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MISSISSIPPI

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION.

Bulleton No. 6.

Charbon.

Agricultural College, Miss.
June 25th, 1889.

On June 10th, information was received at the Station that Charbon had broken out among the mules in the region of Yazoo City; telegrams stating that over fifty deaths had occurred already, and that all animals attacked died within twenty-four hours. The acting Veterinarian of the Station, Dr. G. C. Creelman, was sent to the infected locality at once, and within a few days the Station had also secured the assistance of Dr. Wray of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Dr. Connaway of the Missouri Station.

The work of the latter is not yet completed, but as the disease seems likely to spread somewhat widely in the swamp region of the State, it is thought best to publish the following treatment which has been almost uniformly successful when used promptly, and also to indicate the common symptoms of the disease.

PREVENTIVE TREATMENT- All animals should be kept in a cool place and protected from flies and other insects. When at work, care should be taken that they are not over-heated, and on returning from the field at night, they should be washed all over with a solution consisting of one part crude carbolic acid to twenty parts water. One bucket full of this will bathe five animals. Give internally one tablespoon full of a mixture containing equal parts of sulphur, saltpetre, and cotton seed meal. This should be given in the food three times a day.

SYMPTOMS OF THE DISEASE- Usually for some hours before the disease is manifested externally, the animal will appear languid, the ears droop, and signs of

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general depression may be noticed. The temperature often rises as high as 104 F. and small swellings often make their appearance in the region of the breast, belly or throat. These swellings, if not checked, will continue to enlarge until the animal dies.

TREATMENT- When the first symptoms are noticed, the animal should be drenched immediately with the following: One tablespoon full each of chlorate or potash and tincture of muriate of iron in a pint of water. Repeat this every four hours. Bathe the affected parts with crystallized carbolic acid, using one part acid to eight parts water. All sick animals should have pure air, and must be protected from rain and hot sun, and provided with an abundance of good food. If the kidneys become affected, give one ounce doses of saltpetre in drinking water, and if bowels are inactive, give one half-ounce doses of linseed oil until relieved.

All animals dying from the disease should be at once burned on the spot and the place afterwards disinfected by sprinkling with carbolic acid or lime.

S. M. TRACY,
Director.

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