

## "Chair" for Treating Foot-rot

ing purposes. In the 1939 season only two-year stallions were required to be licensed, older horses being exempt, although there was provision for a veterinary examination and for the issue of a certificate of soundness to the owner of any stallion who might desire it.

With the lapse of time it now becomes necessary for the owners of all Clydesdale stallions within the ages of two and seven years to have them examined and licensed for the present breeding season. This applies to all stallions to be used for service for fees, and any owner who uses a stallion for fees without first obtaining a licence commits an offence under the Act.

Licensing of stallions is not necessary where owners use them for the service of their own mares.

Owners of stallions who require licences should make application to the Registrar on the prescribed form, which may be obtained from offices of the Department of Agriculture or from the Secretary of the Clydesdale Horse Society, Hawera. Each application should be accompanied by the necessary fees.

### Answers to Correspondents

#### Feeding Calves Without Milk

"J.W.," Heriot:—

I would be obliged if you could tell me through your "Journal of Agriculture" how to feed calves without milk. I have a calf here which is three months old, and as I do not want to make her a small beast when she gets older, I wonder if you could help me. How old do calves have to be before you can wean them and turn them out with other cattle?

#### LIVESTOCK DIVISION:—

I presume that up to the time of writing you have been feeding your three-months-old calf on whole or skim milk without grain concentrates. It is possible to rear calves on small quantities of milk plus grain supplements. This method of rearing should be practised only when milk is in short supply, as quite apart from the disadvantages of going off the natural food, the cost of grain feeding is higher than feeding on milk and milk products, and also entails more work. In cases where milk is in short supply calves can be successfully reared by milk feeding for four or five weeks, and then gradually weaning the calf, and substituting for the milk a suitable grain mixture. A suitable mixture would consist of 25lb crushed barley, 40lb, crushed oats, 12lb, bran, 20lb, pea meal, 10lb, linseed meal, 12lb, meat-meal, with mineral mixture added at the rate of 3lb. per 100lb. of grain mixture. However, in your case, in which



**T**HE thorough paring of affected feet, which is so essential in treating foot-rot, will be more easily carried out, particularly when working single-handed, if a chair similar to the one illustrated is used. This chair is in use on the farm of Mr. L. Baker, Risington, Hawke's Bay. It can be simply constructed from old timber (3 x 2 or 3 x 4½) and sacking. The sheep is secured by a leather strap across the neck, fixed on one side of the frame and fitting on to a hook on the other.

Rough dimensions for use with Romneys are:—

**Base:** 2 ft. 6 in. long, 1 ft. 6 in. across.

**Uprights:** 1 ft. 8 in. high.

The sacking "bed" should, of course, be sufficiently long and broad to dip, forming a trough into which the back of the sheep fits.

—A. D. M. G. LAING,  
Veterinarian, Hastings.

you have only one calf to feed, this mixture may be rather complex. The following is a more easily made grain supplement, and should be suitable for your requirements:—

Crushed oats, 6 parts.

Bran, 2 parts.

Linseed meal, 2 parts.

Meat-meal, 2 parts.

A three-months-old calf should receive from 2 to 3lb. per day of this mixture, the amount being gradually increased until the calf is receiving 6lb. per day at 6 months. Substituting grain for milk should be a gradual process, even in a calf of three months, and I would suggest that you continue feeding milk in decreasing amounts for a few weeks to allow the calf's digestive system to become accustomed to the changed ration. When calves are being reared without milk it is important that they have access to good grazing and ample good-quality hay. To answer your second inquiry in reference to the age at which calves should be weaned: Under normal circumstances they should be fed whole milk or milk products until they are six months old. They may be weaned at this stage provided good grazing and hay are available. If good grazing is not procurable, some supplementary

grain feeding is desirable after weaning. Many calves are weaned under six months, but to obtain the best results from them when the calves finally come to production it is necessary to feed them for at least this period.

#### Terms Lamb and Hogget

"J.G.H." (Waihi):—

I am a beginner at sheep-farming, so would you oblige by giving me answers to the following questions:—

1. What age is a hogget (or, in other words, when does a lamb become a hogget)?

2. Is it correct to call a hogget a two-tooth hogget?

3. What age is a two-tooth?

#### LIVESTOCK DIVISION:—

The terms lamb and hogget are used quite loosely, depending upon whether either term is used by a farmer, a stock-buyer, or by a butcher. The term lamb is used for the young animal from birth up to the end of the first year, until the next crop of lambs comes along to take its place. In this