

asked where he had obtained certain dark Jerseys which he had resold in previous seasons. The purchaser had found them so good that he desired more animals of similar quality. This does not mean that the dark Jersey cattle are better than the popular fawns. The explanation is probably that these dark heifers were reared by a farmer with a view to keeping them if the season permitted. Almost certainly they were from his top cows by good bulls as well as being of good conformation. Two of the best Jersey herds in New Zealand, well known for their outstandingly high butterfat average, have a greater percentage of dark cattle than is usual in Jersey herds.

A farmer, asked why he had placed a good-sized, well-shaped dark Jersey calf in the bobby calf pen while rearing some less attractive fawn ones, explained that he only reared a dozen calves for sale as weaners, and that although the dark bobby calf was from one of his best cows, it would not bring as much in the saleyards as a fawn calf. If this practice was widely adopted by farmers who rear heifers for sale it could have a harmful effect.

Not only in purchasing heifers is there a fashion in colour. A Waikato Jersey breeder, who breeds on the best lines for production, was amazed to hear the purchaser of one of his yearling bulls say that he had bought the bull because of its light colour.

The preference for light fawns is probably more noticeable in the calf or yearling stages. When Jerseys reach

the selling ring as springers, colour, though not disregarded, is of less importance. If two animals were submitted of equal quality, one fawn and one dark, the fawn would unquestionably be preferred, but colour would not have been the chief consideration. Attention at this stage is given to milking possibilities and udder formation. No experienced purchaser would pass over a good dark springer in favour of a second-rate fawn.

Some years ago, when it was the practice to mark calves and issue certificates showing the dam's production many of the animals were other colours than fawn. Without the certificates, many of the lots could not have stood up to the competition offered by others classified for colour.

The main aim in dairying is maximum production, and farmers can contribute much toward greater efficiency by adopting a more realistic attitude when purchasing milking animals. They should seek first animals of a high-producing strain, of good dairy conformation and obvious health and vigour, and should disregard colour. A really good herd is not one of any particular shade or with all members possessing the same colour.

By criticism and free exchange of ideas farmers have gradually changed many of their views and different standards have been accepted. Those who have a long association with the industry can recall practices the eventual discarding of which has contributed to the industry's present high standard.



MANY shooting accidents occur through carelessness in carrying firearms. Wherever possible a firearm should be unloaded. When this is not possible every precaution should be taken to make sure that the weapon is not endangering another person.

A common example of such carelessness is shown in the illustration at left. The second man is holding his gun in such a way that if it accidentally discharged it could fatally injure the man in front. This method of carrying a weapon is especially dangerous if shooters have to pass through scrub or rough country. A loaded firearm is never under proper control unless it is held in both hands and inclined upward as shown at right. A weapon carried in this way is under control, though the hunter is ready for a flushed bird or running rabbit. The trigger finger should always be kept outside the trigger guard.

Always unload a firearm when it is not intended to use it immediately, and never allow a loaded firearm to point near another person.

—G. G. KELLY

RADIO broadcasts to farmers will be given as follows during September:—

1YA Auckland, 7.15 p.m.

3 September—"Spring-sown Crops in the Auckland Province", by H. Woodyear-Smith, Auckland.

10 September—"Apiary Management", by E. Smelle, Apiary Instructor, Department of Agriculture, Auckland.

17 September—"The Value of Soil Testing to the Instructor for Advisory Service", by J. R. Adams, Instructor in Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Pukekohe.

24 September—Young Farmers' Clubs' session, conducted by Waikato district committee of the Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs.

1XH Hamilton, 12.33 p.m.

4 September—"Care of Young Stock during September", by P. J. McCann, Veterinarian, Department of Agriculture, Hamilton.

11 September—"Experimental Work in the Field", by H. M. Bull, Instructor in Agriculture, Department of Agriculture, Hamilton.

18 September—"Factors Likely to Affect the Future of the Dairy Industry", by W. T. Peterson, Dairy Section, Federated Farmers, Hamilton.

25 September—"Planting and Care of Young Fruit Trees", by C. E. K. Fuller, Horticultural Instructor, Department of Agriculture, Hamilton.

1YZ Rotorua, 7.15 p.m.

4 September—"Breeding Problems in Dairy Herds", by P. J. McCann, Veterinarian, Department of Agriculture, Hamilton.

18 September—Talk conducted by Rotorua district committee of Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs.

2YZ Napier, 7 p.m.

2 September—"Chicken Rearing", by H. K. Mullins, Poultry Instructor, Department of Agriculture, Hastings.

16 September—"Combating Farm Pests", by R. P. Hill, Fields Instructor, Department of Agriculture, Hastings.

30 September—"Wool-clip Preparation at Shearing Time", by R. G. Montgomery, Sheep and Wool Instructor, Department of Agriculture, Hastings.

2ZA Palmerston North, 12.30 p.m.

8 September—"Spring Treatment of Lawns", by E. A. Madden, Agrostologist, Department of Agriculture, Palmerston North.

15 September—"Disease Control in the Home Orchard", by B. P. Coleman, Horticultural Instructor, Department of Agriculture, Palmerston North.

22 September—"Quality Faults in Dairy Production and their Remedies", by M. J. McPetridge, Special Inspector, Department of Agriculture, Palmerston North.

29 September—Young Farmers' Clubs' session, conducted by I. G. Tabor.

3YA Christchurch

11 September (7.15 p.m.)—Review of "The New Zealand Journal of Agriculture", by E. G. Smith, Fields Instructor, Department of Agriculture, Rangiora.

22 September (12.20 p.m.)—"The Rural Sociologist and the Farm Home", by E. Unwin, Field Officer in Rural Sociology, Department of Agriculture, Christchurch.

29 September (12.20 p.m.)—Talk by chairman, Mid-Canterbury district committee of the Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs.

4YA Dunedin, 7.20 p.m.

9 September—"Brassica Seed Production", by J. O. Wallace, Seed Production Officer, Department of Agriculture, Dunedin.

24 September—"Simple Hints for Successful Poultry Farming", by W. G. Proudfoot, Poultry Instructor, Department of Agriculture, Dunedin.

Other Broadcasts

1YA Auckland, Tuesdays at 12.35 p.m. and Wednesdays at 7.15 p.m.; 1YD Auckland, Thursdays at 7.30 p.m.; 1XN Whangarei, Mondays and Wednesdays at 8.10 p.m.; 2XA Wanganui, Thursdays at 8 p.m.; 2XG Gisborne, Tuesdays at 8 p.m.; 3XC Timaru, Wednesdays at 8.5 p.m.