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Front cover centrepiece: The sacred Apis bull of Egypt did not represent a specific breed but was selected on account of certain required characteristics, including a saddle-mark of different coloured hair and a coloured spot on the tongue. A complicated ritual developed round the animal.

CONTENTS

PAGE

BERG, R. T., and BUTTERFIELD, R. M. Muscle: bone ratio and fat	
percentage as measures of beef carcass composition	1
CORBETT, J. L., LANGLANDS, J. P., McDonald, I., and Pullar, J. D.	
Comparison by direct animal calorimetry of the net energy values	
of an early and a late season growth of herbage	13
LODGE, G. A., ELSLEY, F. W. H., and MACPHERSON, R. M. The effects	
of level of feeding of sows during pregnancy. I. Reproductive	
performance	29
KAY, M., PRESTON, T. R., MACLEOD, N. A., and PHILIP, EUPHEMIA B.	
Intensive beef production. VII. The effect on nitrogen retention of	
diets containing barley processed by four different methods .	39
KAY, M., PRESTON, T. R., MACLEOD, N. A., and PHILIP, EUPHEMIA B.	-
Nutrition of the early weaned calf. IX. Nitrogen retention from	
different protein sources in calves fed ad libitum	43
Holmes, W., Jones, J. G. W., and Adeline, C. Feed intake of grazing	43
cattle. IV. A study with milk cows of the influence of pasture	
restriction combined with supplementary feeding on production	47
per animal and per acre.	4/
CARR, W. R., CONDY, J. B. and BURROWS, P. M. Transferrin poly-	50
morphism of indigenous cattle in Rhodesia and Zambia	59
ROBINSON, D. W., and SINGLETON, A. G. The effect of Norbolethone,	
an anabolic steroid, on the performance and body composition of	
castrate pigs	65
BLAXTER, K. L., WAINMAN, F. W., and DAVIDSON, J. L. The voluntary	
intake of food by sheep and cattle in relation to their energy re-	
quirements for maintenance	75
ADAM, J. L., and SMITH, W. C. The use of sample joints in predicting	
the composition of the pig carcass	85
ROBERTSON, ALAN. A mathematical model of the culling process in	
dairy cattle	95
SOLLER, M., BAR-ANAN, R., and PASTERNAK, H. Selection of dairy	
cattle for growth rate and milk production	109
KIELANOWSKI, J. Conversion of energy and the chemical composition	
of gain in bacon pigs	121
BOWMAN, J. C., and BROADBENT, J. S. Genetic parameters of growth	
between birth and sixteen weeks in Down Cross Sheep	129
DE ALBA, J., and RIERA, S. Sexual maturity and spermatogenesis under	120
heat stress in the bovine	137
WHARTON, F. D. A note on hepatic vitamin A and carotene stores in	137
West African cattle	145
WHARTON, F. D. A note on haemoglobin levels in West African cattle	149
KOLACZYK, S., and KOTIK, T. A note on sex differences in muscle	147
	153
properties of pigs with special emphasis on colour BUTTERWORTH, M. H. A note on the maintenance requirement of	133
	156
adult sheep under tropical conditions	155
Soller, M., Shilo, A., and Bar-Anan, R. A note on heritability of	
live-weight-for-age in Israel-Friesian dairy bull calves and its	
genetic correlation with milk production	157
PROCEEDINGS OF THE 43RD MEETING OF THE BRITISH SOCIETY OF ANIMAL	
PRODUCTION	159
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