
9. Hatch early, remembering "that the early bird gets the worm."
10. Under no circumstances sell the early pullets; get rid of the early cockerels.

Agricultural Extension Service, Raleigh, N. C.

SOME RESULTS OF LAST YEAR'S CLUB WORK

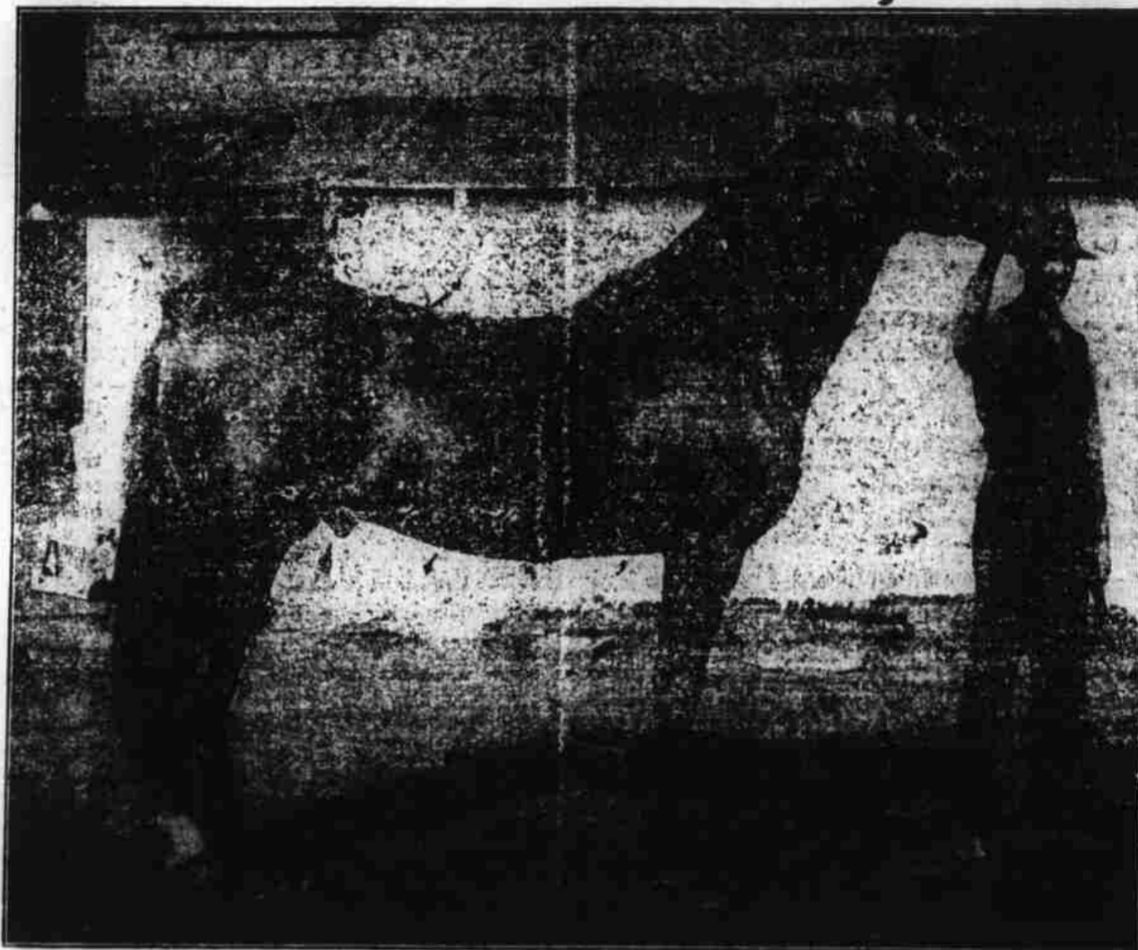
Corn Club Work produced \$35,900 for the State.
Poultry Club Work produced \$11,000 for the State.

Big Auction Sale Of Mares

I am shipping a car of fine mares, 2 to 5 years, weight 900 to 1300 pounds, and will be in

WAYNESVILLE

to offer them for sale to the highest bidder in front of court house at 10 o'clock A. M.



Friday & Saturday, Nov. 2nd and 3rd

All are highest grade mares. You can't buy fine mares of this class in this section at the prices these mares will sell for. In fact, such fine animals are not to be found at any price in this section. They are not branded nor western mares but extra good and specially selected native animals.

Come in before sale and examine these mares and see for yourself that they are even better than represented. They'll be here Wednesday before the sale and also we will make private trades for cattle, mules or cash. I will positively be there, rain or shine.

These mares are the very highest type--the kind you need

Would like to have you examine the mares to see that they are exactly as represented. They're especially selected and well bred and thoroughly broke--really choice mares. I mean every word I say. This will give you opportunity to get a mare that will raise you a colt and do your work the same as a mule and on the same feed. Never before were mares as profitable as now.

Any Animal Not Found as Represented Will be Taken Back And Money Will be Refunded

Understand, I want to buy mules and trade mares for mules and cattle

Not a dull minute at the sale. Expert riding and other good features to entertain you

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From Madisonville Tenn.

For any information ask J. M. Rutherford, Waynesville.

Reference: Bank of Madisonville, Tenn.

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