

Cost and Value of Corn Silage

Conclusively Proven That Product in Ration Makes Big Saving.

Stockkeepers must know the cost of their feeds in order to determine the best and most economical rations. For this reason it is necessary to investigate the cost of making silage, writes A. L. Haacker in the Iowa Homestead. The Missouri Agricultural college last year showed a cost of \$5.90 per ton for corn silage. They based this on the bushel yield, crediting the corn with 64 cents per bushel and charging actual costs which were liberal on all items and above the average now paid.

During the past 25 years many of our experiment stations have published figures on cost of producing silage, but as conditions have radically changed in costs, these figures are of little value at the present time. It is hoped that new figures on this subject may be secured this year and that special care will be taken to give data produced on average farms.

Ways of Figuring.

There are two principal ways of figuring cost. One is based on the yield of corn, which is the most common, and, I believe, the least reliable; the other is based on land rental and actual cost of growing and harvesting the crop. Thirty per cent of last year's corn that went into the silo would not have made marketable grain, due to the fact that it lacked maturity. Frequently a field of corn at tasseling time is so damaged by hot winds that the silk is dried or burned and the corn will fail to ear. Such a crop will still make silage, though it is a total failure as a grain crop. Where the basis is made on land rental and all costs, a more accurate accounting can be made.

Under present-day conditions it is safe to conclude that silage can be made, where all costs are considered, for from \$5 to \$6 per ton. The following figures may be used to determine the worth of silage under good farm conditions: When butter fat is selling for 45 cents per pound, corn silage will bring the dairy farmer \$10 per ton; and when fat steers are selling for \$9 to \$10 per hundred-weight, corn silage is worth from \$7 to \$8 per ton. Then a farmer with a silo and a fair yield of crop can receive a value from his corn made into silage of \$70 to \$80 an acre, when fed to steers, and \$100 when fed to good dairy cows.

Makes Big Saving.

It has been conclusively proven that silage in the ration makes a saving of considerable money. With dairy animals, the feeding of silage saves from 8 to 15 cents on the cost of producing a pound of butter and from 30 to 50 cents on producing 100 pounds of milk. For beef production or fattening of animals, the saving produced by silage is about \$1 per 100 pounds gain. When we consider the growing of young stock, the feeding of dry cows and heifers, the wintering of work horses and mules, the silo becomes a necessity on the stock farm.

Imported Parasites of Corn Borer Aid Control

A number of parasites of the corn borer have been imported from Europe and liberated in this country in recent years to aid in control of this pest of the corn crop. Four different kinds of these parasites have been recovered lately in New York, Ohio, and New England, showing they are becoming established here. Winter shipments of parasites from France to the corn-borer laboratory at Arlington, Mass., have included nearly 35,000 of one species and about 13,000 of another, as well as 355,000 host larvae from which four other species of parasites will be reared.

Farm Hints

Manure helps pastures as much as it does any other crop.

Shallow cultivation is best for row crops, as it does not injure their roots so much as deep stirring.

Get revenge on the gopher for the meanness he has done in the alfalfa fields by a poisoning campaign after the first hay crop is off.

Deep planting of beans gives slow germination, dwarfed and weakened plants, and a poor stand. One to two inches is generally deep enough.

A poison bait made of 20 pounds of bran, one pound of paris green or white arsenic, and two quarts of cheap molasses is recommended for control of cutworms.

Most successful hog growers provide good pasture for their porkers. They have found that grass and legumes put meat on pigs profitably. Pastures are more sanitary, too, than dirty old pigpens.

Wheat is an industry and the wheat grower needs to adopt the industrialist's long-time view of his business. That is why he's lining up with the five-year program for the wheat belt advanced by farm and commercial organizations and the Kansas State Agricultural college.

Kill Cabbage Worm by Poison Sprays

Arsenic May Also Be Applied in Dust Form.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The common cabbage worm, the most destructive insect enemy of cabbage and related crops, is best controlled by spraying with lead arsenate or calcium arsenate, says the United States Department of Agriculture in a publication just issued, entitled "The Common Cabbage Worm and Its Control." This pest is a velvety-green caterpillar about one and one-quarter inches in length, and is the larva of a white butterfly known to most farmers.

The worm would cause much heavier losses, according to the bulletin, but for a number of natural enemies, among the most important being certain wasp-like parasites or four-winged flies, the immature forms of which feed within the body of the caterpillar.

Early in the season the worm attacks the cabbage, riddling the outer leaves as they form, frequently feeding within the immature heads, which are rendered unfit for food. Sometimes it cuts out the "bud" from the young plant, thus preventing development of the head.

Arsenic poisons may be applied in dust form rather than as a spray by mixing the powder with hydrated or air-slaked lime, land plaster, dusting sulphur or cheap, light, finely pulverized material which will adhere to the cabbage leaves. Although dusts are more easily and quickly applied than sprays, they do not always distribute the poison as evenly, and, unless the dusting is done when the plants are wet, they do not stick as well.

Farmers' Bulletin 1461-F, containing a description of the common cabbage worm together with information relative to control measures, necessary materials and equipment, may be obtained free, while the supply lasts, from the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Sanitation Is Essential for Success With Fowls

The poultry industry is facing the problem of using more sanitary principles if poultry is to continue to be profitable. Tuberculosis, coccidiosis, tapeworms, roundworms and bacillary white diarrhea are causing the greatest losses to the poultry industry. Tuberculosis is most satisfactorily controlled by testing the flock, removing the reactors and thoroughly cleaning the premises. In case of heavy infection in a flock it is best to dispose of the entire flock and buy healthy birds, putting them on fresh ground. Coccidiosis is one disease in which attention to the sanitation is an extremely important factor in its control.

Tapeworms require an intermediate host to complete their life cycle, and the common fly is the intermediate host to three of them. Tapeworms are most effectively combated by destroying the breeding places of flies in manure piles, old straw piles and accumulations of decaying vegetable matter.

Roundworm eggs pass out with the droppings to be picked up by other birds. Changing the chickens to new ground and plowing up the old ground is the best means of preventing infestation.

Bacillary white diarrhea is most effectively controlled by blood testing the older chickens to see which birds are infected. By eliminating the reactors infection is not passed by way of the egg nor the ground infected by the droppings.

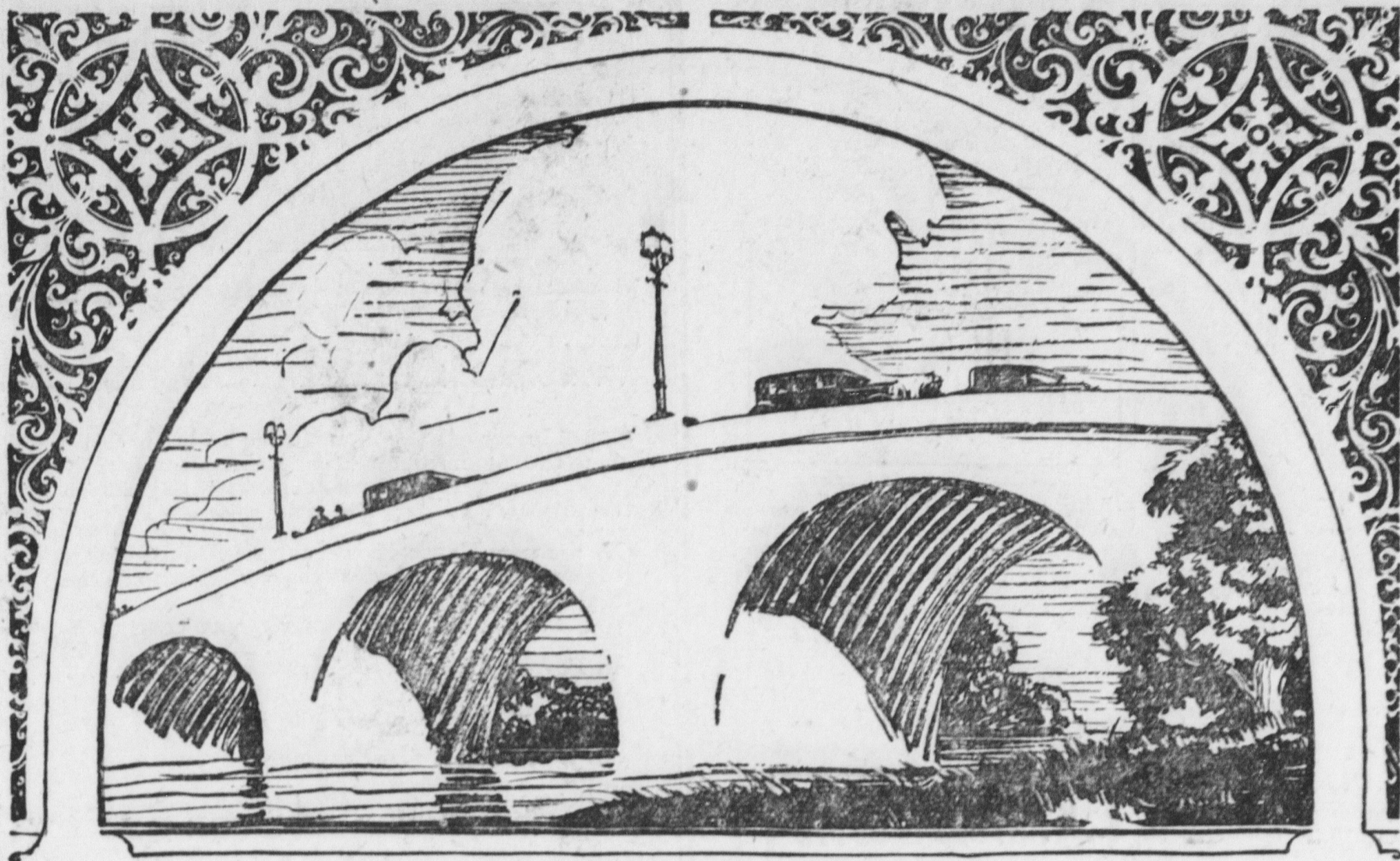
Thus we see that the diseases which are causing our greatest poultry losses may be or are being combated by the use of proper sanitary and preventive measures. Also chickens which are in a thrifty condition are much less susceptible to some of the bacterial diseases of poultry which are capable of causing great losses.

Best Time to Cut Most Grasses for Hay Crop

The best time to cut most grasses is as soon as they are well headed, says the United States Department of Agriculture. The millets and Johnson grass should be cut as soon as the heads begin to show from the root, but it is best for winter grains to stand until the seed is in the milk stage. Legumes like cowpeas and soy beans, in which the seed is an important part of the forage, should not be cut until the earliest pods begin to mature, but perennial legumes, such as alfalfa and the clovers, may be cut as soon as they are well in bloom. The best hay made from any crop is always that which is made the most quickly and with the least exposure to sun and air. Too much exposure to the sun bleaches the hay, making it less attractive when placed on the market and also less palatable and less digestible.

Select Best Boar Type

Anyone intending to buy a boar to sire the next spring pig crop will be well repaid for care in selecting him. Buy a boar that will sire pigs with the necessary constitution and feeding ability to make a good start toward 200-pound market hogs. An under-sized, scrawny boar cannot be expected to sire vigorous pigs. The boar should be large for his age, wide and deep, have plenty of bone, and stand on straight legs with strong feet and pasterns.



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GENERAL MOTORS



Men, Too, Seek Beauty

Dr. D. Fourmenthal, who has been in the United States on a commission of the French government to study the methods used by American women in making themselves "beautiful," has discovered that 40 per cent of the patrons of some beauty shops are men seeking to have the wrinkles removed from about their eyes.

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W. N. U., BALTIMORE, NO. 31-1926.

New England Woman of Advanced Ideas

In his book, "Some American Ladies," Meade Minnegerode pays this tribute to an early American wife:

"Abigail Adams, wife of President John Adams, was one of America's first feminists, for she told her husband she thought women should have a share in the government and, because of her wise advice on political questions, he himself acclaimed her as a 'stateswoman.' This simple but shrewd New England woman most brilliantly acquitted herself at foreign courts, winning half his battles for her ambassador husband before Adams became President.

"How careful she had to be, how tactful, how gracious, how dignified, how unflinchingly watchful," remarks the writer, "that they never were made to appear ridiculous, must have been due, in a large measure, to her own intelligence and good sense, to her breeding and to her faultless instinct—this Puritan lady who was so afraid of appearing awkward."

His Choice

"Poets prate of the sweetness of the songs of the nightingale and the skylark," remarked Uncle Foggy, "and occasionally of the chiming of the wedding bells, the notes of the throats stealing through the darkness across the lake, and all such. But to me the most delightful music in the world is the deep, resonant 'Choo! Ploog! Ker-ploog!' of the circus rumbly wagons pomping through the gray of the morning on their way to the show grounds."—Kansas City Times.

Football Popular

No fewer than 2,539,756 persons witnessed the various games for the football association cup, in England, which was won recently by Bolton Wanderers.

This constitutes a record attendance for the competition, as also does the amount of money paid in by the spectators, which was £204,110, an increase of £18,500 over the previous best season.

Gossips believe all they hear, and what they don't hear they take for granted.

John Phillip Sousa was a teacher of music at the age of fifteen and a conductor at seventeen.

Keep It Quiet

He (passionately)—I tell you my love for you is making me mad—mad—mad!

She (calmly)—Well, keep quiet about it. It's had the same effect on my father.—Answers.

Did you ever see an officeholder who had a retiring disposition?

Correct

A teacher in a city school asked a boy in a class how many sides there were to a circle. "Two," said he, "inside and outside."

The muddy streams of Borneo are so infested with crocodiles that one-fifth of the loss of life among natives is attributed to them.

On the Water
EVER notice a boy rowing out? He pulls gaily, yes; but he works earnestly at the oars coming back, for "hunger is insolent and will be fed." Give him a cup of Monarch Coffee—pure, rich, satisfying, delicious.

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