NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt

Hens favor charcoal.

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Grapes should be set eight feet apart.

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High priced grain foods mean high producing dairy cows.

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The farm is a sort of clock which reflects the time of year

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Early maturity is an important quality to consider in selecting sheep

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Blanket your horse during the sleet storms as well as when it is extremely cold.

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A good way to make your calves sickly and weak is to keep them in a dark stall.

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New land will always raise a crop but it takes care and labor to keep old fields productive.

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Some cornstalks may be fed to the porkers every day. They are sweet and do the hogs good

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If there is a fowl in the flock a little out of condition, that bird is apt to prove the most lousy member of the flock.

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You can't have to wait for the incubator to get broody and then if you don't want to set it you don't have to break it up.

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Late hatched chickens make fine frys in the winter time. They find a ready sale before the spring chickens come on the market.

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To prevent throat and lung diseases among the poultry, put a piece of alum in the drinking water and repeat the dose every three or four weeks.

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There is no reason why the bulk of the feeding cannot be done in a small yard, even though the cattle are allowed considerable range during the day.

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A final condition of success with an incubator is not due to the incubator at all, but to the ability to successfully rear chickens after they are hatched

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When clover is buried in the soil it will, of course, put more food in the form of humus and also more nutrient into the soil than if it is removed and sold

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Why not build up a private egg and poultry trade of your own, and get the profit the other man would make by selling and delivering them? It can be done very easily

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The trouble with alfalfa, and the reason why its use has not spread faster is that so many that try it as an experiment have a failure the first time. Then they give it up.

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Any of the ailments such as colic, indigestion, milk fever, etc., come on after eating and drinking. Often the life of an animal is saved by visiting the stables just before retiring

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The best of the spring crop of lambs should be selected for breeders. Inferior ewes, wethers, lambs, etc., disposed of. Ewes that have not been profitable should also be turned off

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It is said that an unusual noise will usually cure the stubborn hen of an inclination to set. Put a set alarm clock in the roost. The ticking will annoy her and she will get off when the alarm does

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While the effect of the cow peas in maintaining the fertility of the soil, where used as a catch crop with wheat, is clearly shown by this experiment, the practice can hardly be recommended in general farming

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In feeding milk to young pigs only a fraction of a teaspoonful must be given to each at a time, yet from five to seven feeds must be given during the day, gradually increasing the amount after the first day, but never giving them all they will drink

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The preliminary estimate of the corn crop in the principal states is as follows: Illinois, 366 million bushels, Iowa, 294 million; Nebraska, 186 million; Missouri, 215 million; Kansas, 155 million; Texas, 117 million; Indiana, 196 million; Ohio, 151 million; Oklahoma, 100 million.

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The method of procedure by which a variety of potatoes is improved is very simple and easily carried out by any careful grower. When the crop is dug the most prolific hills may be selected and kept separate for a comparative test the following season. In this manner a prolific strain may be started.

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Horses like milk.

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The small incubator is expensive.

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Cover the asparagus bed with manure.

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Never feed corn alone to hogs. It is false economy

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Sheep do not interfere with, but fit nicely into modern farming.

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The corn was simply shocked by the cutting manner of the farmer.

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Damp houses are the greatest promoters of disease among fowls.

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Thousands of young pigs are annually lost through lack of exercise

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It is not so much in the breed of a fowl or animal as in the care and feed.

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On bright, warm days open up the stable doors and let the blessed sunshine in

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Size accompanied by a certain degree of refinement is desirable in a dairy cow

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Docks are fine layers, but make poor mothers. The incubator should be used to hatch the eggs.

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The special dairy breed cow, the scales and the Babcock test form the successful dairyman's Trinity.

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The demand for draft geldings of great weight is a development of modern commercial conditions

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An excellent bedding for hogs is marsh hay or pulp from sugar cane meal. This gives out very little dust.

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Two very important points in raising poultry are to keep plenty of grit before your fowls and not to overfeed them.

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Seed potatoes in the cellar may look all right on top and be badly spoiled in the bottom of barrels and bins, better investigate.

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Better get all the lazy hens ready for market. Of course, you have trap nests and know to a certainty which are the lazy ones

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Chicks hatched in June, July and August begin laying in February and March, and lay enough the first season to pay for the extra care

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It is the part of wisdom to handle a bull with a strong staff and a safe connection with his nose ring, no matter how quiet he may be

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English farm lands that have been tilled continuously for centuries still produce an average of 30 bushels of wheat to the acre every year

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Scientific feeding is one of the reasons why English agriculture has advanced rapidly during the past century. We in America are learning rapidly

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Every farmer sells his cattle. It is not always provided regularly or in any particular quantity, but each owner figures that his cattle are getting sufficient salt

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Prices of grain feeds are high and the poultryman must watch his feed ing closely. Feeding has become a science and costs are now figured to fractions of a cent

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Long legged sheep are invariably good runners, but that is not what you want them for. Get sheep that are low on the ground and they will serve their purpose better

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The care of stable manure is of special importance in connection with live stock farming. It is pointed out that proper handling will prevent much of the loss which now occurs

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Be sure that the pigs are not lousy. Kerosene oil rubbed on a hog's back is good for lice. But look out and not have it too strong, and do not rub too hard, or you may make a blister

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The thrifty farmer pays strict attention to the breeding of his animals. They are carefully coached as to environment, diet, air and cleanliness so that the best market value can be reached

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Pick out the old and heavy gobblers to take to market. There is good demand for turkeys now. Full crop, small the appearance of turkeys for market, so don't feed today those you are going to kill to-morrow

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Prices of farm products now as compared with those of a few years ago afford ample and costly evidence that the farming industry is not keeping pace with the general growth of the country, but confirmatory statistics may be easily compiled.

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A weather attachment to a mower costs about $12 and an experienced clover seed grower claims that it saves its cost in clover seed in a very short time, say nothing of the time men it used to cost him to throw the ripened clover out of the way with forks

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To be a farmer of the present time one must be learned in chemistry, a good carpenter, a fair machinist, an ordinary house painter, an accurate bookkeeper, a good veterinary surgeon, a competent civil engineer, know enough about law to keep out of court, be a shrewd buyer, an affable salesman and a good citizen.

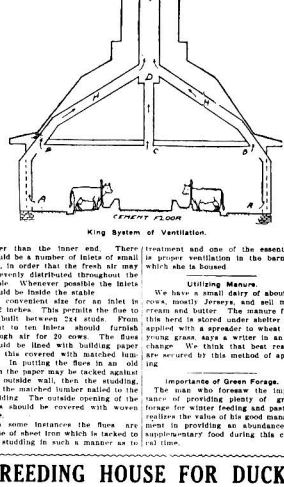
VENTILATING DAIRY BARN IS IMPORTANT FEATURE

Cleanliness of the Milk, Health of the Cows and Success of Whole Business Depends on Fresh Air.

There is no more important feature about a dairy barn than the ventilating system. The cleanliness of the milk, the health of the cows, and the success of the whole business depends on the proper ventilation. Ventilation of poultry coops has been practically solved by the use of cloth windows, but the dairy barn is another matter, one which requires study and more or less cost in construction.

In the accompanying illustration is seen the King system of ventilation which is acknowledged by experts to be one of the best systems in operation to-day

The inlets must be so arranged that the warm air will not pass out instead of the cold fresh air coming in. It is for this reason that the inlet flue should begin near the ground on the outside and end near the ceiling inside. All that is necessary is to have the outer end of the flue several feet lower than the inner end. There should be a number of inlets of small size, in order that the fresh air may be evenly distributed throughout the stable. Whenever possible the inlets should be inside the stable



King System of Ventilation.

A convenient size for an inlet is 4x12 inches. This permits the flue to be built between 2x4 studs. From eight to ten inlets should furnish enough air for 20 cows. The flues should be lined with building paper and this covered with matched lumber. In putting the flues in an old barn the paper may be tacked against the outside wall, then the studding, and the matched lumber nailed to the studding. The outside opening of the flues should be covered with woven wire.

In some instances the flues are made of sheet iron which is tacked to the studding in such a manner as to afford a good flue. This is one of the neatest ways of constructing the flues of which I know. The same sheet or galvanized iron can be used that is manufactured for roofing, so it is easily obtained. In some instances it is well to have trap doors in the flues so that the wind will not cool the barn too much in the winter. In the north this plan of ventilating is being adopted by the dairymen to a great extent and is providing satisfactory in every case.

With the King system of ventilation it is possible to keep the temperature of the properly constructed dairy barn at about any degree that is wished. This is all important to the dairy animal. They will not do well if they are compelled to exist where the temperature is fluctuating all the time and to great extremes. The dairy animal is a highly-organized animal that requires the best treatment and one of the essentials is proper ventilation in the barn in which she is housed

Utilizing Manure.

We have a small dairy of about 50 cows, mostly Jerseys, and sell milk, cream and butter. The manure from this herd is stored under shelter and applied with a spreader to wheat and young grass, says a writer in an exchange. We think that best results are secured by this method of applying

Importance of Green Forage.

The man who foresaw the importance of providing plenty of green forage for winter feeding and pasture realizes the value of his good management in providing an abundance of supplementary food during this critical time.

BREEDING HOUSE FOR DUCKS

The above illustration shows a duck house with wire separated water runs. This is an admirable plan for farmers who have running water on their farms

In duck raising three things are essential to success, frequent feeding, plenty of good drinking water and abundance of sand or other grit. If incubators are not used, hens are better than ducks to incubate the eggs and the best practice is to take the ducklings away from the hen as soon as hatched, keeping them in a covered box in a warm room or in a regular brooder until feathered. During the day they should be kept in a movable pen on fresh grass. Don't let the ducklings paddle in the water or they are liable to get wet, and dampness is more fatal to young ducks than to young chickens. The drinking water should be given them in a patent drinking fountain, where they can get enough water to drink but not any to play with

Taking Notes.

The farmer, as a rule, does not use the lead pencil and notebook as much as he ought to. It is a good plan to take notes of things he sees away from home, of what he hears at the institute or lectures, besides things that he wishes to remember at home on the farm.

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