

# PIG-FEEDING

BY JOHN M. SCOTT.

## SUMMARY.

This bulletin gives the results of experiments with eighty-seven pigs. All of these pigs were pure-bred Berkshires. The experiments were conducted at different seasons of the year. The length of the feeding periods varied from 30 to 114 days.

The cost of producing a pound of pork was different with the different rations. The cheapest pork was produced at a cost of six and eight-tenths cents per pound. The feeds used in producing this cheap pork were shelled corn and sweet potatoes in equal parts by weight. This experiment was conducted during January and February. During the thirty days the pigs were fed they made a daily average gain of 0.65 of a pound, or an average daily gain per 1000 pounds live weight of 6.43 pounds. It required 512.7 pounds of feed to make 100 pounds of gain. (See Tables XIII and XIV).

The most unsatisfactory financial returns were in Experiment II. In this test velvet beans in the pod, Japanese cane, and sweet potatoes were used. Lot I, consisting of five pigs fed velvet beans in the pod, made a gain of only 25 pounds in sixty days. Lot II, consisting of five pigs fed equal parts by weight of velvet beans in the pod and Japanese cane, gained only 4.3 pounds in sixty days. Lot III, consisting of five pigs fed velvet beans one part and Japanese cane two parts by weight, lost 7.7 pounds in weight in sixty days. Lot IV, consisting of five pigs fed Japanese cane, lost 61 pounds in weight in sixty days. Lot V, consisting of five pigs fed velvet beans in the pod and sweet potatoes, equal parts by weight, gained only 12.3 pounds in sixty days. (See Tables III and IV.)

This shows clearly that none of these rations were satisfactory. Velvet beans in the pod, when fed alone, gave better results than any of the other combinations. It is evident from these results that Japanese cane is not a good feed for pork production when fed alone. Neither was it satisfactory when it made up as much as one-half of the ration.

In Experiment I, when shelled corn, velvet beans in the pod, and Japanese cane were fed, satisfactory gains were obtained. The cost per pound of gain was eight and six-tenths cents. In this test it required 1400 pounds of feed to make 100 pounds of gain. This large weight of feed was due to the Japanese cane. (See Tables I and II).

In Experiment III, Lot I, fed shelled corn only, made a daily