

WETHER PRODUCING MILK.

MR. P. D. HARGREAVES, Waiwhatawhata, Otorohanga, writes,—

I have at present a crossbred wether running on my property which produces milk exactly similar to a wet ewe. I have never before seen or heard of such a peculiarity, and would be glad if you can account for it, thinking at the same time it might interest some of your readers.

The Live-stock and Meat Division replies,—

This is apparently a very interesting case. In all probability the animal is hermaphrodite. A veterinary officer will examine the animal when in your district.

DIAMOND-BACK MOTH.

T. B. H., Richmond, writes,—

Does the turnip-fly attack chou moellier or thousand-headed kale ?

The Fields and Experimental Farms Division replies,—

The diamond-back moth, which is generally erroneously termed the "turnip-fly," attacks all members of the turnip and cabbage family, including chou moellier and thousand-headed kale. The effects of this moth, however, appear to be less disastrous to the kales than to the turnips and rape.

DRESSING COWS.

MR. HENRY WAKELIN, Kamo, writes as follows :—

In dressing cows for returning to the bull too often (every three weeks), should they be dressed while in season ?

The Live-stock and Meat Division replies,—

No. Wait about two days after oestrus has passed off, then irrigate her. She could then be allowed to go to the bull when next she comes in service.

WARTS ON COWS' TEATS.

MR. R. WECH, Warkworth, writes,—

If there is any known cure for warts on cows' teats, would you kindly let me know, as our cows are badly affected with the complaint. It seems to be very catching.

A reply to "Subscriber," Hastings, on the same subject appeared in the December (1911) *Journal*, but the Live-stock and Meat Division adds the following :—

As your cows are still milking, you might try painting them every night with a solution composed of salicylic acid 2 parts, zinc-chloride 1 part, and collodion 15 parts. Apply with a camel-hair brush. From the frequency with which warts spread, and their closeness of situation, it has been suggested that they may be infective, but this has not been determined.

LAMB TROUBLES.

MR. WILLIAM DODD, Glenham, Southland, writes,—

What is the cause of big joints in lambs ? Is there any cure ? We lose a few every year, and those that live are cripples and never thrive. I blame cold and wet, but may be wrong. The trouble begins when the lambs are about three weeks or a month old, and attacks either ewe or wether lambs, mostly after tailing. This season and last were the worst for the trouble in my experience.

On page 564 of your *Journal* a question is asked regarding still-born and weak lambs. The cause in the case in question was the nine weeks' turnips. From two to four weeks' turnips previous to lambing is sufficient. After that the death-rate will increase in proportion to the length of time the ewes are kept on turnips. Let the ewes have the turnips after lambing.