

How to Treat Breeding Mares.

A poor half-starved mare will bring a puny weakling into the world. The physical condition of the colt depends upon that of the mother. Not only does he derive from her the principal of life, but the conduct of the vital processes in her constitute the agencies which mold his entire bodily organism—bone, sinew, tendon, muscle, and all. The health of the mother can not be affected without corresponding detriment to the fetus. It is through the medium of her digestion and circulation that the latter is nourished and matured.

Concerning the qualities of the feed, too great care is impossible. At this time, of all others, the food should be pure, nutritious, and wholesome. Mouldy hay or fodder, or injured grain, should be scrupulously excluded from diet. Possibly the mother might resist its injurious effects, but the foal must inevitably suffer, and might be ruined entirely. Thousands of colts are in a diseased condition, induced by the unhealthy food upon which the mother has been compelled to sustain the lives of both.

Another consideration of importance is the amount of labor the mare may perform. It is better for her to do light work, at least up to within seven or eight weeks of foaling, at which time she should be relieved of all service, unless it be some occasional mild exercise. She should, also, about this time, be removed from other animals, so that she may not be injured by them.

During the time of suckling, the mare should receive the best of attention. Her food should be generous, wholesome, and abundant. It should never escape the mind of her keeper that she now has two lives to support, and the tax upon her which the colt's necessities occasion is very great.

After thirty days, if she is again in season, the mare may once more be put to the horse, if the owner is determined to have her bring a colt every year. But to this is a grave objection. In all of the animal creation, a state of pregnancy injuriously affects the character of the milk afforded the suckling offspring. Better colts can be raised by breeding the mare only every second year.

The labor of the mother should be quite light beginning not before a month or six weeks of foaling. Except for specially urgent reasons, the colt should never be prevented from running with the mother.

If the foal is sound and healthy, he will need no special attention until the time of weaning, which will generally be at the end of about six months. But upon this point no arbitrary limitation can be established. The condition and development of the colts must determine this matter.

By using the water-joint which we have alluded to, the steam is condensed and thrown back into the body of the vessel containing the coffee, retaining the aroma or fragrance, thus saving largely in the quality of coffee required.

There are other important considerations upon which the process we have indicated is to be recommended. This mode excludes all foreign substances for clarifying the coffee, the liquid coming from the turn or other vessels pure and clear as wine. The steam is condensed, and all the aroma or fragrance of the coffee is retained in the vessel, thus securing highly flavored, and perfectly harmless as to its effect upon the nerves. By this mode of preparation, the acid, deleterious property of the coffee, which is evolved by boiling, is wholly avoided. Experience has shown that persons of nervous organization, who cannot use the delicious beverage, when made in the manner we have described, without the slightest injury to the system.

of the stomach. I used leather strings with little better results, and when hope was gone drove her out to kill, but my wife pleaded for her life, and I yielded and drove her back to the yard. She lived, had her calf in about six weeks, and raised it, though there was a large hole not only in the peritoneal cavity, but in the paunch also, from which food and water escaped during the entire summer. The only treatment was to syringe out the peritoneal cavity once or twice a week with warm water. Had I cut closer to the rib she would have got well much sooner. My brother, a farmer, cut open a cow of his after she could stand up no longer, removed a bushel of rye, and she got well. Mr. Hart Graves, of this town, had eleven heads of cattle eat all the wheat they wanted. He drove them to the water at once, and after drinking he whaled them about the yard with a gad till they seemed to think it a thing to get out of the way of, and ran off down the road; it was winter, but it looked like late summer behind them when they came back. Not one was sick after the whole season.

Conclusions—My cow got well in consequence of some good treatment, and in spite of a bad operation. My brother's rye was saved by operation as a last resort. Graves cattle were saved by the use of good common sense.

What is the Remedy—I would tap for bloating, and with a large knife; a carving-knife is better than a common jack or pocket-knife. There is no danger from a big hole in the paunch if it is made where it adheres to the body, or 'grows fast.'

Among the most valuable stimulants which act directly upon the nerves, and at the same time are perfectly harmless, coffee takes the highest rank.

In coffee, Liebig says we obtain certain advantages for furthering the performance of mental or bodily functions, for warding off disturbing influences on the state of our nervous equilibrium which is not exactly to be defined. If this drink had not its effect, we should soon cease to enjoy it. The action of coffee is chiefly directed to the nervous system. It produces a warm, cordial impression on the stomach, quickly followed by a diffused, agreeable nervous excitement, which extends itself to the cerebral functions, giving rise to increased vigor of imagination and intellect, without any subsequent confusion or stupor, such as characterize the action of narcotic medicines. On the contrary, it produces wakefulness, and resists the effect of opium.

It also moderately excites the circulatory system, and stimulates digestion. A cup of coffee, taken after a hearty meal, will often relieve the sense of oppression so apt to be experienced, and enable the stomach to perform its functions with comparative facility. In medicine, it is a valuable remedy when there is a tendency to stupor or lethargy, dependent on deficient energy of the brain, or inflammation; also for many conditions of the nervous system resulting from prostration. Its history is proof of its safe and harmless nature when used in a proper manner.

Few readers require to be told that coffee is a seed of a tree or shrub, growing from ten to fifteen feet in height, and indigenous to Arabia and the adjoining parts of Africa, but extensively cultivated in Asia and America. It was used very generally in Persia as early as the ninth century, and in 1517 was introduced by the Turks into Constantinople, whence it was carried to France about the middle of the succeeding century. From a chemical analysis we obtain a so-called peculiar coffee principle, upon which the flavor of the coffee depends, and gummy, mucilaginous, and resinous extracts. The peculiar coffee-principle consists of caffeine, essential and aromatic oils, etc. Some of these, as caffeine, are extracted from the green seed by maceration in water; while others, as the aromatic oils, require the roasting process in order to develop them. The aromatic oils of pure coffee are tenaciously retained in the seed, and are only freed by the application of heat.

Having shown the value of coffee as a wholesome stimulant beverage, it only remains to point out at the best mode of preparing it. The common method of extracting the valuable properties of coffee by boiling is now discarded by all who have a clear conception of the nature of the article.

The greatest care should be observed in the process of roasting the coffee, as upon this depends its flavor and stimulating qualities. Fresh, sweet seeds should be selected, placed in a covered vessel over a moderate fire, and stirred continually until they have acquired a chestnut-brown color, when the process should cease. If too long continued, it renders the coffee bitter and acid; or, by reducing it to charcoal, renders it entirely of its flavor. Everything else being equal, fresh-ground berries make the best coffee. When a cup or a larger quantity is desired, boiling water, at its highest unconcentrated temperature, viz., 212 deg. Fahrenheit—should be allowed upon it, the aroma being secured and retained by a water-joint made by the cover of the urn or other vessel in which the coffee is prepared. This water-joint should make the receptacle for the coffee as nearly steam-tight as is consistent with perfect safety. By this process the aromatic oils are extracted and retained, and not dissipated and wasted, as they always will be by boiling.

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HAERY PUDDING and MUFFINS.—Mrs. J. Smith, of Saugerties, New York, writes as follows: "If any of your lady readers should wish for something for a dessert when they have company unexpectedly and not prepared, the following recipe will be found excellent and the dish wholesome and very quickly made: One pint of milk and one-half pint of flour, two eggs, pint of salt, flavor with nutmeg, bake in square tin pans in a hot oven about half an hour, as it is quickly made and can be put in the oven just before sitting down to dinner and be just ready when wanted. Serve with butter and sugar. I can give you another recipe for a muffin as delicate as it is excellent. One pint of milk, one pint of flour, two eggs, and one pinch of salt. They will be very light and should be baked in small tin cups or iron-cake pans in a hot oven. There is no salutaris used, which is not fit to put in the stomach of any one."

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