

ROBERT HENNEY, FOREGROUND, AND Kerry Fritz look over some of the crossbred sows used in their feeder pig program. Henney formerly had the sows on self feeders, but has gone back to hand feeding because of the problem of keeping the sows in condition. Even with excessive amounts of hay and oats in the ration, some of the sows tended to become over fat. In the background is the double shelter, facing south, which serves two sow lots. The sows are free to use the shelter at will as a protection from the weather or as a sunshade. L. F. Photo



THE ONLY WINDOW in the farrowing house (extreme right) is in the service room where there is a desk for records and a cot for the attendant during farrowing season as well as medical supplies and equipment. In the farrowing house itself, the 24 farrowing crates are lighted by electricity and ventilation is taken care of by thermostatically controlled fans. In the far background can be seen the "nursery" where the sow is taken with her litter when the pigs are four weeks old. At six weeks the sow is taken from her pigs and the litter remains in the nursery until they are sold or put on feed in another building. L. F. Photo

**Hog Farm** into a serum he called Porcina. Each pig gets an injection of drainings, and had the organ-ism cultured and processed the serum at two days of age

through, but nothing we can't handle," he said.

After the fourth week in the farrowing house, the sow and litter goes to the nursery where the pigs are creek-fed for another 2 weeks before they are weaned. They are then put on a growing ration until they are sold or taken to the fattening floor.

Most of the pigs have been, and will continue to be, sold

as feeder pigs. The fattening floors have room for 220 to 240 head at a time. "The fattening floor has been used mostly to keep a check on how the pigs will feed out," Henney said. He has had more requests for pigs than he can supply.

"I believe hog feeding may replace steer feeding in the

county because more return from the corn can be realized when marketed through hogs than through beef," he said.

Sanitation on the farm depends heavily on a scientific medication program, but Henney and Fritz believe that the basis of swine health is cleanliness.

Both the nursery and the feeding floor are hosed down with a high pressure hose every day, except when the weather is below freezing. On such days, the pens are scraped clean of manure. Bedding is changed whenever necessary and no manure is allowed to accumulate. Manure hosed on the floor goes by gravity into a lagoon.

Henney says he now has his sows bred to farrow within a two week period. He would like to shorten this span to one week if possible. It will take more boars for the same number of sows, but will make for much more efficient use of the farrowing house.

Henney believes he can run a herd of 300 sows which will average two litters of 10 or more live pigs a year weaned. If he reaches his goal this will be in excess of 6,000 head of feeder pigs each year which is quite a few pigs any way you look at it.

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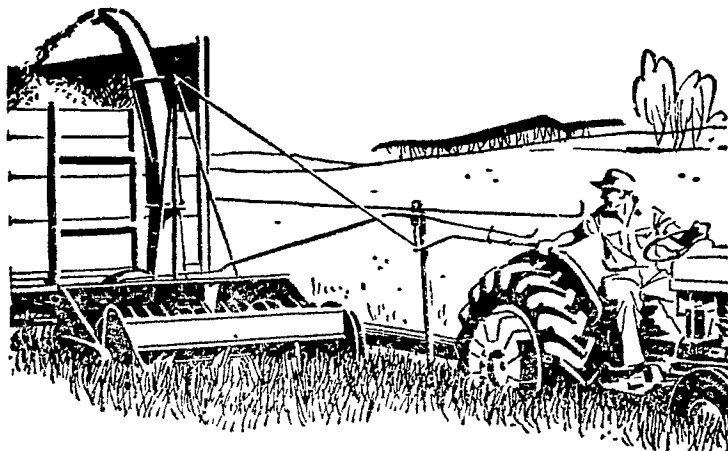
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