

HOUSE AND FARM.

Cooking Food for Stock. At the Farmers' Club the other day, Col. Curtis said: I have received a letter from O. D. Whitcomb, Rodman, N. Y., asking a series of questions about cooking food for stock...

How many cows do you feed? Ans.—Ninety cows and other cattle.

Do you feed horses cooked feed entirely? Ans.—Yes.

Do you feed horses any grain clear? If so, do you cook it? Ans.—Feed no clear grain; cook all in winter.

How much hay do you feed cows per day? Ans.—I feed about three percent of the gross weight of the animal...

How many times do you feed per day? Ans.—Twice.

Do you feed any raw hay? Ans.—Sometimes a little for a change.

Do you feed straw mixed with hay or cornfodder or clear? Ans.—Mixed.

How much hay do you consider a ton of good oat-straw worth for feeding cows, both being cooked? Ans.—About one-third.

Wheat and barley straw? Ans.—Good for bedding, unless cut before the grain is ripe; the grain must be lost to get value for the straw.

Sowed corn? Ans.—Full as good as hay if cut at proper time.

Corn stalks? Ans.—Not so good.

Would you feed horses cooked food through spring plowing and other hard work? Ans.—No. Feed hard feed, hay and oats.

Will a steamer of 1,000 square inches of heating surface be large enough to cook for fifteen cows? Ans.—A box eight feet long, four feet high, and four feet wide is about what I use.

A box fifty inches long and twenty wide would have a bottom surface of 1,000 square inches; make this four or five feet high and it might do him.

How long do you steam fodder, and with how much pressure? Ans.—Two pounds pressure and for three hours' time.

Do you feed mangel-wurtzel and other roots, and if so, cooked or raw? Ans.—Yes. Cut, mixed with other food, and steamed.

How large a box do you use? Ans.—128 cubic feet.

How often do you cook fodder? Ans.—Every day.

Do you feed cold? Ans.—No; blood warm, no hotter.

What length do you cut fodder? Ans.—An inch, or an inch and a half.

I would further advise him to ensure well and plow deep, according to the old proverb.

Col. Curtis adds: I do not believe there is a better system of feeding than Mr. Crozier's. The root, hay, cornfodder are cut, then mixed together, then dampened and kept warm on the top of the steam-box; then dumped into it mixed with bran and salt, and steamed.

He has fifty horses and not one of them has had the influenza. I do not say that this feeding has prevented it, but I do say that this fact proves that animals fed on cooked food are not more liable to disease.

I believe further that it is an economical plan, and that no farmer keeps his animals at a less cost than Mr. Crozier; at the same time I never saw anywhere more active or more healthy looking stock.

ble in the stomach. Hence it renders such foods more nourishing and warming. I conceive a difference between the method of steaming and that of cooking in water.—Exchange.

How to Make Hens Lay.

There are many hens kept through the winter which are not worth their feed, because they are chilled and half sick from being forced to live on food not suited to their needs, or too old for use.

Winter is the hardest season for hens, and they require more attention at that time; but if suitable food is given and the location of their house is sunny and comfortable, one can safely count on as many eggs in December, January and February as in the summer months.

When cold weather becomes settled, it is best also to wet up the morning and noon feed with scalding water, and feed is quite hot; for Mr. Cook-a-doodle-doo and Dame Partlett like a hot bit and sup of food when the air is frosty and biting quite as well as you and me; and they also like to feel comfortable and happy, and will do their work much more regularly if this little attention is granted to them.

Small potatoes, boiled and mashed, are also valuable food for them, and it is a good plan to boil up a large kettle of them several times a week; corn meal or wheat screenings can be mixed with it, but without grain, it will prove a palatable dish and be greatly relished.

The practice of eating feathers from their own and each other's necks, is also cured by an application of salt to their food, in liquid or bulk. A tablespoonful stirred into a gallon kettle of food makes it of better quality.

Scrap cake, which can be purchased of the butcher at a cheap rate, is a very healthful food for poultry, as it will supply the place of worms and bugs, and give more warmth to their systems.

Unless we give food that will permit the hen to manufacture the egg shell, it will often produce fat and no hen fruit; occasionally an egg without a shell may be dropped and then we know that lime, or old mortar, bones or something containing shell material must be provided.

Green food, such as cabbage heads, etc., is also very much relished, and farmers should always remember to give the refuse cabbage leaves to the hens rather than to the hogs.

Boxes of coal ashes, and sand or gravel are also needful articles of food for the hen in every henry; and air slacked lime—a shovelful every few days—is a dainty to the hens.

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EXECUTOR'S NOTICE. ESTATE OF MARTHA JANE MCURRIS, DEC'D. Letters testamentary having been duly granted to me as executor of the estate of Martha Jane McMurris, deceased, all persons having claims or demands against said estate will please make them known to me at once.

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BORROWED OR STOLEN. From the subscriber, a SET OF CART HARNESSES, on or about the 15th of October last. If the party having possession will please return them, and pay expenses, he will incur no further trouble. DANIEL BANARD, Beaver Falls, Nov. 30, 72.—dec13-73

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