

Agricultural Department.

Treatment of Distemper.

The treatment of a common case of distemper is very simple, and requires internal medicines only, when the fever is high the mucous membrane is much reddened and the respiration difficult. In other cases, but especially as soon as the cough has become loose and easy, the discharge from the nostrils thick and the abscesses have been opened, a merely hygienic and dietical treatment is quite sufficient. Respecting these we have to avoid any exposure of the patient to wet and cold, have to keep as much as possible in a low temperature in the stable, and to keep early digested food, such as bran mash, milk, boiled oats, carrots, and, if it can be had, young grass, and other green provender.

If there is considerable swelling beneath the jaw or in the throat, the horse should not be allowed to eat from the ground—consequently he should not be kept in the pasture—for that most likely will increase the swelling. Food and hay should be given in the cool season a little warmer—must be put into the manger, within easy reach of the animal. The application of a good dry blister on the swelling beneath the jaw, that is, between the two branches of the lower jaw bone, increases considerably the opening of the abscess, which should be lanced at its lowest point, and if possible near the centre, as soon as the presence of the matter can be detected. Steam baths, and all this kind of nonsense, incommode the patient to a great deal more harm than they do good.

If internal medicines are required, a dose of tartar emetic two scruples, of sal ammoniac two drachms, with a liquor root powder, aniseed powder and marsh mallows root powder, either mixed with a little water and made into pills, may be given to a full grown horse three times a day, until the respiration has become less difficult, the cough easier, and the discharge from the nostrils thick. Prof. Dalmann, in the National Live Stock Journal.

Venture a Little Seed.

The writer once lived on the Mexican border, where no crop could be depended upon, unless the land was irrigated. The best planters, after they had sown their crops upon all the land capable of artificial watering, would put in a field of greater or less extent, upon the upland. This they call planting a Dios (to God). If the rains came, which they did once in three or five years, a good crop was taken from these highlands; if not it was only the loss of a little seed and labor. In some things of the same spirit we have been in the habit of putting in moderate quantities without reference to the promise of an early spring, or late one. Sometimes we have received nothing for our labor, but more frequently we have enjoyed vegetables considerably in advance of the regular crop. We find it worth while to sow a few early peas, radishes, and beets, and plant some early potatoes long before our neighbors have thought of their gardens. The soil is manured and spaded in the fall, and a furrow is run every spring, making it ready for the seed. These early crops need not be tried in large quantities, and then, if they come up, they can be easily kept from injury, by having some bog hay or other litter; to pull over them when frost is expected.—American Agriculturist.

CLOVER.—T. L. Shepard, Lowell, Ohio says: As I have been puzzled by conflicting testimony in regard to turning cattle into clover, part of which I thought good, and part decidedly bad, I determined to give some rules so plain that the wayfaring man need not err therein and here they are:

- 1. Never put anything into fresh clover pasture on empty stomach.
2. Never when the grass is wet.
3. Never put them in when the weather is changing from warm to cold.

- 4. Do not give any salt for at least twenty-four hours before putting in the first time, nor until the evening of the second day.
5. Do not let them remain in more than twenty minutes the first time, after which they may run wet or dry with perfect safety.

Without such precautions there is danger of swelling with blood, and valuable animals are often lost in this way.

BREAKING UP OF GRASS LANDS.—A piece of grass land that will cut two tons of hay per acre, or which will furnish an equivalent in pasture, can not profitably be broken up, especially if the land is inclined to be rough or wet. Many fields which are now covered with coarse burming, might be drained and manured, become covered with valuable and nutritious grasses, and where labor is scarce and high this course is far preferable to putting such land under the plow. Draining is often all that is needed to produce the change; sometimes a judicious application of artificial manures might be profitably used.

TO BROWN POTATOES UNDER MEAT.—Boil some fine large mealy potatoes, take off the skins carefully, and about an hour before the meat is cooked put them into the dripping pan, having well dredged them with flour. Before serving, drain them from any grease, and serve them up hot.

PUFF PUDDING.—Take eighteen eggs, eight tablespoonfuls of sweet milk. Separate the yolks and yolks of the eggs, beat them to a froth, add the milk and flour to the eggs, mix well together, put in small molds and bake in a quick oven. Serve hot with sugar and butter.

FRUIT CREAM.—Dissolve half an ounce in water, enough to cover it, add to this a pint of cream, sweetened with four spoonfuls of sugar, and boil it. When cool, lay some apricot fish, and pour the cream over it.

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