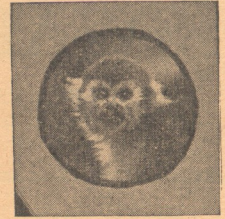


ODD PETS



MOUSE PEDIGREE SYSTEM

Have you ever bred a special specimen and then been annoyed to find you could not repeat the process through lack of accurate records? A pedigree of each mouse can easily be kept, and from it ancestry can instantly be traced. A mere glance tells you suitable matings to make, avoiding haphazard breeding. Numbering of boxes and pocket book records are not always a success. The pocket book has a habit of being in another jacket just at the time you require it, and records get left. Several entries being made at the same time causes guess work to be resorted to.

Try this method. Paste a sheet of foolscap on each side of a piece of 3-ply, bore two holes in top and insert string so that it can be hung up in your mousery. Head the sheet with your particular variety and sex, and on the first line write: number, date born, sire, dam, leaving latter half for remarks, such as good points. Number consecutively left hand side, which on narrow-lined paper will be from 1 to 47. Do the same on the back of board. This forms your stud register. Should you have a fairly large stock of different varieties use a separate sheet for each, entering does on one and bucks on the other.

Next comes the record card, cut to a standard size (a suitable size being 1 1/4" x 3 3/4"), headed with variety and register number, date of birth, sire and dam, and below headed with each variety with a contrasting color for bucks.

On the left-hand side of each breeding box you require a tin record card holder, capable of holding at least three cards. Collect a few empty soup tins and with a pair of the tinman's shears cut out the holders from a standard pattern, then bend the edges

over a piece of metal the size of your record card and it is complete. Attach to the breeding box with a drawing pin. A good idea is to paint the tin on both sides before bending over the edges as this prevents rust. Now, as you register each mouse and fill up its record card, all that remains, when mating, is to insert the date and buck number placing the buck's card behind the does' card as the cards must follow the mice whenever they are moved. As litters arrive record the date on the card only, and when old enough to leave, register them, and give them their own card. When making crosses use a prefix to a buck's number.

It often happens, when fostering, that the contents of a box are not very obvious at a cursory glance, and sometimes valuable specimens are lost sight of. To overcome this and to be able to identify specimens at a glance, try this color scheme. Make a similar holder to the one described, but smaller, to take a card 1" x 1 1/2", and place on the opposite side of the box. Insert in this holder a card of the same color as the dam's card, which may not correspond with the color of the record card of the foster parents. Numerous uses can be made of these cards. Special crosses can have their special cards showing diagonally the colors of sires and dam. Colored paper pasted over one half will answer very well. Cards showing box numbers also can be used, if desired.

Follow these simple instructions and much valuable time will be saved, the contents of every box will be readily ascertained, and the results of special matings followed with more accuracy. Make sure of having a good supply

of record and identity cards always available in a partitioned box. Most essential is an almanac, pen and ink. Use a good fade-proof ink, which is unaffected by dampness and you will be proud of your records. Your mousery will be more attractive, and you will have an added interest in your stock.

Lost Monkeys Fail to Stop Monkeyshines

Thirty monkeys stranded at a Cincinnati local Railway Express office for lack of forwarding address continued to cut capers despite worried looks on faces of expressmen in their charge.

Starting out from Long Island, N. Y., their forwarding address was lost somehow, including their sack of carrots used to feed them enroute. However, bananas and bread were excellent substitutes—if judged from the way they ate them—and their destination address was obtained in quick time, too.

Why Work For Others?

Start your own business raising
Westminster Pure Strain
white, colored and fancy mice.

WE SUPPLY FINEST BREEDING STOCK

Write for full details.

Pet Shops write, using your business stationery,
for wholesale prices and special offer.

D. E. NELSON

3840 Westminster Place, St. Louis 8, Mo.

Je64