

# Animals on an 1850s Farm

**LEVEL 1**



**Homeplace 1850s Working Farm**

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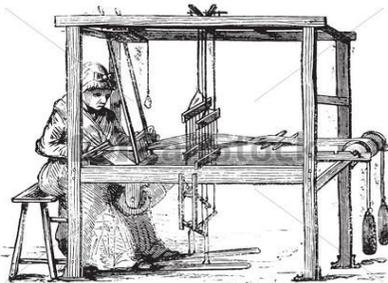
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**1** Animals raised on the farm were used for many different things.

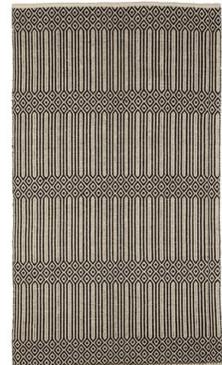
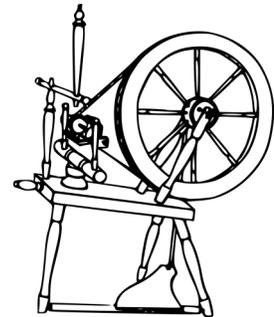
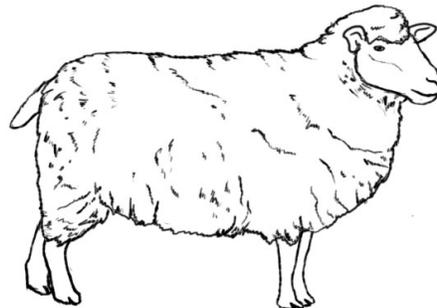
**Hog meat** was salted and hung in the smoke house to make **hams** and **bacon** for food in the winter. The **fat** from the hog was called **lard** and was used in many ways including making **soap** and **candles**.



**Sheep wool** was **shorn (cut)** every spring, it was **woven** and **spun** into cloth and yarns. Then it could be made into **clothing, rugs and quilts** for the farm.



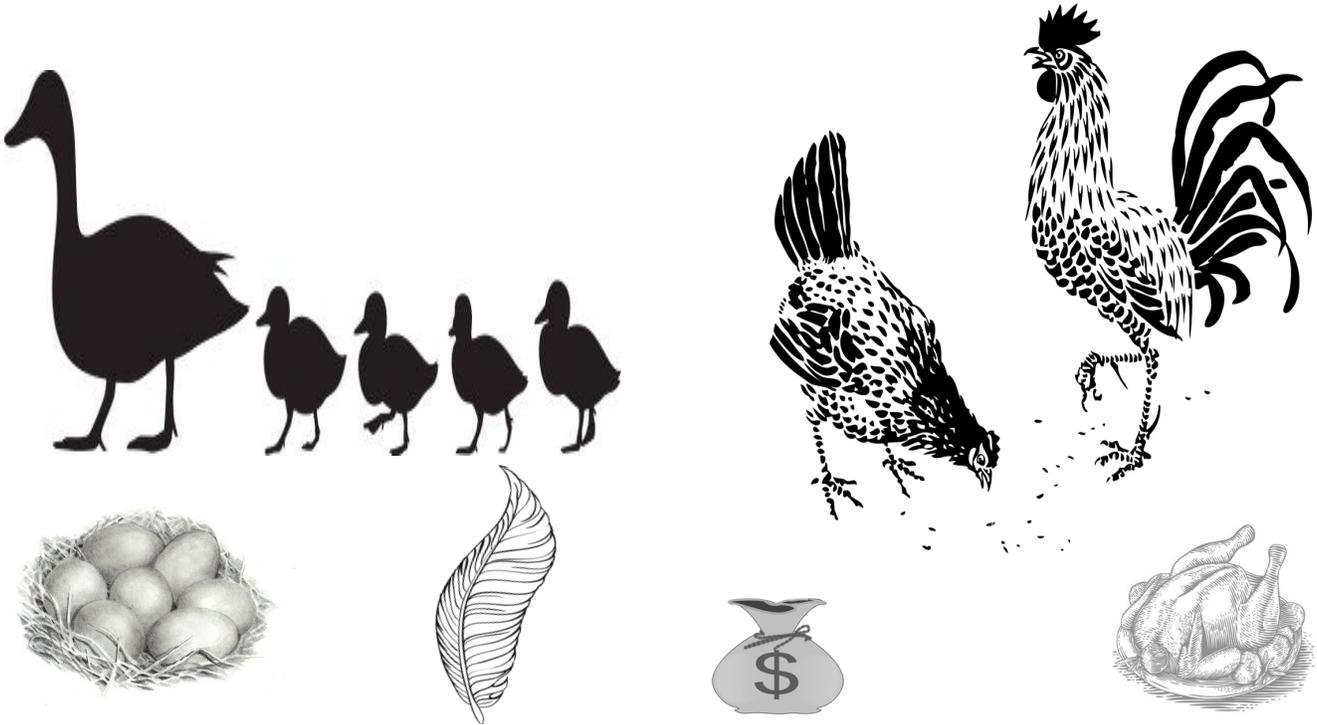
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# 1 Chickens and Ducks are important members of the farm.

They are raised for their **eggs, meat and feathers.**

Eggs could be sold or used for money to trade for things needed on the farm.

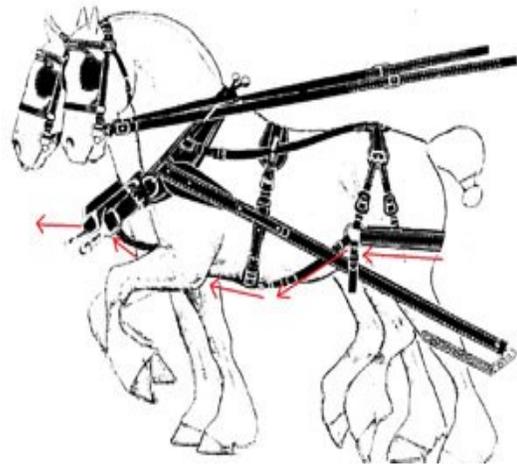


- ◆ **Ducks** and **Chickens** are **omnivores**. They eat water plants, worms, grain, seeds, nuts, fruit, insects, and even small fish.
- ◆ Chickens have a great memory and can **recognize** over 100 different faces of people or animals.
- ◆ Mother hens **talk** to their chicks when they are still in the egg.
- ◆ Each chicken sound means something specific.
- ◆ Ducks have been **domesticated** as pets and farm animals for more than **500 years**.
- ◆ All ducks have highly **waterproof** feathers.

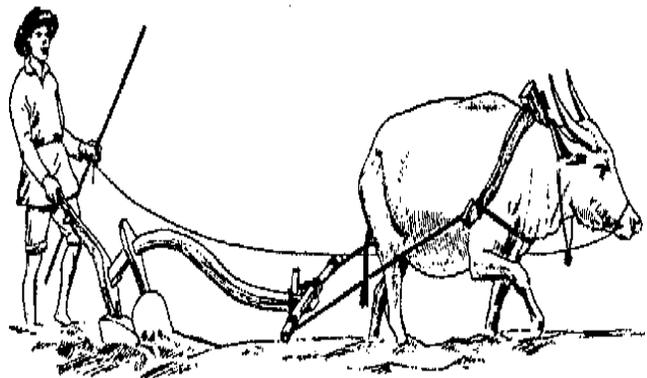
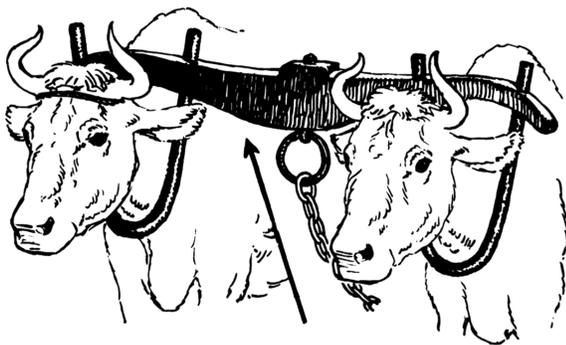
# 1

## Mules and Oxen Did Work on the Farm.

Before tractors, **mules and oxen** provided the **draft power** (transferring the animals muscle power to push or pull a heavy load), for many jobs on the farm, from plowing to planting to hauling crops to market.



**Mules** have **horse mother** and **donkey father**. Mules are **hitched** to plows, planters, cultivators, and wagons. A man and a mule could **walk up to 30 miles** a day on hard ground. In 1850 southerners used mule power more than anywhere else in the United States.



**Oxen** are **cattle** that have been **trained to do work** such as pulling plows or carts, by using a **yoke**. In 1850 farmers needed a milk producing cow that could work in rough, stony pastures and survive in harsh winters. The oxen are very strong and have a slow steady pace that also makes them well-suited for hauling logs and firewood.