

there has been opportunity so far to devote to it, and the intention is to further pursue the subject of treatment as the opportunity offers. In the meantime the remedial measures that have been suggested by the previously mentioned experiments are now outlined for general information.

The mere removal of chaff from one place to another is in itself a ready method of improving its condition so far as mites are concerned. Thus large stocks that are intended to remain a long time in one position are much more liable to a bad outbreak than smaller ones that are being constantly removed and replaced by fresh supplies. It should here be noted that the mites are very generally present in great numbers in the fabric of a badly infested sack of fodder material, and that with practice the condition of that sack may be readily determined by the animal smell on the hand after it has been rubbed over the sack. By this action, moreover, the crushing of numerous mites lends a distinctly wet and sticky feeling to the sack.

The fine hairy parts of a sack are frequently found to be covered with mite-eggs; hence the use of sacks which have previously held fodder or meal of any kind—particularly flour and the like—should be abandoned as far as possible. The exposure of infested sacks to the sun would doubtless greatly improve them, but so far little is known as to the capacity of the mite-eggs for resisting unfavourable conditions. The use of carbon disulphide as a fumigant for empty and infested sacks is to be recommended.

One of the simplest methods of dealing with a badly infested line of chaff is to sieve it. With sufficient shaking the mites and many of the eggs may be separated from the larger particles to which they are clinging or attached, or fall through with the finer dust and hairy matter. In the experiments carried out a sieve made of circular holes 1 millimeter in diameter was used, but doubtless a large mesh could be employed with advantage and without undue loss. A purchaser of a bad line might well use this method; if necessary, leaving the chaff so treated a short time to sweeten before offering it to live-stock.

The conditions under which fodder of all kinds, including hay, are stored is a matter that deserves close attention. The admission of an abundance of circulating air and of light is highly desirable, but most important is the need for good dry conditions in the store. One of the chaff-stacks that was dealt with as above recorded was built round a hydraulic jigger, at the base of which was an iron drain to carry away any water that might fall from the joints higher up. This drain had become blocked by the chaff that had fallen through several rat-holes in the surrounding sacks.