

News And Views Of And For Farmers

LOSSES THROUGH SWINE DISEASES

Cholera, Tuberculosis and Parasites Are Drawbacks.

SIMPLE METHODS ARE URGED

Farmer May Avoid, to Large Extent, Decimation of His Herd by Epizootics—Sanitary Preventive Measures Are Favored.

The greatest drawbacks to the hog industry that breeders in this country have to contend with are the losses through hog cholera, tuberculosis, and the infestation of the animals, especially young pigs, by parasites. Were it not for the fecundity of swine their profitable production in the presence of these serious diseases would be out of the question. In the following remarks on sanitation no attempt is made to go into the details of the diseases affecting hogs or their treatment. The object is merely to call attention to the simple measures which may be used by any farmer to avoid, to a large extent, the decimation of his herd by epizootics. Cleanliness and rational methods of management are relied upon by thousands of farmers to keep their herds in health and vigor. They are the marks of the good farmer and successful hog breeder.

Hog cholera and swine plague, both highly fatal diseases characterized by fever and heavy mortality, are so very similar that the breeder may regard them as identical so far as his practical management of the herd is concerned. Positive differentiation between the two diseases can only be made by the most careful bacteriolog-



Cholera Thrives in Surroundings Such as These.

ical tests, and by employing the assistance offered by a fully equipped laboratory. However, sanitary preventive methods which are found beneficial with one of these diseases will prove equally efficacious with the other.

There are a few fundamental facts which the breeder must remember if he is to avoid losses through hog cholera or swine plague. The first is that they are specific diseases caused by germs, and the contagion cannot be spread from one animal to another or from one herd to another except through the agency of these minute organisms. They may be carried in a multitude of ways—by the hogs themselves, on the clothing of persons, on vehicles, in food, by birds, dogs, and other animals, or by streams. The breeding or feed of a hog cannot cause either disease, although bad methods may so weaken the constitution and vitality that the animal becomes more susceptible to them than would otherwise be the case. Since these diseases can only arise from the presence of these specific causative agents, it can readily be seen that dentition and the presence of superfluous teeth or black tusks cannot, as has been suggested by many, play any part in their development. A second fact to be borne in mind is that disease caused by germs may be best prevented or controlled by thorough disinfection and scrupulous cleanliness.

Tuberculosis Increasing.

Tuberculosis is rapidly increasing among hogs in the United States, and every owner of swine should be on his guard against the introduction of this serious malady upon his premises. Unlike hog cholera this disease is infectious in its attack and slow in its development, so that it may be present for months in a herd without exciting the least suspicion of the owner, and will be revealed to him only at the time of slaughter. Until recent years tuberculosis has been looked upon as of uncommon occurrence and only of importance from a meat-inspection standpoint; but today it must be recognized as a serious menace to the owner of hogs, and especially to the one who allows his hogs to run with cattle that have not been proved to be free of tuberculosis, or who feeds them upon nonsterilized products as part of their ration. As tuberculosis of hogs is chiefly contracted through contact with an infected feed, the importance of this statement is obvious.

Tuberculosis of hogs is closely associated with the same disease in cattle, the reason being apparent when one considers the close relations of these two species of animals upon nearly every farm. Tuberculous cattle may scatter great numbers of tubercle bacilli with their excrement; cows that are tuberculous may produce contaminated milk that is subsequently fed to pigs; and carcasses of cattle that have died from tuberculosis are sometimes eaten by hogs. Any of these conditions make the infection with tuberculosis of the hogs concerned a very easy matter.

Sources of Infection.

The feeding of hogs upon creamery refuse is also a very frequent source of infection. In this way the milk of a single cow with a tuberculous udder, if sent to a public creamery, may spread the disease to a number of hogs, and may also infect many farms that have never previously been contaminated with tuberculosis.

An equally dangerous source of infection is likewise observed in the methods which obtain among some of the small country slaughter houses. It is not unusual for these houses to get rid of their blood, intestines, viscera, and other inedible parts by feeding them to hogs, a herd of which is usually kept on the premises. This custom is pregnant with danger and serves to perpetuate the infection principle of various contagious and parasitic diseases, particularly tuberculosis.

Hogs are also susceptible to tuberculous infection from affected persons and poultry, but these sources are undoubtedly of far less moment to the hog owner than those existing in a herd of tuberculous cattle. Intestinal worms, lung worms, and skin parasites also levy a burdensome tax upon the profits of hog raising. Absolute cleanliness will be found valuable in preventing and controlling these parasitic troubles, as well as the more serious diseases—hog cholera and tuberculosis.

Prevention of Disease.

In dealing with the diseases of hogs, preventive measures must be most rigidly observed. The animals must be given dry and well-ventilated quarters, which must be kept clean. Contrary to common belief, hogs have some habits which raise them above other domestic animals from the standpoint of cleanliness. For example, unless compelled to do so, a hog will not sleep in its own filth. If a part of the floor of the pen is raised and kept well bedded with straw, while the rest is not, all excrement will be left on the unbedded portion of the floor and the bed itself will be always clean.

In addition to cleanliness close attention should be given to the feed, so that nothing may be fed that will convey the germs of disease, especially tuberculosis, to the herd. If the hogs are fed milk in any form obtained from cows kept upon the same farm, the cows should be subjected to the tuberculin test. If they run with the dairy cattle of the farm a tuberculin test of all the cattle is none the less desirable. Animals dead from any disease should not be fed to the hogs until the meat has been made safe by cooking. Skim milk or refuse from a public creamery should not be fed to hogs until it has been thoroughly sterilized.

Feeding and drinking places should be clean and the water supply pure. Unless the origin is known to be uncontaminated there has been no possibility of infection during its course, hogs should not be allowed access to any stream. Wallows should be drained out and kept filled up as much as possible. At least once a month the quarters should be disinfected with air-slaked lime or a five per cent solution of crude carbolic acid. These precautions will be found valuable aids in the destruction of the various animal parasites, as well as a protection from some more serious troubles.

Advantage of Isolated Hog Houses.

The advantage of isolated hog houses, such as accommodating a few hogs, rather than one large piggery for the entire herd, has been referred to previously. In districts where cholera is prevalent these are undoubtedly the best shelters. They make it more difficult to carry contagion to all animals in the herd, and the destruction of one of them in case of an outbreak does not entail a great expense. An added advantage is that they may be moved from place to place as needed. While more work is necessary in feeding, the convenience and safety from their use more than offset this disadvantage.

Danger in Inbreeding.

While inbreeding is the surest and quickest means to fix type, it should be resorted to with the greatest care. The value of the system is that it enables the breeder to intensify desirable characteristics in a herd and makes improvement possible in a shorter time than where selection alone is used. It stands to reason that if desirable characteristics can be intensified, the same will be true of undesirable ones. Much of the disaster which seems to have followed inbreeding has probably been due to the fact that this point was overlooked or given only slight importance, and thus loss of vitality and constitution and susceptibility to disease have followed. Therefore if the young breeder contemplates inbreeding, he should avoid matings that tend to unite similar defects. Not only should care be taken to prevent this in the animals mated, but there should be no chance of bad effects due to the inheritance of undesirable characteristics from parents and other ancestors. Some of the greatest work ever done in hog breeding has been based on these principles.

The Market Reports

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto, Jan. 18.—Cattle markets were very small this morning. Prices steady. Receipts 81 cars, 91 sheep, 2,112 hogs and 366 cattle. Quotations were: Export cattle, choice, \$12 to \$12.75; export bulls, \$9 to \$10.50; butcher cattle, choice, \$10.50 to \$11.85; do, medium \$7.50 to \$8.50; do, common, \$6.25 to \$7.25; butcher cows, choice, \$8.75 to \$9.50; do, medium, \$7.50 to \$8.50; do, canners, \$6 to \$6.50; do, bulls, \$7.50 to \$9.75; stockers, light, \$6.50 to \$7; stockers, choice, \$7.75 to \$8.75; milkers, choice \$9 to \$140; springers, \$90 to \$140; sheep, ewes \$12.50 to \$14.50; bucks and wethers, \$7.50 to \$9.50; lambs, \$18.50; calves, \$15 to \$16.

Buffalo, Jan. 18.—Cattle—Receipts, 150; strong. Calves—Receipts, 100; easier. \$7.00 to \$17.50. Hogs—Receipts, 800; strong. \$14.00 to \$18.60; mixed, \$18.50 to \$18.75; yorkers, \$18.60; mixed, \$18.50 to \$18.75; yorkers, \$18.40 to \$18.50; light yorkers, \$17.25 to \$17.50; pigs, \$17.00 to \$17.25; roughs, \$16.50 to \$17.00; stags, \$14.00 to \$15.50. Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 400; steady. Lambs, \$13.00 to \$19.35; a few at \$19.50. Others unchanged.

Winnipeg, Jan. 18.—Receipts, 150 cattle and 387 hogs. The cattle and hog markets were steady. Butcher steers, \$7.00 to \$11.50; heifers, \$6.75 to \$10.00; cows, \$4 to \$9.50; bulls, \$5.50 to \$8.50; oxen, \$5 to \$9.50; stockers and feeders, \$7 to \$9; calves, \$6.75 to \$11; hogs, select, \$10.25; heavies, \$13.50 to \$14.50; select, \$12 to \$14; light, \$14 to \$15.50.

Montreal, Jan. 18.—Choice steers, \$12; good steers, \$11 to \$11.75; medium steers, \$10 to \$10.50; butchers' bulls, choice, \$10 to \$10.25; butchers' bulls, good, \$9.25 to \$9.75; butchers' cows, choice, \$11.40 to \$12.50; butchers' cows, good, \$9.50 to \$9.75; canners' cows, \$5.50 to \$6; sheep, \$12 to \$13; lambs, \$14 to \$16; grass calves, 7 to \$8; milk calves, \$14 to \$16 hogs, choice select, \$19.75.

Chicago, Jan. 18.—Cattle—Receipts, 800; market steady. \$8.20 to \$13.60; stockers and feeders, \$6.80 to \$10.85; cows and heifers, \$5.80 to \$11.75; calves, \$8.50 to \$10.50. Hogs—Receipts, 3,000; market weak. Light, \$15.65 to \$16.40; mixed, \$15.85 to \$16.50; heavy, \$15.85 to \$16.50; rough, \$15.85 to \$16; pigs, \$12.50 to \$15.25; bulk of sales, \$16.10 to \$16.45. Sheep—Receipts, 1,000; market strong; lambs, native, \$14 to \$17.50.

GRAIN QUOTATIONS.

Toronto, Jan. 18.—Manitoba wheat—No. 1 Northern, \$2.23 1/2; No. 2, do., \$2.20 1/2; No. 3 do., \$2.17 1/2; No. 4 wheat, \$2.10 1/2, in store Fort William, including 2 1/2 cent tax. Manitoba oats—No. 2 C.W., \$8 1/2; No. 3 C.W., \$8 1/4; No. 1 extra feed, \$1 1/4; No. 2 feed, 75¢; in store Fort William. American corn—No. 3 yellow, nominal. Ontario oats—No. 2, white, \$2 to \$2.30, nominal; No. 3 do., \$1 to \$2, nominal, according to freights outside.

Ontario wheat—New, No. 2 Winter, \$2.23; basis in store Montreal. Peas—No. 2, \$3.70 to \$3.80, according to freights outside. Barley—Malting, \$1.43 to \$1.45, according to freights outside. Rye—No. 2, \$1.78, according to freights outside. Manitoba flour—First patents, in jute bags, \$11.50; do, seconds, \$11; strong bakers' do., \$10.90, Toronto. Ontario flour—No. 2 C.W., \$2.30; No. 3 C.W., \$2.25; No. 1 extra feed, \$1 1/4; No. 2 feed, 75¢; in store Fort William. American corn—No. 3 yellow, nominal. Ontario oats—No. 2, white, \$2 to \$2.30, nominal; No. 3 do., \$1 to \$2, nominal, according to freights outside.

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Montreal, Jan. 18.—Corn—American No. 2 yellow, \$2.15 to \$2.30. Oats—Canadian western, No. 3, 95¢ to 98 1/2¢; extra No. 1 feed, 95¢ to 98 1/2¢; No. 2 local white, 92¢ to 92 1/2¢; local white, 91¢ to 91 1/2¢; No. 4 local white, 90 1/2¢ to 91¢. Flour—Manitoba spring wheat patents firsts, \$11.60; seconds, \$11.10; strong bakers', \$10.90; straight roll-ess, bags, \$5.25 to \$5.40. Rolled oats—Basis, 90 lbs, \$5.30. Bran, \$35; shorts, \$40; middlings, \$45; to \$50; mouline, \$56 to \$58. Hay—No. 2, per ton, car lots, \$14.50 to \$15.50.

Winnipeg, Jan. 18.—Oats—No. 2 C.W., \$8 1/2; extra No. 1 feed, \$1 1/4; No. 1 feed, 77¢; No. 2, feed, 74¢. Barley—No. 3, \$1.43; No. 4, \$1.38 1/2. Flax—No. 1, N.W.C., \$2.20; No. 3 C.W., \$3.17; No. 3 C.W., \$2.98. Chicago, Jan. 18.—Corn, No. 2 and 3 yellow, nominal; No. 4 yellow, \$1.80. Oats, No. 3 white, \$1.40 to \$1 1/4; standard, \$1 1/4 to \$1 1/2. Rye, No. 2, nominal. Barley, \$1.40 to \$1.59. Timothy, \$5.90 to \$7.50. Clover, \$21.90 to \$27.00. Pork, nom-

inal. Lard, \$24.55. Ribs, \$23.62 to \$24.50.

Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 18.—Corn—No. 3 yellow, \$1.65 to \$1.66. Oats—No. 3 white, 78 1/2¢ to 79 1/2¢. Flour unchanged. Bran—\$32.50.

Duluth, Minn., Jan. 18.—Lined seed on track, \$3.51 1/2 to \$3.66 1/2; arrive \$3.51 1/2; January, \$3.51 1/2; May, \$3.47 bid; July, \$3.42 bid; October, \$3.30 nominal.

GENERAL TRADE.

Butter. Belleville, 50c per pound; Brantford, 48c to 50c; and Port Hope, 35c.

Eggs. Belleville, 65c to 65c; Brantford, 60c to 65c; and Port Hope, 50c per dozen.

Chickens. Belleville, 25c to 28c per pound; Brantford and Port Hope, 25c.

Potatoes. Belleville, \$1.75 to \$2; Brantford, \$2.25 to \$2.50; and Port Hope, \$2.25 per bag.

Wheat. Belleville, \$2; Brantford and Port Hope, \$2.10.

Barley. Brantford, \$1.15; Port Hope, \$1.20 per bushel.

Oats. Belleville, 80c; Brantford, 78c to 80c; Port Hope, 75c per bushel.

Hay. Belleville, baled, \$12 to \$12.50 per ton; loose, \$14 to \$16; Brantford, baled, \$14 to \$16; loose, \$13 to \$15; and Port Hope, loose, \$11 per ton.

The Kingston Market

Kingston, Jan. 19th.

Dairy Products. Butter, creamery, lb., 52. Butter, rolls, lb., 39. Cheese, lb., 25. Eggs, fresh, doz., 55. Eggs, storage, 55. Oleomargarine, 36. 38.

Fish. Cod, lb., 10. 12 1/2. Haddock, lb., 12 1/2. Floundery, lb., 22. Pilchard, lb., 22. Finnan Haddie, lb., 18. Hake, lb., 12 1/2. Haddock, fresh, lb., 12 1/2. Halibut, fresh, lb., 30. Herring, fresh, lb., 10. Klippers, doz., 60. Oysters, qt., 20. Perch, lb., 12 1/2. Pike, lb., 12 1/2. Rockfish, lb., 10. Salmon, lb., 25. Smelts, lb., 20. Trout, lb., 12 1/2. Trout, salmon, lb., 18. Norway Cods, 70. White fish, lb., 18. 20.

Fruit. Apples, peak, 30. Bananas, doz., 60. Dates, lb., 25. Lemons, doz., 40. Oranges, doz., 60.

Grain. Barley bush, 1.50. Bran, ton, 37.00. Buckwheat, bush, 1.85. Corn, meal, cwt, 6.00. Corn, yellow feed bush, 2.40. Flour, cwt, first grade, 6.25. Flour, cwt, second grade, 5.90. Feed flour, bag, 3.10. Hay baled, ton, 17.00. Hay loose, ton, 15.00. Middlings, ton, 64.00. Oats, Man., bush, 85. Oats, local, bush, 95. Shorts, ton, 43.00. 45.00. Straw, baled, ton, 10.00. Straw, loose, ton, 8.00. Wheat local bush, 2.25.

Meats. Beef—Local carcass, lb., 15. 20. Local hinds, lb., 20. Local fronts, lb., 15. Western carcass lb., 19 1/2. 20 1/2. Western front, lb., 16. Western hinds, lb., 22. Hogs, live, cwt., 18.50. Hogs, dressed, cwt, 26.00. Mutton, 25.

Poultry. Chickens, dressed, lb., 25. 28. Chickens, live, lb., 25. Hens, dressed, lb., 25. Hens, live, lb., 20. 25. Turkeys, lb., 30. 35.

Vegetables. Beans, bus., 75. 1.00. Cabbage, head, 10. Carrots, bus., 75. Celery, bunch, 8. 10. Lettuce, bunch, 10. Parsnips, bunch, 10. Potatoes, bush, 1.75. Onions, dry, lb., 1.50. Hides, Etc.—John McKay, Limited. Goose down, per lb, 75. Red Foxes, Prime, No. 1, up to, 56.00. Raccoon, up to, 5.00. Skunks, up to, 2.00. Mink, up to, 4.00. Hides, green trim, 14. 14. 14. Lamb skins, fresh, up to, 4.50. Veal skins, lb., 25. Deacon skins, No. 1, 1.50. Horse Hides, No. 1,

large, 6.00. Tallow Cakes, 10. 12. Wool, washed, lb., 75. Wool, unwashed, lb., 55. Gensing, wild dry per lb., 8.00. Beeswax, lb, up to, 32. Shearlings, up to, 2.50. Kips, lb., 13. Beaver, up to, 12.00. Otter, up to, 20.00. Black Bear, up to, 20.00. Fisher, up to, 30.00. Cross Fox, up to, 50.00. Lynx, up to, 17.00. Marten, up to, 30.00. Wolf, up to, 10.00. Badger, up to, 2.50. Weasel, up to, 1.25.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Stock Dividend Plan of the American Tobacco Company.

New York, Jan. 18.—Stockholders in the American Tobacco Company were told by the directors at a special meeting that it had been decided to begin the payment of dividends on common stock by interest-bearing scrip, beginning March 1, for the purpose of conserving earnings as working capital. The dividend is 20 per cent. a year and it was said there was no reason why the payment should not be continued at the current rate.

Exchange Seat Transfer.

New York, Jan. 18.—A seat on the New York Stock Exchange was posted for transfer to Max Siegel, employed for eighteen years as a page on the floor of the Exchange and more recently a sergeant of floor pages. The consideration was \$55,000.

Big Plant to Resume.

Nelson, B.C., Jan. 18.—Within a few weeks the big plant of the Consolidated Mining & Smelting Company at Trail will be again turning out gold, copper, silver, lead, zinc and allied by-products. By February 1st it will be cleaned up, accepted or sufficiently to resume acceptance of lead ore shipments.

Commercial Notes.

The application of the New York and North Shore Traction Company for authority to charge a fare of 7 cents on its lines within the city was denied by the Public Service Commission.

F. W. Woolworth Company's sales for the twelve months ended December 31st last were \$48,043,999, a gain of \$11,010,190, or twenty per cent. This is the largest year's business that the chain has ever handled. Broadstreet's Weekly Trade Report says: The first report since the year opened, finds the purchasing price of a dollar at a new low level, it being figured that the dollar will now only purchase between forty and fifty cents worth as compared with normal years.

Kerr Lake's production in 1917 was worth \$2,600,000, according to a close estimate from monthly figures, as against \$2,585,000 in 1916. The 1917 production of Nipissing is closely estimated at \$3,300,000, as compared with \$2,725,000 the year before. Beginning January 1 Curtiss Airplane Company will be turning out over \$9,000,000 of airplanes and parts a month. Of this record business \$4,000,000 will be taken care of in the old plants and \$5,000,000 in the new plants.

The dropping of the Calumet & Hecla dividend from \$100 per annum to \$40 comes as a surprise. It was not to be expected that with the income tax and excess profits tax to be deducted the higher dividend could be maintained, but it was not anticipated that the cut would be so deep.

Training Snipers.

A new device with which instruction in aiming a rifle can be given, without the use of ammunition, has recently been tried out in teaching recruits the use of firearms. It consists essentially of a wooden rod, sixteen inches long, with a metal end, which is slipped on and fastened to the muzzle of the rifle. The outer end carries an arrangement in which miniature celluloid targets are placed. There are also screws for moving the target up or down and to the right or left. On this end, too, is a small dotting apparatus and a place for cards to be dotted by it. In learning to aim, the pupil rests his rifle on the instructor's shoulder and directs the latter to move the target as he, the pupil, deems to accord with proper aim. When the mark aiming believes that the sights and bull's-eye are in proper alignment he calls out "mark," and the instructor, by means of a finger key, actuates the dotter. The latter makes a mark on the card which serves as a record of the aim.—Popular Mechanics.

Vegetable Crop Failed.

An account of the situation of the vegetable supply in Germany is given in the Deutsche Tageszeitung. The paper says: "The reports on this year's vegetable crop are for the most part quite hopeless, and one need not wonder if prices remain high. In the south and west of Germany a favorable condition of things is in general reported; but in the chief producing districts in north, east, and middle Germany the prospect is very melancholy. Probably the worst reports are from Mecklenburg and Pomerania, where almost the majority of the cultivation contracts cannot be carried out, or at least can be carried out to only a small extent. In certain parts of Silesia and Brandenburg, where thunderstorms occurred at the right time, a medium harvest may perhaps be obtained."

Improved Presses.

Of late a printing press capable of handling four separate jobs at once and feeding stock that varies in thickness from thin tissue to four-ply cardboard, has been introduced in this country. It is said to do three-color process work as well as cylinder presses, and produces solid tints that show no mottling. It will turn out from 2,500 to 3,500 impressions an hour.

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