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# The Banker-Farmer

WISCONSIN  
BANKERS'  
ASSOCIATION

## News Bulletin

A Little Journal of Agricultural  
Information for the Farmer

BANKER-  
FARMER  
EXCHANGE

BULLETIN No. 12

JULY, 1921

## Wisconsin Livestock Needs

### CONDENSED STATEMENT of the Condition of the WISCONSIN LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY At the Close of Business, January 1, 1921.

#### RESOURCES

1,828,000	Milk Cows .....	\$118,820,000
1,478,000	Other Cattle .....	39,758,000
2,236,000	Swine .....	32,422,000
632,000	Sheep .....	4,045,000
674,000	Horses .....	69,422,000
12,814,000	Poultry .....	12,007,000
99,400	Colonies of Bees.....	1,113,000

Total .....\$277,587,000

#### LIABILITIES

Preferred Stock (Purebreds).....	\$ 12,097,313
Common Stock (Grades, etc.).....	165,439,625
Taxes on Livestock.....	5,860,000
Interest on Livestock Investment...	16,655,220
Losses from Animal Diseases, etc...	4,368,870
Surplus or Undivided Gross Profits.	73,165,972

\$277,587,000

#### LIVESTOCK RESOURCES AND PUREBRED SIRES

It is my opinion and belief that by using carefully selected purebred sires of approved type and breeding, that the livestock resources of the state could be easily increased 25% or approximately \$69,000,000. The extra liability or expense incurred would not exceed one-fourth of this sum, leaving 75% of this sum to be added to surplus or undivided profits.

GEO. C. HUMPHREY,  
Professor of Animal Husbandry,  
Wisconsin College of Agriculture.

Compliments of

## BANKER-FARMERS EXCHANGE

1822 Chadbourne Avenue,

MADISON, WIS.

## Wisconsin Livestock Income Statement 1920\*

91,451,000 cwt. milk .....	\$234,326,000
514,000 cattle slaughtered .....	30,583,000
842,000 calves slaughtered .....	9,094,000
364,000 sheep slaughtered .....	3,385,000
2,099,000 swine slaughtered .....	59,192,000
8,759,000 poultry slaughtered .....	10,336,000
79,156,000 doz. eggs .....	34,037,000
3,360,000 lbs. wool .....	806,000
4,692,000 lbs. honey .....	1,292,000
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	\$383,051,000

### CAN THIS INCOME BE INCREASED?

Wisconsin has 1,828,000 milk cows producing an average of 4981 lbs. milk, containing less than 200 lbs. butter fat. If each Wisconsin cow produced 365 lbs. butter fat, the minimum requirement to enter the Register of Production, the State production of butter fat would be increased over 301,620,000 lbs. At 40.5 cents per lb., the average price for the past eight years, the increased production would be worth \$122,156,100.

Similar increased production is possible in improving other classes of livestock.

THERE ARE 990 BANKS IN WISCONSIN. THE DAIRY COW IS CAPABLE OF INCREASING THE DEPOSITS OF EACH OF THESE BANKS \$123,390 PER ANNUM FROM DAIRY PRODUCTS ALONE. BY FIGURING THE INCREASED VALUE OF HER OFFSPRING THIS AMOUNT CAN EASILY BE DOUBLED. CAN ANY ENTERPRISING BANKER FAIL TO BE INTERESTED IN THE "AGRICULTURAL GAME"?

## Wisconsin Livestock Needs

By D. H. OTIS

Director Banker-Farmer Exchange

Wisconsin would go bankrupt without her livestock. Livestock utilize the by-products, straw, stover, grass, etc. They aid materially in maintaining fertility, in distributing farm labor throughout the year, and in adding to the income of the farm. Methods of increasing the efficiency and volume of the livestock industry are of vital concern to the entire state.

### BLOOD TELLS

Blood will tell if given a chance. There are families in every breed of livestock that tower above others. Our problem is to discover this family superiority and then make use of it in improving our herds and flocks.

Not all purebreds are fit for breeding purposes. There are too many scrub purebreds. We need to investigate and find if the ancestors did the things for which they were credited. The performance should not be too far back in the pedigree. It is more important to know if the father and mother really accomplished things than it is to know that the record belongs to the great grandfather or great grandmother.

Unfortunately the average farmer does not fully understand the importance of good blood. Frequently his animals are bred without any definite fixed purpose.

\*Statistics for this bulletin are taken from the reports of J. A. Becker, Crop Reporting Service, Department of Agriculture, Madison, Wisconsin.

## MAKING USE OF A GOOD SIRE

A few poor females may not do serious harm to a herd, but a poor sire will do untold damage. With a purebred sire a man can quickly, easily and cheaply improve his livestock until they are practically as good as purebreds so far as production is concerned. A succession of good sires keeps increasing and intensifying the improvement. The herd becomes one-half; three-fourths; seven-eighths; fifteen-sixteenths; etc., purebred and soon there is but little "scrub" left. The investment in a purebred sire is but a small fraction of the total investment in the herd, but the returns on his investment are equal if they do not exceed the returns on the total investment in females.



Purebred Holstein Bull, Egglea Mercedes, worth \$2,000, but unfortunately sold to the butcher for \$160.

## THE NEED OF TESTED SIRES

Not all purebred sires, even though possessing good individuality, are suitable for improving the herd. There are immense differences in purebreds. The selection of a purebred sire is a very serious matter for those who are trying to build up their herds and increase their production. The more highly developed the herd, the more serious and more difficult becomes the problem. The test of the sire is found in his offspring. A dairy bull with daughters that produce better than their dams at the same age is the kind to which a breeder can pin his faith. If the daughters produce less than their dams, the bull should be discarded. The bull which can enhance the good qualities and correct the defects of the females with which he is mated may be considered great. Such bulls are rare. Fortunate is the breeder or the community who secures such a sire and has the intelligence and foresight to keep him as long as he can be used as a breeder.

As a rule, farmers purchase young untested bulls and sell them about two years later. This is dead wrong. Many a bull has been sacrificed before his value was discovered and then it was too late. The chances for failure would be materially reduced if greater use were made of tested sires whose breeding powers can be measured in terms of their offspring.

## Farmers Interested in Wisconsin Livestock Industry will be Pleased to Know that The Banker - Farmer Exchange

Is in touch with a number of communities who are arranging for the use of proven sires. We hope to get in touch with a large number of others, and render any assistance possible in promoting better breeding of livestock.

Desires to list for sale any good breeding stock, horses, cattle, sheep or swine. Only purebred sires considered. Females may be either grades or purebreds.

Wants to impress upon farmers that now is the time to buy good foundation breeding stock at low figures. We are in position to assist prospective buyers in locating desirable stock.

Interested parties should  
get in touch with

### Banker-Farmer Exchange

D. H. Otis, Director.



1822 Chadbourne Avenue



Madison, Wisconsin