





## Big Increase in Number of Cows

Dairying Around New York and Other Cities Makes Good Showing.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

That farmers are constantly on the alert to take advantage of new opportunities as they arise is typically illustrated by the development of dairying around New York city, says the United States Department of Agriculture. Growth of the urban population and improved methods of handling and shipping milk have steadily widened the field of distribution. This is shown by the fact that from 1880 to 1920 the number of cows on farms in counties nearest the city increased 50 per cent, while the number on farms from 200 to 225 miles away more than doubled.

**Increase in Fluid Milk.**  
Fluid milk sold from the farms nearest the city doubled in quantity from 1880 to 1920, and quadrupled in the case of the farms farthest away. Counties nearest the city reached their maximum dairy production by 1900. Those situated more than 150 miles away made a gain of practically one-third between 1900 and 1920. Similar extensions of dairying areas have been made, through a lesser degree, around other large cities.

Another example of wholesale readjustment in farming policies due to a changed condition is furnished by the country along the Gulf and Atlantic coasts, where climatic conditions make the fight against the boll weevil exceptionally hard. Cotton acreage in parts of this region has been cut 50 per cent. Farmers are turning to the production of farm maintenance crops, velvet beans, peanuts, other forage crops, and pasture for the extension of hog raising, beef production and dairying. In some localities sugar cane for sirup, sweet potatoes, watermelons and other truck crops, are receiving increased attention.

**Farming Is Uncertain.**  
Readjustments now taking place in agriculture, say officials of the department, draw attention to a fact sometimes forgotten, namely, that changes are always going on in the basic conditions of farming due to the growth and distribution of population, the rise or fall of wages and prices, the heightened or lessened cost of transportation, crop pests and diseases, and other influences. Wide-awake farmers are quick to note these changes and modify their production policies accordingly. Farming today is more uncertain than it has been for many years. It is undergoing more necessary readjustments. Farmers who study the situation, and alter their plans to suit the circumstances, will be the first to cut their losses on crops that for any reason have become unprofitable, and the first to get their farms back on a paying basis.

## Finds Cut-Over Land Is Good Place for Poultry

Profitable use of cut-over land is one of the problems of any section in which much lumbering is done. F. M. Harrison of the Sunset Hill Farms, Lake, Miss., with the advice of the county agricultural extension agent, has tried poultry raising as a solution of the problem both for his own and for his neighbors' information. Starting in 1920 with one male bird and five hens of high-producing strains, he had by the next spring about fifty pullets, and by January, 1923, it had increased to 400 pullets. For the eight months from January to September, 1923, Mr. Harrison realized from his flock a profit of \$400 in addition to the value of the birds, which, by September, numbered 600. The profits were made almost entirely from the sale of eggs, according to reports to the United States Department of Agriculture. The price received averaging about 35 cents per dozen. Many people have visited the farm, some coming a distance of 75 miles, and reports show that nearly a hundred farmers who have studied the methods used on this farm are starting flocks. Mr. Harrison is increasing his flock and expects to devote additional time to his poultry plant.

## Some Things Live Stock Shippers Should Not Do

- Don't fail to examine cars for nails and holes before loading.
- Don't fail to erect partitions separating each kind of stock in the car.
- Don't fail to bed cars well, using sand, cinders or shavings in summer and straw or sawdust in winter.
- Don't fasten partitions to interfere with opening doors.
- Don't use poles spiked to side of car for partitions. They come loose and are likely to cause serious damage to passing trains and are difficult to remove at destination without injuring the car.
- Don't build temporary upper decks in single-deck cars. They are likely to fall down in transit and stockyards are not equipped to unload them.
- Don't overcrowd in the cars. Hogs should have sufficient room to lie down. It is cheaper to use two cars than to cause dead and crippled stock by overcrowding.
- Don't load calves in upper deck.
- Don't load hogs in the upper deck if you have a double-deck load of hogs and sheep.
- Don't load hogs under cattle.
- Don't load bulls loose with other stock. Partition off the them.—Farmers' Exchange.

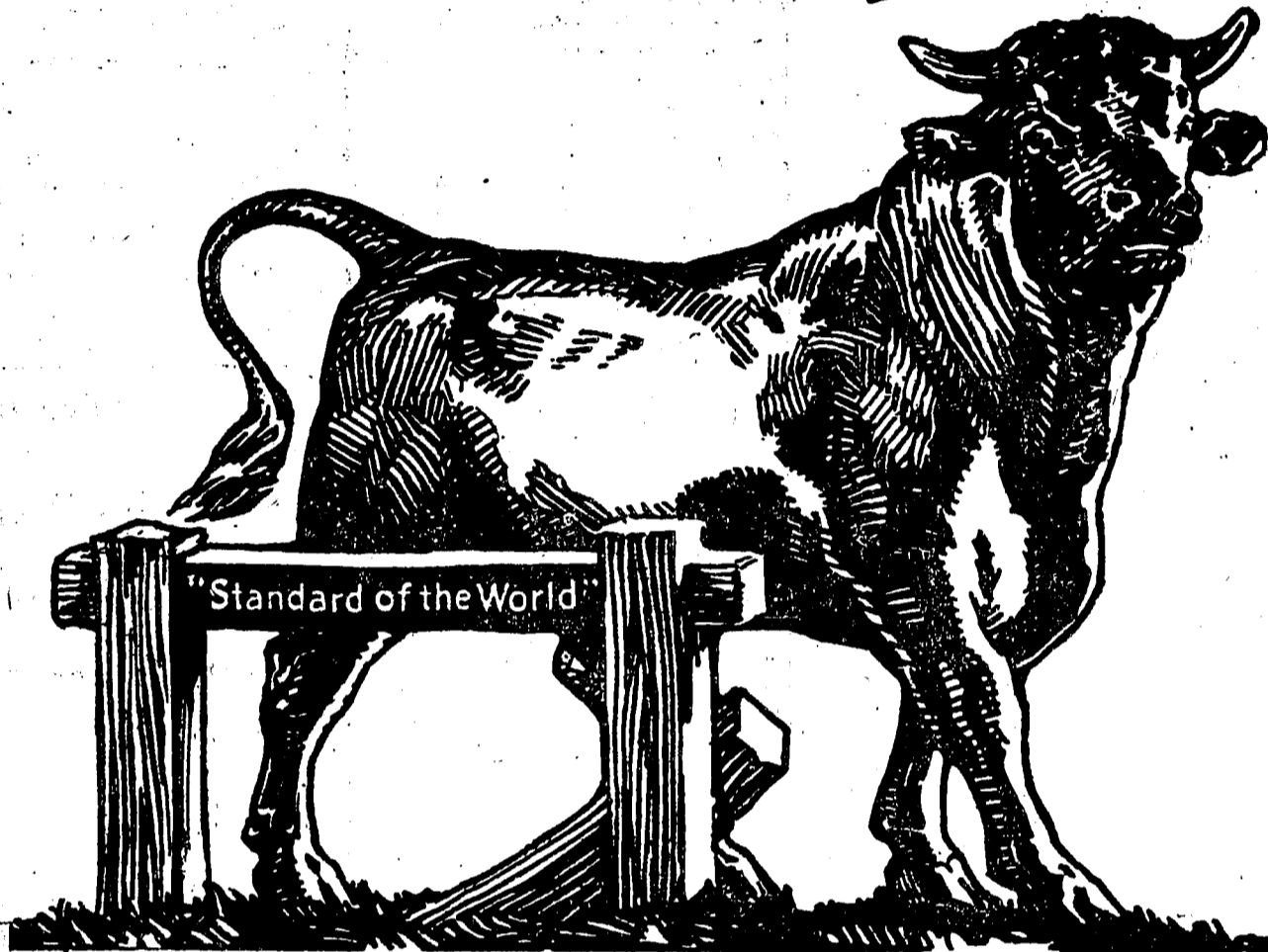
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## DAIRY

### Fit Methods to Follow in Production of Cream

Since at the present time, our farmers who are milking a few good dairy cows, are generally better fixed, financially, than those following almost any other line, it seems that we should pay particular attention to the handling of the product, that it may be put on the market in the best condition possible and thereby bring the biggest returns.

Methods which will aid in producing a good product:

Keep the barn and cows clean. Remove manure from stable twice daily. Wipe udder and flanks with a damp cloth, before milking.

Milk with dry hands, into a small top milk pail.

Separate while warm, to insure less waste in the skim milk.

Wash separator thoroughly after each separation. Use a brush rather than a rag. First use warm water and washing powder, then scald all parts thoroughly.

Do not separate into vessel containing the cooled cream. Cool freshly separated cream before adding it to previous skimming.

Stir cream thoroughly every time a fresh supply is added, using a stirrer manufactured for the purpose.

A cooling tank should be on every farm. Run the water pumped for live stock through the cream tank and then into the stock tank.

Keep cooled cream in a sanitary place which is cool, sanitary, free from odors and well aired.

Cream should be delivered to market at least three times a week in summer and twice in winter.

Cream should not be allowed to freeze.—L. K. Crowe, assistant professor, animal husbandry, Colorado Agricultural college.

### Brass Letters on Cans Will Prevent Much Loss

When the owner's initials or number is painted on his cream cans, they have to be remarked frequently, as the marks become dim, due to washing and shipping.

In order to avoid this I solder brass letters to the sloping part of the can, just below the neck, writes W. R. Taylor of Missouri in the Rural New Yorker. Copper or brass letters can usually be purchased at the variety stores, but if



Brass Lettering on Milk Can.

not to be obtained they can be cut from a piece of sheet brass or copper with a pair of tinners' shears and a narrow chisel. Letters or figures made of aluminum will not do, as they are very difficult to solder. Cans so marked can always be easily identified and thus loss will be prevented. The lids should be stenciled or marked to correspond.

### Dairy Cow Is Necessity, Claims Florida Expert

"As feed prices continue to soar, and the price of land increases, so will the dairy cow replace to a very large extent the beef steer, the sheep, and the pig as a producer of human food," says John M. Scott of the University of Florida experiment station. "And about the only rival the dairy cow has is the busy hen."

The dairy cow and the hen are the only two farm animals that produce good, nourishing food day after day, when properly cared for. They provide foods that are indispensable in the home.

"What is home without milk and eggs?" asks Mr. Scott. These items enter so largely into the preparation of food for the family, the cow meaning life itself to thousands of children.

"We owe the cow and the hen a debt that can be paid only by giving them the very best of care that they may produce the maximum amount of

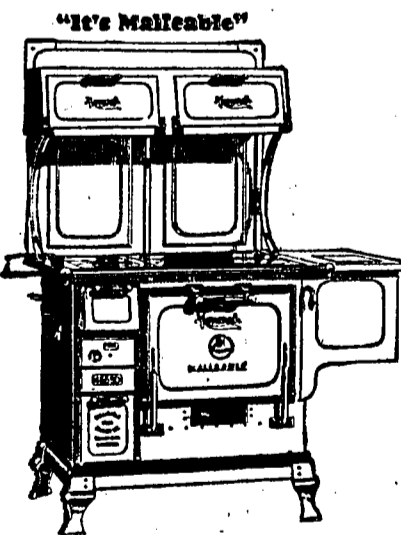
food," says Mr. Scott. And neither of them are now receiving the attention that will be theirs when their full value is realized.

### Cow Is Highly Nervous and Is Easily Excited

The cow is a highly-strung nervous organism and easily excited, shocked or affected in one way or another to the resultant lessening of her milk

flow. Turning her out on a cold, windy or wet day to drink ice-cold water causes a serious shrink in milk production. Weigh the milk night and morning, without fail, every day of the year and watch the record. That tells the story of such shrinkings.

**Watch Candles.**  
Years ago some candles were marked into sections, which would burn certain lengths of time. These were called watches.



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