

SHEEP BREEDING.

The Essential Principles Necessary to Success—Influence of Environment, Continuity, Utility and Crossing.

In his illustrated address on "The Mutton Breeds of Sheep" at the recent Winter Fairs, Mr. F. W. Hodgson, Live Stock Commissioner, outlined the principles essential to success in breeding live stock. There are, said he, four features of the live stock business to which our people pay too little attention, viz., environment, continuity, utility, and crossing.

A man commencing business as a stock grower should carefully consider his environments. Is his farm best suited to the production of horses, cattle, sheep or swine, and if so, what breeds are likely to give the best results? He can only know this by making a careful study of conditions. In Britain we find that the environments have been carefully studied, and breeds developed that are best suited to the districts. The British farmer is farming to make money and not to satisfy a whim. He has chosen females bred in the district that are best suited to the requirements of his soil and markets,



F. W. HODGSON.

and has carefully improved these by selection and the use of the proper sort of males. For this reason we find in Shropshire only Shropshire sheep. In the north of England and the south of Scotland the Leicester families prevail. Further up in the hill country we find the Cheviots, and again in the higher and more barren hill country we find the Highland or Black Faced sheep. In other parts, particularly towards the southwest of England, we find the various classes of Downs, best suited to its district. What has been the practice of the Canadian farmer, generally speaking? Without regard to his environment he has chosen something that caught his fancy and launched out as a breeder.

The next important principle is continuity. Here again we may learn a lesson from British methods. The British farmer, having learned what his environments require, has continued year after year, generation after generation, producing the same family of the same breed, being extremely careful about infusing new blood. It is not an infrequent thing to find a farm on which Leicester sheep have been bred for perhaps fifty or a hundred years, nor is this true of Leicesters alone, but applies to all breeds of British live stock.

Utility is another point that should always be foremost in the mind of the breeder. Why do we breed sheep? That they may produce the greatest quantity of the best quality of wool and mutton for feed consumed and care given. We may choose a suitable breed, and continue our efforts along the same line for a considerable period, yet if we do not keep in mind the utility of our animals, our efforts are likely to come to nought. Too much attention has been paid to fads and fancies, and not enough to the utility of the animal.

Crossing is another feature of breeding very much misunderstood in Canada. In Britain it means the selection of ewes of a certain breed which are crossed with a male of another breed in order to produce market lambs, but the produce of this cross is never used for breeding purposes.

For instance, Cheviot ewes are sometimes crossed with Down rams and sometimes with Wensleydales or others of the Leicester family, in order to produce lambs with better feeding qualities and better selling qualities than the pure-bred Cheviots. But in order to keep up a constant supply of Cheviot ewes a certain number of the best ewes are mated with the best Cheviot rams. These are kept for breeding purposes, while the half-breeds are sold to the Lowland farmers for feeding purposes. No British breeder thinks of using these cross-bred animals for breeding purposes. Why not? Because hundreds of years of experience have shown that good results cannot be obtained.

To sum up, therefore, in order to obtain the best results environment must be studied, effort must be continued along the one line, utility must always be kept in view, and crossing must never be done, except for a special purpose, and then the offspring must always be fattened and sold. If conducted in this way the flocks of Canada will be firmly established upon a proper basis, and we shall receive the greatest profit for feed consumed in the case of both wool and mutton, and Canadian mutton will become as famous

and as much in demand in the English market as Canadian pork is today. No country in the world is capable of producing better mutton sheep than Canada.

Winter Egg Layers.

Winter eggs I believe to be the most profitable feature of the poultry business, says a New York correspondent of American Agriculturist. The best way to secure them is by hatching winter chickens from winter laid eggs. In no other way can we breed from winter layers and breed from them at their best.

Blanket the Horse.

Always put a blanket on a horse if it is kept standing even a short time. A blanket to a horse is like an overcoat to a man. If a horse is heated by driving, never leave it standing exposed to a piercing wind. Keep it moving or get it in a barn and rub dry and blanket warmly. Never leave ice and mud frozen on the horse's ankles. It is conducive to rheumatism, chapped heel and mud fever.

Sheep in Winter.

Sheep need particularly good care in winter, especially as they come on toward spring. No good care now, no fine lambs later. Clover is splendid feed for sheep in winter. It is rich and sweet, provided it was properly cured. Musty clover is worse than good clean timothy.

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SECOND DIVISION COURT

—OF THE—

County of Victoria.

he next sittings of the above Court will be held in Twomey's hall, Fenelon Falls ON MONDAY, APRIL 10th, 1905,

commencing at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. Thursday, March 30th, will be the last day of service on defendants residing in this county. Defendants living in other counties must be served on or before Saturday, March 25th.

Office hours from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. ELISHA MARK, E. D. HAND, Bailiff, Clerk. Fenelon Falls, Jan. 12th, 1905.

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Diamond Tent No. 208. Meets in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block on the first and third Tuesday in each month.
CHAS. WISE, Com.
C. W. BURGOGNE, R. K.

CANADIAN ORDER OF ODDFELLOWS
Trent Valley Lodge No. 71. Meet in the Orange hall on Francis street west on the first and third Mondays in each month.
WM. DEYMAN JR., N. G.
J. T. THOMPSON JR., Sec.

O. L. No. 996. MEET IN THE ORANGE
hall on Francis-St. West on the second Tuesday in every month.
LEWIS DEYMAN, W. M.
S. D. BARR, Rec.-Sec.

EMPIRE LOYAL TRUE BLUE LODGE
No. 198, meets first Friday of each month in Orange hall. Visiting brethren always welcome.
THOS. JOHNSTON, W. M.
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D. GOULD, Chief Ranger.
THOS. AUSTIN, R. S.

CANADIAN ORDER OF FORESTERS.
Fenelon Falls Lodge No. 626. Meets in the Orange Hall on Francis street west on the last Thursday of each month.
F. SMITHERAM, Chief Ranger,
W. D. STACY, Sec.

CANADIAN HOME CIRCLES. FENELON
Falls Circle No. 127, meets in the True Blue hall in McArthur's Block the first Wednesday in every month.
P. C. BURGESS, Leader.
R. B. SYLVESTER, Secretary.

A. F. AND A. M., G. R. C. THE SPRY
Lodge No. 406. Meets on the first Wednesday of each month, on or before the full of the moon, in the lodge room in Cunningham's Block.
W. H. ROSSON, W. M.
E. FITZGERALD, Secretary.

CHURCHES.

BAPTIST CHURCH—QUEEN ST., REV.
J. H. Hannah, Minister. Preaching services every Sunday at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Bible Class and Sunday School at 2.30 p. m. Praise and prayer service on Thursday at 8 p. m.

METHODIST CHURCH—COLBORNE
Street—Rev. H. B. Kenney, Pastor. Sunday service at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sabbath School at 2.30 p. m. Epworth League of Christian Endeavor on Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock. Prayer meeting on Thursday at 7.30.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH—COLBORNE
Street—Rev. R. C. H. Sinclair, Pastor. Services every Sunday at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday School every Sunday at 2.30 p. m. Christian Endeavor meeting every Tuesday at 8 p. m. Prayer meeting every Thursday at 7.30 p. m.

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Bond St. West—Captain Stephens and Lieutenant Brass. Service every Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings at 8 o'clock, and on Sunday at 11 a. m., 3 p. m. and 7.30 p. m.

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ST. JAMES' CHURCH, BOND ST. EAST,
Rev. A. S. Dickinson, Rector. Sunday service: Matins 10.30 a. m.; evensong at 7 p. m. Celebration of Holy Communion first Sunday of every month at 10.30 a. m. and third Sunday of every month at 8 a. m. Sunday School 2.30 p. m. Thursday every week as follows: Catechising of children at 7 p. m., evensong at 7.30 p. m., choir practice at 8.15 p. m.

Seats free in all churches. Everybody invited to attend. Strangers cordially welcomed.

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PUBLIC LIBRARY—MRS M. E. CALDER
Librarian. Reading Room open daily, Sunday excepted, from 10 o'clock a. m. till 10 o'clock p. m. Books exchanged on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 2 p. m. to 4 p., and in the evening from 7 to 9.

POST-OFFICE—F. J. KERR, POSTMASTER. Open daily, Sundays excepted, from 7.30 a. m. to 7 p. m. Mail going south closes at 7 p. m. Letters for registration must be posted half an hour previous to the time for closing the mails.

NEWSPAPER LAW.

1. A post-master is required to give notice by letter (returning the paper does not answer the law), when a subscriber does not take his paper out of the office, and state the reasons for its not being taken. Any neglect to do so makes the postmaster responsible to the publisher for payment.
2. If any person orders his paper discontinued he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount whether the paper is taken from the office or not. There can be no legal discontinuance until the payment is made.
3. Any person who takes a paper from the post office, whether directed to his name or another, or whether he has subscribed or not, is responsible for the pay.
4. If a subscriber orders his paper to be stopped at a certain time and the publisher continues to send it, the subscriber is bound to pay for it if he takes it from the post-office. This proceeds upon the ground that a man must pay for what he uses.
5. The courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers and periodicals from the post-office, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is *prima facie* evidence of intentional fraud.