

DAIRY

HABIT OF DROPPING THE CUD

One of Symptoms of Certain Subacute Forms of Indigestion—Carefully Examine Teeth.

(By W. R. GILBERT.)
"Dropping the cud" takes place in certain diseases and conditions of the mouth, where mastication is painful, but it is also one of the symptoms of certain subacute forms of indigestion dependent on bulky and innutritious food.

In some cases the animal is unthrifty, with irregular bowels and depraved appetite; but these are not so pronounced when the trouble is due to pain in mastication owing to disease of the tongue or mouth, or to dental irregularities.

In young bovines, "dropping the cud" is very often due to the persistence of the crowns of deciduous molars.

The animal eats tolerably well, because the food, in the first place, is nipped off by the incisors, twisted around by the tongue and hastily transferred to the first stomach.

It is after chewing the cud that the food is subjected to the reduction to minute particles by the molars, the process causing pain, and the ball of food or cud is dropped out of the mouth instead of being laboriously masticated and swallowed.

The first thing to do in these cases is to carefully examine the mouth with the aid of a gag and to remove the persisting molar crowns if it is these temporary teeth causing the painful mastication.

ROBBING THE MILK BOTTLE

Siphon Invented for Removing Cream When Desired—Does Its Work Without Any Loss.

The sight of a quantity of rich cream on top of the milk bottle is a sight which few housewives can resist, and they are tempted to remove it and make use of it for one purpose or another. It is almost impossible to pour the cream off, and usually any effort made to insert a spoon or other implement of this character has the effect of stirring up the cream so that it is lost. The device shown herewith has been recently patented and will drain off all the cream of the bottle without any loss by agitation of the



To Siphon Off Cream.

contents of the bottle during the operation, as with a spoon or pouring. The siphon is of glass principally, but the lower end is a tube of rubber with one end thrust up into the glass. The bell-shaped end of glass is lowered carefully into the cream, and when in place will about reach the lower part of the stratum of cream. The rubber tube is then closed by pinching and drawn slowly from the glass tube. This draws the cream up and starts the flow, which continues until all the cream has been drawn off.

FIND POOR MILK PRODUCERS

Many Fine Appearing Animals Found to Be Quite Unprofitable by Work of Testing.

The work of testing the dairy herd is most interesting and produces many surprises. Many of the finest appearing cattle will be found to be the poorest producers, while some of the animals thought to be scrubs will be worthy of a place in the constructed herd.

No time should be lost in disposing of the unproductive cows. A market can readily be had for those in good condition, while the money received for their sale can be most wisely expended by purchasing a sire and two or more dams of a dairy breed. These new animals should not be purchased without first knowing their record of production.

Dairy Profit and Loss.

People are not careful enough about feeding their stock. They take it for granted that when they have thrown an allowance of grain in front of the cows their duties are finished. On the other hand, the cow that is rightly fed is carefully studied with each ration. She is watched to see if she will respond to a little more feed or if she is getting more than she can use. These little wastes are what make the profit and loss in dairying.

Number of Cows to Keep.
A farmer and dairyman should keep only as many cows as he can house and feed properly.

RICH PASTURE LAND FOR THE LIVE STOCK



Stocker Feeders in Pasture.

(By J. T. GRAINGER.)
When spring is thoroughly in, the country will be full of rich grass, and nearly all the stock of the farm will be doing well on it. Its effect is somewhat relaxing for a time, but such relaxation must not be classified with that which in delicate animals is caused by indigestion. For instance, a calf is badly weaned, ill nurtured in its infancy, during which period the constitution is made or marred. Then as a yearling or two-year-old, the steer has become so debilitated that he cannot digest the ordinary food, and the evacuations are too liquid for robustness, and habitual purging is the unhappy portion of such an unprofitable animal, which remains unthrifty for life.

The healthy yearling or two-year-old bullock may, just when the grass is young and lush, be purged as much, but he will rapidly gain flesh, and as the grass becomes older and harder, the purging will gradually disappear. On such pastures where the grass is exceptionally rich, no one who thoroughly knows his business will put any stock except superior full-grown bullocks, because the grass is rich enough to fatten them, making them a third, at the least, more valuable; and then he has the use of the grass, when the bullocks are grown, for other stock.

Of course there are few farmers who have pasture that will fatten bullocks without artificial assistance, and those who have such a luxury should not deplete it by mowing, but rather build it up by the best of farmyard manures. I cannot say I am an advocate of using light artificial manures for pastures, but grass can be indirectly fed by carting green food to the stock and lined cake and other purchased foods.

The land from which any of these green crops are taken must be com-



Pasture Land in Northern Minnesota.

KIND OF DAIRYING MAN WILL ATTEMPT

Much Depends Upon Location of Farmer's Land—Much Advantage in Freight Rates.

(By WILLIAM A. FREEHOFF.)
The kind of dairying a man will attempt depends largely upon the location of his land. If the farm is within a mile or two of some large city, worth several hundred dollars per acre, the most profitable type will be the retail milk farm.

This milk, or sweet cream, even, must be of a high class, and must sell for a correspondingly high price in order to be profitable. The farmer simply cannot afford to make butter or cheese on such expensive land and make it pay dividends.

In summer, during the ice cream season, there is a heavy demand on some days, and a lighter call on others. There is no uniform price. The dairyman will have to make quite elaborate arrangements with retailers in order to sell all of his products to advantage.

There is another disadvantage, however—that is, the matter of freight or express rates. Then there are those men beyond the easy reach of some city markets. About the best thing they can do is to haul their milk or cream to a cheese factory or creamery, as the case may be.

They may even arrange to have a man call for the cream at stated intervals. This method of dairying has the advantage that the skim milk or whey remains on the farm, and thus less fertility is carried off.

But often there are very isolated farms, those which are too far from the city to cater to the retail trade and too far from any city to ship sweet cream. These men may well sell to a centralized plant. This factory, which ac-

cepted milk and cream when shipped for hundreds of miles, has facilities for using a product that has soured in transit.

Of course there may be isolated cases where it pays best to manufacture the milk right on the farm, into either butter or cheese, but this takes much work and hardly pays when there is a creamery or cheese factory in the neighborhood.

USE OF DIVIDERS IN A DAIRY RATION

Not Generally Understood Among Feeders—Number of Feeds That May Be Employed.

The use of dividers in a dairy ration is not commonly understood by the generality of feeders, but it is essential in securing the best results. There is a number of feeds that may be used for dividers in the feeding of concentrated feeds.

Some of these contain but little feeding value when fed alone, but are highly valuable when fed in connection with the richer concentrates, because they serve to separate the food particles and assist in preparing the food for more perfect digestion.

Corn and cob meal have been found to give better results in many instances than when corn meal is fed alone. The ground cobs serve as a divider, and separate the particles of corn meal more than the ground cobs.

When feeding grain and ensilage we have found that the cows make better use of their grain feeds when they are fed with the ensilage than when fed separately, because the ensilage acts as a divider and separates the particles of grain, and prepares for more perfect digestion and assimilation.

The juices of the ensilage also act upon the grain feeds and assist in the work of digestion.

Horses are often objected to on grass land, because they are supposed to cut it up when galloping, but on sound soils I do not see that difference, and men who thoroughly understand horses can obtain more profit from them than from any animal bred for the table.

Horses will not sleep in field hovel, perhaps because an ancient instinct or inherited habit still leaves them in fear of the large carnivora, so terrible to their early ancestors in the world-wide forests; and, further, the horses like pure air, and the air in the never-cleaned hovel is as musty as a sepulcher if not as foul as a cess-pool.

If ponds were cleaned at the proper season there ought to be a good storage of water, and farmers need not mind a little mudiness if the mouth of the pond admits of convenient approach.

No one need fear a little earthy matter with the water, as the stomach is not so delicate as to be in the least damaged thereby. I have tried to give pure water, but have never known mischief from simply muddy water.

LIVE STOCK

INCREASED SIZE OF LITTERS

Iowa Station Assists Sow Before Breeding With Rapid Increase in Feeding of Protein.

A breeding practice used at the Iowa Agricultural station should be worth remembering by every hog raiser in an alfalfa district, since alfalfa contains a high percentage of protein, almost too much for a single feed. With a view of increasing the number of offspring farrowed at the Iowa station they assist the sow before breeding with a rapid increase in the feeding of protein, which is called "flushing." This seems to stimulate the production of ova or life germs, which may later be fertilized by the sire, and consequently this tends toward an increase in the size of the litter.

It has been found that where a large amount of protein is fed just before the breeding season that the sows will not only require less services, but more pigs will be farrowed than if scant rations are given. For best results it is well to have the sows on pasture. For best results also flushing should commence about ten days before breeding, or a little sooner. It is also necessary to have a boar of strong constitution in order that sufficient ovas be fertilized. Tankage, meat meal, skim milk and such foods are used in supplying protein.

BEST FEEDS FOR FATTENING

Better to Grind Grain and Feed in Form of Thick Slop Than to Feed It Alone.

It generally is estimated that rye has a feeding value about 10 per cent lower than that of corn when fed to fattening hogs.

It is better to grind the grain and feed it in the form of a thick slop than to feed it whole. The dry meal forms a sticky mass in the hog's mouth that is not relished.

Some feed such as tankage, skim milk or shorts should be fed in connection with the rye.

Rye is lacking in protein and does not give the best results when fed alone. It also will be a good plan to feed some corn in connection with the rye if the corn can be obtained at a reasonable price.

EASY TO LOAD BALKY HORSE

Tie Rope Around Animal's Rump and Pull on That as Well as Halter Will Prove Effectual.

While loading horses in a car we were troubled by one large animal balking, and although we tried every expedient we could think of, the beast could not be induced to enter the car.



Getting a Balky Horse into a Freight Car.

writes Harlow D. Burnside of Ekalaka, Mont., in Popular Mechanics. After half an hour useless work one of the cowboys suggested that we tie a rope around the animal's rump and pull on that as well as on the halter rope. This we did, and it worked to perfection, proving a great help in future work of this kind.

GREAT VALUE OF PUMPKINS

Vegetable Has Cooling Influence on Animal's System and Keeps Stomach in Good Condition.

Great value is obtained from pumpkins fed to hogs along with corn for the corrective influences which they exercise upon the digestive system.

They have a cooling influence on the pig's system and keep his stomach and bowels in perfect condition while he is being fed a large amount of corn during the finishing process and consequently he is less subject to ailments at that critical time.

But the seeds of pumpkins are so exceedingly rich in protein that the pigs should not have too many of them. Pumpkins are valuable for hogs afflicted with worms.

SHEEP NOTES.

A very little grain, fed regularly, will go a long way in making the flock profitable.

A mixture of oats, wheat bran and linseed meal, scattered in a broad-bottomed trough, should be fed.

The linseed meal will keep the bowels in good condition.

If a ewe is constipated, put her in the hospital pen, and give her more linseed meal.

The flockmaster, or owner, must be ever vigilant. He should know his flock so well that the very slightest indisposition will be detected at once.

Feeding Floor for Pigs.
Provide a plank or cement feeding floor for the hogs. Keep it clean; it's the hog's table, you know.

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GROVE CHAPTER, No. 129, R. A. M.
Stated meeting first Thursday of each month in Masonic hall, at 8 o'clock p. m. Visiting companions always welcome. John Gollan, Secretary; Delbert Austin, E. H. P.

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