

skin being pre-sensitised to light by the animal eating certain substances. Facial eczema is included under this heading.

The skin is affected in ergot-poisoning in cattle. A cow fed with ergot at

the Wallaceville Animal Research Station developed symptoms in thirteen days following heavy dosage. Lameness developed, and sensation was lost in the fetlock region, and the skin

in that part became dry and hard. There was a sharp line of demarcation at the fetlocks of both hind limbs. Above the line, the skin was healthy; below it was cyanosed and necrosis was commencing.

At times a chain of small hard lumps may be observed in the skin of cows' legs. These may contain yellow matter, and owners are often apprehensive in case they should prove to be tubercular in origin. In most cases they give no reaction to the tuberculin test, and are generally considered to be local skin infections due to a soil organism that gains entry through small abrasions in the skin.

Dermatitis is a term meaning inflammation of the deeper layers of the skin. It frequently develops on the limbs of cattle that are compelled to wade through mud or manure. It may also affect the udder and teats. Treatment consists of cleaning and drying the affected parts, and applying anti-septic protectives such as zinc ointment.

Skin Parasites

The skin, like other parts of the body, may be attacked by parasites. In the winter, when the coat is long, it is liable to be infested by lice. They resemble tiny white specks moving in the hair, and being blood-suckers they cause loss of condition. They can be easily disposed of by using the emulsion described in the New Zealand "Journal of Agriculture," June, 1940. Dissolve 1 lb. soap in 1 gallon of boiling water and stir in $\frac{1}{2}$ pint of kerosene. Mix thoroughly and make up to four gallons by the addition of cold water. Apply with a brush when cold, and repeat twice after intervals of three days.

Mites may burrow into the skin, causing the condition known as mange. Some mites enter the hair roots, and this is known as Follicular mange. This affects the hides, and it is not till the leather-making process has reached a fairly advanced stage that the pittings caused by the parasites can be seen. Where the disease can be recognised, treatment consists in the application of a mixture of kerosene and derris root. In what is known as Sarcoptic mange the mites burrow into the skin itself. Severe itching occurs round the eyes, face, and neck, and later hairless spots covered with small eruptions appear. After a few weeks the skin becomes wrinkled in thick folds. If taken in time, it is readily cured by scrubbing with hot soap and water, and applying a sulphur dressing.

Another type of parasite is a fungus that lodges around the hair roots, the hairs become brittle and break off, and the skin becomes thickened and wrinkled. The lesions caused are round and sharply circumscribed, hence it is popularly known as ringworm. It occurs chiefly in young cattle in the regions of the ears and eyes. The skin

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