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The farm bookshelf

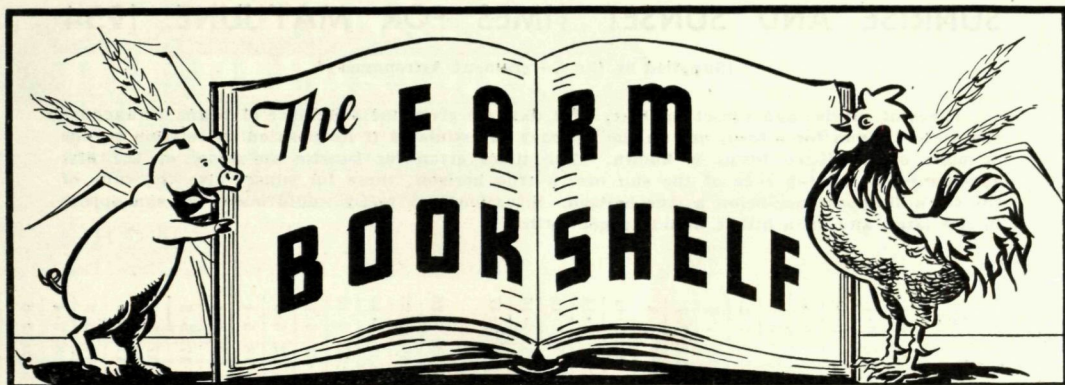
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Infertility and Artificial Insemination

TWO workers with wide experience of sterility in cattle and the artificial insemination of farm livestock are the co-authors of a new handbook on these allied subjects, recently published by Bailliere, Tindall & Cox, of London. Mr. P. G. Miller, M.R.C.V.S., is Sterility Advisory Officer to the British Ministry for Agriculture and Fisheries; Mr. N. P. Ras is Chief Lecturer in the Large Animals Clinic at the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Buenos Aires, Argentine Republic, and their book "A Manual of Infertility and Artificial Insemination in Cattle" will serve as a valuable textbook on subjects which as yet have received but little attention from writers.

In Western Australia, recurrent losses from infertility have always been a matter of concern to the dairy farmer. To those in search of information upon the complex problems associated with reproduction in cattle and of the knowledge required to deal with them, this Manual of Infertility and Artificial Insemination may be recommended.

In the first section of the book, the reproductive anatomy and physiology of the cow and bull are described, together with the methods of clinical examination, and there are chapters dealing with pregnancy and its diagnosis, and the collection and evaluation of semen.

The second section covers the genetic, developmental, environmental, and nutritional factors, as well as the infections including contagious abortion, Vibriosis, and Trichomoniasis, leading to infertility. The third is devoted to

infertility in the bull and in the cow, and to the herd infertility problem.

The final section is concerned with artificial insemination, giving particulars of its purpose, organisation, control, the costs involved, and the techniques employed.

The information contained in this book is presented in simple, and so far as the subject permits, non-technical language. It should be of value not only to the veterinary surgeon, but also to the cattle breeder who desires to inform himself upon the complex problems of infertility, and the organisation and practice of artificial insemination.—C.R.T.

("Manual of Infertility and Artificial Insemination in Cattle" by P. G. Millar and N. P. Ras. Publishers: Bailliere, Tindall and Cox Ltd., 7 and 8, Henrietta Street, London, W.C.2. Price in Britain, 25s.)

Australian Plants for the Garden

DURING recent years, a growing number of Australian plants have become popular as garden species, and from the home gardener's point of view, this new book by Thistle Y. Harris is quite the best book on the subject we have yet encountered.

It is also a book which should serve as an excellent guide to those in charge of municipal and other large gardens who wish to include in their plantings a proportion of Australian trees, shrubs and other perennials. Much useful information is given regarding propagation, transplanting and the kind of cultivation necessary for Australian flora, which should be of great assistance to those handling these plants for the first time.

There are descriptive lists of subjects suitable for small gardens, large gardens and parks, and recommendations for window boxes, bog gardens and water gardens are also given.

Plants suitable for hedge purposes are well described and separate chapters are devoted to large and small acacias, eucalypts and ferns. The book has an attractive appearance and is well printed on excellent paper. There are five fine colour plates and 45 black and white illustrations. The only thing to regret about this book is its price. This will probably prevent it reaching many of those who would profit so much from the wealth of information it contains.—G.K.B.H.

("Australian Plants for the Garden," by Thistle Y. Harris, B.Sc. Published by Angus & Robertson Ltd., Sydney. Price, £3 3s.)