

Production Record of 25-year-old Cow

FROM time to time one hears of outstanding dairy cow performances, but the record of Mr. J. Bain's 25-year-old crossbred cow, "Cider," will be hard to beat. Her 23rd calf, a well-grown and promising heifer, can be seen facing the camera in the accompanying illustration.

The cow was purchased at the age of two years for £5, and for 22 years was a high and trouble-free producer. Under herd test from the age of 13 years, this cow averaged more than 400lb of fat. During the season 1938-39 when under test for part of the time only 300lb of butterfat were produced.

To appreciate the production capacity of this cow, readers must be reminded that the average cow reaches her maximum production at the sixth lactation, and that production falls off each year thereafter, until at the twelfth calf it is only about 60 per cent. of the maximum. The phenomenal average of 400lb of fat per year from the age of 13 years for a period of ten years puts this cow among the world's record breakers, combining longevity, high production, and apparent freedom from disease.



The 25-year-old crossbred cow "Cider," with her 23rd calf facing the camera. Indications are that she will rear yet another calf.

Mr. Bain maintains that this "old faithful" deserves the best pasture his farm at Seddonville can supply, and has left her to rear her 1940-41 season heifer calf.

When the photograph was taken on May 1 the opinion was formed that "Cider" would rear another calf, as all indications pointed that way.

—JAS. FLEMING, Inspector of Stock, Greymouth.

Answers to Correspondents

Mixing Cobalt

"SHEPHERD" (STRATFORD):—

Could you please tell me whether it is quite all right to mix cobalt with nicotine and bluestone when drenching lambs. We have always used them separately, but this makes a lot of work. Whenever we have used cobalt we have always had good results with it. Could I get cobalt from the Department in my own district?

LIVESTOCK DIVISION:—

Cobalt sulphate may safely be mixed with the bluestone nicotine drench when drenching lambs.

In the "Journal," July, 1939, p. 52, the Animal Research Division replies to a similar query that cobalt is not likely to be beneficial if administered at longer intervals than one week. Cobalt is not available directly from the Stratford office, Department of Agriculture, but can be forwarded from this office at 1s per oz. and 1d. postage, cash with order.

Cheap Lick for Stock

H.M. (MARTON):—

Could you kindly let me know per medium of the "Journal" the ingredients and way of mixing for making a reliable and cheap lick for sheep and dairy stock for the Marton district?

LIVESTOCK DIVISION:—

A straight bonemeal-salt lick should be sufficient, made of equal parts of steamed bone-flour and agricultural salt. If stock do not take it readily, the proportion of salt may be increased

N.Z. Journal of Agriculture

BOUND VOLUMES

(Cash with Order.)

If remittance includes stamps, do not include denominations greater than 2d.

BOUND HALF-YEARLY VOLUMES of N.Z. Journal of Agriculture (with Index); Volumes 4-13; 15; 17-19; 27; 36-40; 43; 45-47; 55; well bound in green cloth and lettered. Price per volume 4/6, or 5/- postage paid (remittance with order).

Volumes 56, 57, 58 and 59 (new size), 6/3, or 7/6 per volume, posted.

CONSOLIDATED GENERAL INDEX of N.Z. Journal of Agriculture, Volumes I. to XX. (1910 to 1920). Price 2/- (remittance with order).

Spring backed covers for Journal. Green cloth boards with name on back. Hold six or more monthly numbers prior to January, 1938. (Not suitable for issues after December, 1937). Price 2/6 each.

A HISTORY OF THE NEW ZEALAND DAIRY INDUSTRY

By H. G. PHILPOTT.

Price 15/-. Postage 8d. extra.

Obtainable from—

THE PUBLISHER,
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
WELLINGTON.