

Agricultural News

P. E. I. Department of Agriculture

Judging Carcass Quality On the Hoof

The ultimate worth of a meat animal depends basically on the weight and quality of dressed meats which it is capable of yielding. An experienced eye and hand can make a fair approximation of the probable carcass quality and yield of market steer, hog or lamb, but it has been well demonstrated that a sizeable margin of error is always present in judging the market worth of live animals by visual inspection alone.

In a recent year the Council of Canadian Meat Packers has organized and conducted a judging competition on live hogs and beef animals at the Royal Winter Fair. In this contest, open to all contestants, are given the opportunity to rank a number of animals entered in the pork and beef carcass competition in the order in which their respective carcasses will eventually be placed by judges on the rail after slaughter.

The beef judging contest yielded the following result. In this event the stockman judges placed 17 entries for the beef carcass competition. After the steers were slaughtered and their carcasses weighed, the official order of placement was 2, 4, 10, 17, 16, 8, 6, 9 and 7. The popular choices of contestants, on the other hand, was 9, 3, 8, 10, 2, 13, 12, 17, 16.

The results of this competition clearly point up the need for frequent critical appraisal of showing standards. Since the ultimate criterion of excellence is found on the carcass, the exhibitor and feeder should first of all familiarize himself with the ideal carcass type for modern market requirements. With this ideal in mind, experience and comparison should make it possible to form a clearer picture of the general type and finish of market hog or steer which will produce most consistently this superior type of carcass.

Unfortunately not all livestock producers have opportunities to follow their meat animals through the marketing process far enough to see just what type of carcasses they are producing. More frequent visits to packing plants or carcass demonstrations would undoubtedly be of considerable value in learning how to judge genuine quality in the market or breeding animal more accurately.

Prevent Losses

Calf scours or white scours is an acute, infectious disease of newborn calves occurring the first few days of life. It is more prevalent during the fall and winter months in stabled calves. The predominant symptom is a white diarrhoea but affected animals are soon prostrate and once established the infection will spread to older calves.

Scours are caused by germs which are commonly present in stable manure and litter. These germs gain entrance, either orally or through the open navel of the calf. There is no doubt now but that a deficiency of vitamin A is one of the important contributing factors to the disease. Improper feeding, failure to supply the calf with colostrum, and unsanitary feeding practices are all contributing factors.

The calf is normal at birth but within a few days develops a thin, watery, white-tinged diarrhoea. The disease is severe and the animal becomes weak and depressed. Death soon follows. Once established the infection will spread to older calves.

Prevention and Treatment

Prevention is the greatest factor in the control of calf scours.

1. Provide the pregnant animal with a proper diet. The calf receives from the colostrum great quantities of vitamin A. The condition of a newborn animal rests entirely upon the condition of the mother.
2. Provide a clean maternity stall. It should be warm, dry and free of draughts and should be thoroughly cleansed and disinfected before the cow is put into it.
3. At birth disinfect the navel of the calf with tincture of iodine or some suitable disinfectant.
4. The calf must receive the colostrum milk. This is most important. It supplies the necessary amount of vitamin A as well as antibodies or disease-preventing factors. Then follow a recognized feeding schedule for the raising of young calves.
5. Be scrupulously clean with all feeding utensils used in feeding the calf. If the animal shows an inclination to eat straw or litter it is best to muzzle it. Some recommend the use of a muzzle as a routine procedure to prevent the ingestion of foreign material.

Treatment is not very satisfactory unless administered at the onset of the disease. Once the disease occurs great care must be taken to prevent its spread to other calves in the barn. At the first sign of the disease contact your District

Winter Dysentery

This is a diarrhoea which affects adult stabled cattle during the late fall and winter months. It usually follows a mild course, but fatal-ities do occur.

The onset is sudden; one or two animals are noticed to be scouring and soon 50% or even the entire herd are affected. There is a thin, watery, sometimes blood-tinged diarrhoea. The animals lose their appetite and there is a sharp reduction of milk production. Affected animals will often become gaunt. Those animals which show blood-tinged diarrhoea should receive prompt medicinal treatment.

If hay is being fed it is sometimes advisable to shift to a good quality straw for two or three days, sometimes this change in diet will help to shorten the course of the disease.

Care Of The Cream Separator

Cream separators require careful attention, if left unwashed, the bacteria present may multiply to enormous numbers and these will contaminate the cream of the next separating. This is one of the chief reasons for poor quality cream. For best results, the separator must be thoroughly washed and sanitized after each use. Less than 5 minutes are required to complete the task if these directions are followed.

1. As soon as the milk has drained from the supply tank, rinse the tank with a cupful of warm water.
2. Next pour a pint of warm water-skim-milk directly over the float to clear the cream from the machine.
3. Pour a pailful of hot (130°F) compound into the supply tank. Allow this to flow through the separator while the bowl is still turning. Recover the solution in a pail or dishpan. During this time clean the supply tank and spouts by brushing with a soft brush.
4. Dismantle the machine and place cleaned spouts, float and inlet in the supply tank.
5. Open the bowl and place disks on disk rack. Spread and brush these and the bowl with the cleaning solution if necessary, then place in the supply tank.
6. Pour several gallons of really hot (180°F) water over the parts; drain off the water; shake and hang on a hook and leave the other parts in a supply tank where they will dry off their own heat.

A separator cared for in this manner will not only turn out a better quality of cream; it will also last much longer and will skim cleaner than one not properly washed.

Care Of The Milking Machine

Wash the machine after each milking. Rinse with cold or lukewarm water, then brush all parts, using warm water (140°F) containing a soda washing powder. Use a brush or cleaning rod for cleaning the inside of the rubber tubes. Rinse all parts with warm water. Drain and store in a clean place.

The rubber teat cup liners and tubes should be free from defects. Discard old and soft rubbers. Checked or split rubber liners cannot be cleaned and will harbor millions of bacteria.

Between milkings the teat cup assembly is stored on the rack and the tubes filled with a recommended chlorine or lye solution. Before using, rinse all parts with a chlorine solution. This can easily be done by assembling the machine, placing the solution in a bucket, and turning on the suction.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of dear Mother, who passed away November 1st, 1951.

MRS. GEORGE MacLEOD

A loving thought true and tender,
Just to show we still remember,
A beautiful memory dearer than gold,
Of a loved one whose worth can never be told.

Just a memory fond and true,
To show dear Mother we think of you.
Memories drift to things long past
Time rots 'em but memories last.

Ever Remembered by Daughters
Annie and Jessie.

Card Of Thanks

I wish to thank Dr. Rachmel, Nurses and Staff at the Prince Edward Island Hospital for their professional care and kindness to me while a patient there. Also the many friends who visited me, and all those who sent gifts, cards and letters.

Lloyd Heffel,
Borden.

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ENGAGEMENT. — Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Molyneux, Charlottetown, wish to announce the engagement of their daughter Inez Adona to Walter James MacLeod, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roderick MacLeod of Long Creek, P. E. I. Marriage to take place in the near future.

RESERVE these dates, Provincial championship, fiddling and step dancing. Prince of Wales Auditorium, Nov. 24th and 25th. Any not having competed in eliminations, and wishing to enter, send names to Dr. W. R. Carson, 201 Prince St., Charlottetown.

ENGAGEMENT. — Mr. and Mrs. Lester MacGregor, Kingstons, wish to announce the engagement of their eldest daughter Aletha Irene, to John Hollis son of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Wood, Hazelbrook. Marriage to take place the latter part of November.

FUNERAL AT BELFAST—Funeral services were held yesterday afternoon from St. John's Church, Belfast, for the late Hughie MacWilliams. Full military honors were accorded. Service at church and grave were conducted by the Rev. James Heathwood, M.A. Pall bearers were John MacPherson, Alvin Halliday, Ross MacPherson and Alan Finlayson. The military service was conducted by R. S. West. The Last Post was sounded by William Chaisson. Interment was in Belfast Cemetery.

FORMER CHARLOTTETOWN RESIDENT PASSES ON

The sad news of the death of Fit. Lieut. Beecher Currie was received recently by Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Rodd of Highfield, in a letter from Mrs. Currie. Fit. Lieut. Currie and Mrs. Currie had many friends in Charlottetown where they lived for two years while he was stationed here with the R. A. F. His death took place Oct. 2 after a short illness. For some years they have lived at 2 Cleta Drive, Scarborough, Ont., where Mrs. Currie still resides with her two daughters Sarah (10) and Kathryn (one).

Regular Meeting Of B. Y. C.

The regular monthly meeting of the B.Y.C. was held in the Holy Name Hall on November 8 with the president, Abe Zakem, in the chair. After the reading of the minutes the committee chairmen gave their reports. The Athletic Committee reports there will be sports on Tuesday nights and Sunday afternoons. Bowling will commence this Thursday. The Cultural Committee plans films for Sunday nights and the Social Committee is planning a barn dance for November 25. A letter of appreciation from Charlie Cheverie was read by the secretary. As there was no new business the meeting adjourned. At the close of the meeting films were shown.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our dear Grandmother who passed away November 1st, 1951.

MRS. GEORGE MacLEOD

She has gone to be with her Saviour,
The one who loves her best.
Where all who believe in Jesus Shall have eternal rest.

Her memory will be our keepake,
From it we will never part,
God has her in His keeping,
We have her in our hearts.

Lovingly Remembered by Her Granddaughters Doris and Viola.

We And Our Neighbours

by Ruhamah Scheinfeld Frank

"STANDING WITH RELUCTANT FEET"

Underneath all the arguments between the teen-ager and his parents over late hours, the use of the family car, or on deeper level, the choice of friends, particularly of the opposite sex, and educational and vocational plans, is the struggle of the young person to free himself from family ties, as a necessary step toward establishing a home of his own in the not too distant future.

Some psychologists call this "the adolescent revolt" and assure parents that it is the normal, healthy, almost final stage in the growing-up process that begins when the baby first shows irritation at being helped with his breakfast porridge. This revolt often occurs in homes where up to now, the most amiable relationship existed between parents and children. Only when there is smooth sailing and the young person is always obedient and loving is there real cause for concern. Too much attachment to home and parents, say the psychologists, may prevent a successful home of his own.

Breaking away from the warm and protecting shelter of his childhood, is not easy for the adolescent. It is interesting that Longfellow's somewhat old-fashioned stanza should express what modern psychologists have to say about this:

"Standing with reluctant feet
Where the brook and river meet
Womanhood and childhood fleet"

The teen-age girl, and certainly the teen-age boy, probably laugh at this idea of "standing with reluctant feet . . ." yet adolescence is indeed a period of conflict between the urge to enter into independent adult life, and the desire to remain a child, loved and protected.

Adolescence has been called "The Age of Decision," and when we consider the problems facing young people at this time, we cannot wonder that they often prefer, in their hearts, to leave it to their parents. Not only must the adolescent learn to cope with the new and strong pressures within him, but he must make decisions of far-reaching importance in his life. He must choose a mate; he must plan his further education, or go out into business. Above all, he must prove his worth to his own age group

in the immediate present. It is when he feels most shaky that the adolescent defies and bickers the most. Isn't he old enough to stand on his own feet? he asks indignantly. But in the beginning, that is exactly what he is not eager to do. Of course he cannot admit this to himself, but he is relieved when his parents lay down firm rules for his guidance. What can he do, he assures himself and his peers, if his parents just won't let him be independent?

Gradually, however, if independence is granted in proportion to his ability to handle it, the young person will gain confidence from each success. This is the same method wise parents followed with their children at every age, but it is far more difficult for them to use it with their adolescent children.

The reason is that not only the adolescent but his parents "stand with reluctant feet"! It requires the breaking of long established habit for parents to give up their protective attitude toward their teen-age children. Indeed, these children seem to them still small and helpless. Why only yesterday, Eddie was in his go-cart-how can he be trusted to drive the car? Jeanne is still a little girl. How can she be allowed to stay out all hours?

There is another factor in the unwillingness of the parents, the

mother in particular who generally has fewer outside interests, to let go of their children. They were the very core of her life, and now already they seem to prefer every other place to their home, and the suggestion of some silly young things to their parents.

From whatever angle you look at it, the teen years are hard on parents (and often on young people too). But, somehow, in the large majority of homes, the transition from dependence to adult independence, is safely made, and parents find a new and rewarding relationship with their married children.

IN MEMORIAM

MISS FLORA FERGUSON

The death occurred in the Provincial Infirmary on Wednesday, October 14, 1953, of Flora Ferguson. She was born at Argyle Shore August 27, 1858 the daughter of Archibald Ferguson and wife, Annabell MacDougall.

After training in a New York Hospital, she gave many years of her long life to the nursing profession and spent the most of her life there.

The funeral conducted by Rev. Harvey Bishop was held from the Cutcliffe Funeral Home. Interment was in Argyle Shore Cemetery. Pallbearers were John D. Mac-

Phail, Fred MacPhail, Neil MacDougall, Murchison Sellar, Waldron Sellar and J. Albert MacDougall.

Left to cherish the memory of a kind and loving aunt are a nephew, Allen Ferguson, Lincoln Park, Michigan; three nieces, Flora B. (Mrs. Spurgeon Moore), Charlottetown, Mildred (Mrs. Peter MacEACHERN), Malpeque Road and Mrs. Catherine Nixon, Waverly, Mass.

Card Of Thanks

The Family of the late Flora M. Ferguson wish to thank all kind friends and neighbors for their many acts of kindness, floral tributes and expressions of sympathy during their recent sorrow; also the Doctors, and Nurses and staff of the Provincial Infirmary.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of

JAMES OLIVER RAFUSE

who was killed on

November 11th, 1941.

Twelve years has passed since that sad day,

In which the one I loved was called away.

I loved him then, I love him still, Forget him no, I never will.

Ever Remembered by Mother and Father, Brothers and Sister.

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