



Profitable pork production. Bulletin no. 13

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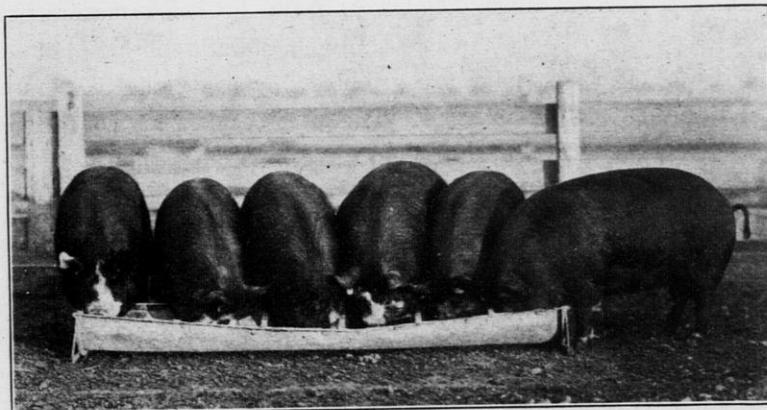
WISCONSIN BANKERS' FARM BULLETIN

Profitable Pork Production

By

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AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN



"MAKING BOTH ENDS MEAT."

Well bred and well fed animals best answer the market demands and make the most money for the producer.

File this bulletin where you can find it when wanted

Distributed by
Wisconsin Bankers' Association

J. R. Wheeler
Chairman, Agricultural Committee
Columbus, Wisconsin

George D. Bartlett
Association Secretary
Pabst Building, Milwaukee

Profitable Pork Production

Wisconsin farmers should produce more pork. There is a place for a few hogs on practically every farm in the state. The

Meat and Money Makers. hog is a consumer of waste and low grade feed. The garbage from the house, if properly handled, would feed one or two sows. The hog is our best machine for producing home grown meats.

Wisconsin pork producers find it most profitable to grow animals that finish for slaughter or market at 8 to 10 months of age.

When Pigs Become Hogs. The most desirable market hogs are those uniform in conformation, of smooth finish and alike in breed characteristics. The best hogs are produced by using the best pure bred sire that can be afforded. The sire, because his conformation and quality are reproduced in his get, is more than half the herd. Both individuality and breeding are necessary in the ideal sire.

Successful swine men do not attempt to raise two litters of pigs per year unless they have suitable feed and very comfortable quarters. In order to produce two litters per year to the best advantage, they have their sows farrow in March and in September. To do this great care is taken to have the sows safely bred in November and May. When but one litter is raised the sows are bred to farrow about May 1st.

Pregnant sows should have abundant exercise. They should be allowed to root over barnyard manure and litter. When the weather is bad, it is well to make them work for part of their food by rooting over litter scattered on the barn floor.

Sows Should Work For Their Living. Brood sows should do well provided with one of the following rations fed as a thick clean slop in connection with some succulent feed, such as roots or ensilage:

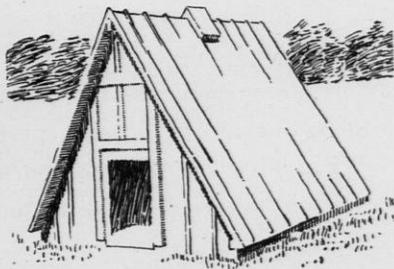
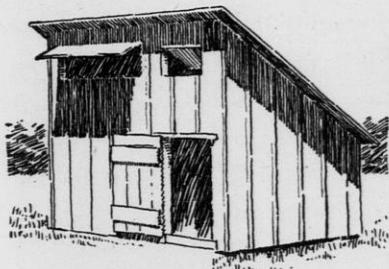
I.

1/3 Wheat bran.
1/3 wheat middlings.
1/3 cornmeal.

II.

1/3 alfalfa or clover.
1/3 wheat middlings.
1/3 cornmeal.

From four to six pounds of oil meal to each 100 pounds of either of the above mixtures will improve the quality of the ration and have a laxative effect upon the animals. If skim milk is available, oil meal need not be fed. One pound of salt should be thoroughly mixed into every 100 pounds of the mixture.



THE PORTABLE HOG HOUSE.

Especially suited to the needs of the tenant farmer. Built on runners. It can be easily moved and located to the best advantage. A few portable houses could be used upon every farm upon which hogs are raised.

Portable hog houses are easily constructed and prove convenient and comfortable for housing swine. Provided with floors. Houses of this type can be kept clean, dry, warm and comfortable.

If the farrowing sow is given a clean, dry, separate pen, freshly bedded, with clean litter, preferably of wheat, barley, or oat straw or corn fodder she will do all the **Welcoming the Youngsters.** better. Dusty bedding is a common cause for coughs or pneumonia in small pigs. Unless absolutely necessary, do not disturb the sow or litter at farrowing time.

The sow should be fed sparingly at farrowing time, nothing but a very light bran mash being given the first 24 hours. This allowance is increased gradually the first two weeks, and the sow is fed liberally thereafter, on one of the following rations:

I.

32 pounds cornmeal.
32 pounds ground oats.
32 pounds wheat middlings.
4 pounds oil meal.

II

46 pounds cornmeal.
46 pounds wheat middlings.
8 pounds oil meal.

This is fed as a thick slop and if available, skim milk can well be made one-half of the liquid part of the ration.

The pigs may be castrated at from four to six weeks of age. Pigs castrated while small are easily handled, do not go off feed and losses are reduced to a minimum.

At from eight to ten weeks of age the pigs may be weaned by separating them from their mothers and allowing them to return to nurse once daily for four or five days. The young pigs can be most cheaply grown on pasture and a mixed grain ration. Blue grass pasture in early spring, second growth clover, or rape are all valuable forages for pigs. When pigs are weaned and on pasture, they should be fed the same grain ration as given their mothers during the nursing period.

When pigs are to be fattened for market, corn can be fed liberally in addition to one of the following rations:

Try One of These on Your Herd.	I	II.
	70 parts ear corn.	30 parts cornmeal. 30 parts wheat middlings.
20 parts wheat middlings.		30 parts ground oats.
10 parts oil meal or tankage.		10 parts tankage.
	III.	IV.
45 parts wheat millings.		45 parts wheat middlings.
45 parts cornmeal.		45 parts cornmeal.
10 parts oil meal.		10 parts tankage.

These rations are fed in the form of a thick slop one-half of which may be skim milk. One pound of salt should be thoroughly mixed with each 100 pounds of feed.

It Pays to Keep Clean. The hog house and feeding utensils should be kept clean. The floors and utensils should be disinfected occasionally with a three per cent solution of coal tar disinfectant and the inside of the hog house whitewashed at least once a year. Cement feeding floors help to keep animals clean and sanitary and save feed.