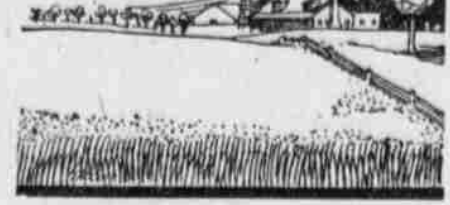


NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM



Level roosts are best.
Do not starve your hens.
Regularity in feeding is needed.
Fit the young colts with cotton collars.

Lead the cow instead of letting her lead you.
Drainage is a necessary foundation for a good road.
Variety keeps the cow's appetite in the best condition.

Pure water is essential to pure butter and profitable beef.
Duck raisers pack forty dressed ducklings in a barrel for shipment.
Unfertilized eggs keep best, and salt is the best material to pack them in.

The man who goes into dairying for a year or two had better stay out of it.
All the dead limbs from trees in the orchard should go into the brush heap or woodshed.

A breeding pen of chickens is usually made up of from six to fourteen females and a male.
A male bird less than a year old is known as a cockerel. When over a year old it is a cock.

To prevent rabbits from gnawing the bark and limbs from small apple trees spray with soap-suds.
The mule from a high strung dam is much more likely to be a kicker than one from a draft mare.

When the hogs have free access to salt there is little danger of their eating enough to injure themselves.
Cramming is a system of forcing feed into young fowls, either by hand or machine, so as to put on extra flesh.

Mustard planted between the cabbage plants attracts the harlequin bugs and they can then be captured and killed.
There are about a dozen different breeds of dairy cows, and the best is the kind that should suit you the best of all.

A good way to salt the cow is to keep a plentiful supply before her and trust to her judgment in using what she needs.
Light framed birds that mature quickly, such as Leghorns and Minorcas, should not be kept with those of the heavier fowls.

A disinfectant should be used in the barn from time to time. Remember that cleaning the stables means more now than it used to.
A few gallons of paint would not be expensive, but if it were rightly applied it would add a great deal to the value of the place.

The first cutting of alfalfa is the coarsest and contains, so far as data indicates, less digestible nutrients than any of the following cuttings.
Driving a wedge with the back of the ax has spoiled many a good tool. Take a maul or beetle to do that work, and save the ax for its own work.

The calves should be fed regularly and they should have good clean pure feed in clean pails and boxes. Ignoring these points will account for much calf mortality.
It is estimated that laying Pekin ducks require from two-thirds to three-fourths of a quart of food per day for each duck, or from 66 to 75 quarts per 100 ducks.

Keep over a few of the best ewes of your own breeding each year, even though they are not so good as you might buy. It will make your flock more uniform all the time.
If the cream does not come after long churning, give it a thorough warming, heating it up to more than the right churning temperature. Then set it away to cool, and when it reaches the right point, try it again.

Millet seed is an excellent egg producing grain. Beans being highly nitrogenous are equally beneficial. Sorghum and broomcorn seeds will do to add variety to the bill of fare. Barley is about of the same merit. Popcorn contains more nitrogen and phosphate than does regular Indian corn. Buckwheat is an egg producing food, but must be fed sparingly, as it is overfattening.

Never feed dusty feed.
The poultry industry is growing.
Green feed for hens is essential.
Conquer the kicking cow with kindness.
Put the silo on the warm side of the barn.
A little frost will not hurt cauliflower.

Lack of exercise is excellent to make fowls sick.
Silage fed cows are never attacked by the cornstalk disease.
An occasional soaking in brine will keep the wooden churn sweet.
An ordinary cow voids about 30 tons of liquid and solid manure a year.

The man with four or more cows doesn't save money by not buying a separator.
Plenty of sunlight in the calf stable makes for health and quick growth in the youngsters.
The dairyman who has alfalfa hay to feed needs less grain than the man feeding other hays.

A poultard is a pullet deprived of the power of producing eggs, with the object of great size.
Avoid the mistakes made last spring, and make good use of the things learned last year.
Other things being equal, the separator on a solid and level foundation will give the longest service.

There is no animal that responds more quickly or more profitably to good treatment than the pig.
Cherry trees are entirely free from diseases, on which account nurserymen like to handle them most.
A simple system of bookkeeping maintained throughout the year will be both helpful and satisfying.

Throwing manure out of the stable against the posts of the basement will surely cause them to rot. Don't do it.
The male chicken is a cock, the male goose a gander, the male duck a drake, and the male turkey a tom or gobbler.
There should be enough ventilation in every hen house to do away with the dampness caused by the fowls' breathing.

Every farmer with a number of cows should have a clean, sanitary milk house, well supplied with good cold water.
When hay contains quantities of quack and other foul seed the composting of the manure is a necessary precaution.
Corn is the best crop to plant on new land, as the constant working will put the ground in good order for seeding in the fall.

Save all the small potatoes to use with the mixed food later on. They will prove a very beneficial addition to the warm mash.
The best profits in dairying come from the best farms and herd. It takes more than a good creamery to make a large milk check.
All the growth and thrift that can be encouraged and maintained during the first year of a colt's life insure a stronger and a better horse.

If the incubator is to be used in hatching chicks, look it over and see that everything about it is in proper shape before starting the heat.
Are there not some places about the farm where evergreens ought to be planted? They make a splendid windbreak about the barn and yards.
Before setting a hen it is well to thoroughly clean the nest and then lay a piece of cardboard, soaked in kerosene in the bottom of the nest.

The kind of separator one uses is of less importance than the kind of care given the machine. It is of course taken for granted that you have an efficient skimmer.
Boston now claims to possess a real Venus. With beauty and brains cornered, the staid center of intellect and culture will soon challenge Paris for the style championship.
Teach the boy that there is just as much opportunity to use his brains on the farm as in any other work and the chances are he will be more willing to stay with you.

Present indications are that hog prices will make another flight within the next five or six months. This ought to be a good time to get a bunch of shoats together and feed them skim-milk.
While plenty of roughness of the ordinary kind does not add much richness to the ration in theory, in practice it is worth considerable. Cows like the stuff themselves with something after having had their meal of concentrated feed. If they cannot do this they fall down in the milking supply.

POULTRY

FOOD VALUE OF MANY EGGS

Though Nearly Half Water, Their Contents Are Extremely Nutritious—Comparison With Meat.

Many persons often ask what an egg is made of, but strange to say few ever find out to their entire satisfaction. A test at the department of agriculture shows that the white of an egg is nearly seven-eighths water, the balance being nearly pure albumen. The yolk is slightly less than one-half water. This is true of the eggs of chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese. In comparing the eggs of these various birds the department of agriculture quotes the following figures:

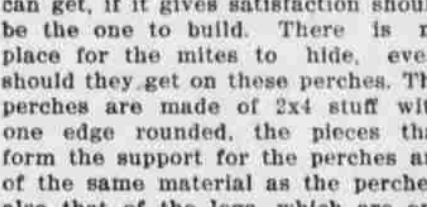
Hen eggs, 50 per cent. water, 16 per cent. protein, 36 per cent. fat.
Goose eggs, 44 per cent. water, 19 per cent. protein, 36 per cent. fat.
Duck eggs, 46 per cent. water, 17 per cent. protein, 36 per cent. fat.
Turkey eggs, 48 per cent. water, 18 per cent. protein, 33 per cent. fat.

Of course, farmers understand that protein goes to make muscle and blood, while fat is fuel for running the machinery of the body. Thus it will be seen that eggs, though half or nearly half water, are extremely nutritious, containing all the elements required for the building and support of the body. There is no truth, however, in the old saying that an egg contains as much nutriment as a pound of steak. It would be nearer correct to estimate a pound of eggs as being equal to a pound of lean steak in nutritive value.

MAKE PERCHES MITE-PROOF

Made of 2x4 Stuff, There is No Place for Little Insects to Hide—Kerosene Does Work.

The simplest constructed perch we can get, if it gives satisfaction should be the one to build. There is no place for the mites to hide, even, should they get on these perches. The perches are made of 2x4 stuff with one edge rounded, the pieces that form the support for the perches are of the same material as the perches, also that of the legs, which are one foot long, which makes the perches 18 inches from the floor. Sufficiently high for convenience and not so high that when fowls jump from them,



they will bruise their feet, causing "Bumble-foot," broken legs or breast bones. The legs should fit the cans loosely so that in removing them to facilitate cleaning out the droppings the cans will not be overturned. The cans should contain an inch or two of kerosene or coal oil at all times and there is no possible chance of any mites, big or little, getting by.

INDUSTRIOUS HEN LAYS EGGS

Fowl Should Not Be Compelled to Remain Idle by Being Cooped Up in Filthy Quarters.

The hen is naturally industrious and she should not be compelled to remain idle by being cooped up in dark, filthy quarters, where drafts are prevalent, the floor without some good litter and surroundings otherwise unhealthy. Rather encourage her to work by providing her with good, comfortable quarters.
Construct a good scratch shed, but if this be impossible then construct a dropping board under the roosts and place the litter upon the floor of the coop. Permit all the light possible. Scatter the grain food in the litter and let old biddy scratch for it to her heart's content.
Avoid feeding moldy food and provide drinking water in plenty. During the bitter cold weather slightly warm the water for the convenience of the fowls. Remember, the working hen is the one that will shell out the eggs, while the idle one will not lay.

Varieties of Ducks.

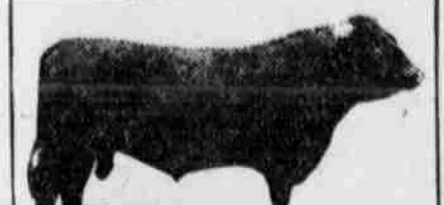
Today we have 11 acknowledged varieties of ducks, viz.: Pekin, Aylesbury, Rouen, Indian Runner, Crested White, White Muscovy, Colored Muscovy, Cayuga, White Call, Gray Call and Black East Indians.
For real practical purposes, I only recommend the first four classes and in the order that I have named them, the Pekin being the most extensively bred and probably as good as an all-around market duck as there is today; but they are the most timid, and consequently more liable to get panicked when raised in large numbers, says a writer in an exchange. Standard weight of adult drakes, eight pounds; ducks, seven pounds. As to laying qualities the Pekins are outclassed only by a single breed. It is a common thing for a Pekin duck to lay from 100 to 125 eggs in a single season.

EXPERIMENTS AND COMPARISONS MADE IN FEEDING CATTLE FOR PRODUCTION OF BEEF

Cold Pressed Cottonseed-Cake Proves to Be 50 Per Cent. More Valuable as Source of Protein Than Wheat Bran—Larger Gains and at Less Expense Were Made With Alfalfa.

Bulletin No. 132, entitled "Economic Beef Production," by H. R. Smith, has just been issued by the Nebraska experiment station. This report embraces 52 pages and gives the results of four experiments in which comparisons are made of different rations suitable for producing beef in Nebraska and of different types and breeds of cattle fed under like conditions. The general conclusions as published in the summary of this bulletin are as follows:

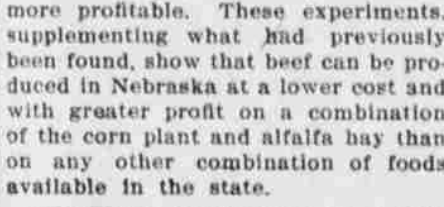
(1) In comparing bran, linseed meal and cold pressed cottonseed cake, each as a source of protein supplementing corn meal and silage, the cold pressed cake proved to be worth 50 per cent. more per ton than wheat bran, and linseed meal 18 per cent. more per ton than cold pressed cottonseed cake.



"In the use of each of these supplementary protein feeds with corn meal and prairie hay the cold pressed cottonseed cake showed a value per ton 22 per cent. greater than wheat bran, and the linseed meal 28 per cent. more than the cotton seed cake.

(2) Where alfalfa was used in connection with corn meal and silage, or corn meal and prairie hay, large gains were made without the use of a concentrated protein food. The gains in both experiments where alfalfa was fed were larger, less costly, and much more profitable. These experiments, supplementing what had previously been found, show that beef can be produced in Nebraska at a lower cost and with greater profit on a combination of the corn plant and alfalfa hay than on any other combination of foods available in the state.

(3) These experiments show that corn silage gives larger gains than shredded corn stover when each is fed

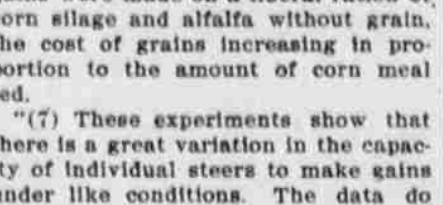


with corn meal and alfalfa, and for beef production is worth 60 per cent. more per ton.
(4) Corn stover has a value 80 per cent. as great as prairie hay, and the

portion consumed is fully as valuable. Prairie hay at its usual market price is not profitable for fattening cattle.
(5) In comparing a ration consisting of a heavy feed of corn meal, alfalfa and a light feed of silage, with a ration consisting of a medium quantity of each feed and a ration consisting of a light feed of corn, alfalfa and a heavy feed of silage, yearling steers being fattened for market made cheaper and more profitable gains on the larger feed of corn and smaller feed of corn silage.
(6) In growing calves to be fattened later for market, the cheapest gains were made on a liberal ration of corn silage and alfalfa without grain, the cost of grains increasing in proportion to the amount of corn meal fed.
(7) These experiments show that there is a great variation in the capacity of individual steers to make gains under like conditions. The data do not show that the individuals of one breed make larger gains than those of another breed. The variation in gain seems to be fully as great within a breed as between representatives of different breeds.
(8) Type of conformation seems to

be a controlling factor, the low-set, more compact types having something of an advantage in gains and much in early maturity over the rangy types.
(9) Gains seem to correlate to a considerable degree with body capacity as indicated by the size of the middle girth, the largest gainers having relatively larger middle girths at the same weight in most instances.
(10) While the average gains made by all dairy bred steers are nearly the same as those made by the beef bred steers up to the age of twenty-three months, the latter showed in most instances a higher condition of flesh, a larger proportion of high-priced meat, and sold for a higher price per hundred, returning larger profits to the feeder on the basis of the same initial cost per hundred."

Calves in Stanchions.



How Fertilizers Should Be Used

For Best Results They Should Be Combined With Animal Manure or Rotted Sod.

To obtain the best results from the use of chemical fertilizers they should always be used in connection with animal manure or rotted sod. The two give the greatest returns at the least cost. The quantity to apply to the acre will depend upon the condition of the ground. In soils which have been built up by the free use of stable manure or green crops a very small quantity of fertilizer can be profitably used to start the seed. About 250 to 300 pounds may be applied to the acre in the hill for corn. Use a good corn fertilizer. This quantity will give the corn a vigorous start, which it will maintain throughout the growing season. A fertilizer should always be drilled in with the grain. If sown in the drill or dropped in the hill mix it with the earth before dropping the grain or setting the plant, says a writer in the Baltimore American. The phosphate should never be thrown in a pile in the hill; sprinkle it over a four-inch space, so the first rainfall can dissolve the plant food. It is then ready to be taken up by the delicate corn roots.
Land that is so poor that it cannot grow weeds will not give a profitable yield of corn with a little fertilizer dropped in the hill. Such land needs rotted vegetable matter. This can be best furnished by sowing cow-peas or buckwheat and turning the crop down when in full bloom. Thorough preparation of the land before planting and extra culture during the season of growth will often give a fair yield from thin land. I have made a great many practical experiments in the application of fertilizers to red clay and rotten rock soils and I have invariably found that the most profit was realized when a good bonemeal or other nitrogen fertilizer was used in connection with stable manure or rotted clover and grass sod.

Poultry Raising for Farm Girls

Let Her Have Entire Care and Management of Fowls for Specified Share.

(By ANNIE HOFFARTH)
To the boy on a farm is usually given some property of his own, even when quite small. It is no uncommon thing to see him given a share in the crops when he is large enough to do a man's work. The father furnishes tools, team, seed and fertilizer, and the boy "crops" with him on the same terms as his tenant. This is perfectly proper and as it should be; but why not give his sister a chance, also?
There is the flock of poultry and buildings; or, if there are no buildings, there should be some erected right away. Then turn the poultry raising over into her hands, letting her have the entire care and management of the fowls, for a certain specified share of the profit.
Measure out and set aside so much wheat, oats and corn for their feed, and if you do not think her work about the house pays for this feed over and above her board and clothes, charge it up to the flock. To give her a fair start, get her a good 100-egg incubator, and brooder of corresponding size, so that she can raise early chickens.
Any girl of average intelligence can learn to manipulate a simply constructed incubator, or at least I did, and my machine was the first one I ever saw. I am now earning more money than several of my girl friends who are stenographers and clerks in the city.
Poultry raising is a business that calls for brains, and it is a business that will grow. It is not overcrowded; you are not subjected to the whims of an exacting employer; you are not forced to live in a third-class boarding house; there is no car fare to pay; and best of all, the girl can stay right at home with the dear mother.

The ONCOOKER S.E. KISER

Mas Regret



Since pa has lost his job the joys we had have all departed; Ma mopes around and you can see that she is heavy-hearted; She's cut out bridge, and it, of course, is not at all surprising! That we ain't doin' much just now, except economizin'.

Pa says it wouldn't be so bad if ma had only heeded And saved a little when she had so much more than she needed; The girls are still at home in spite of all ma did to make 'em So sweet the fellows she'd picked out would simply have to take 'em.

It's awful gloomy 'round the place since pa don't have to hurry Away from breakfast any more; we don't do much but worry; Ma gets around and frets all day, and so do Bess and Gertie; Sue seems to take it hardest, though, because she's nearly thirty.

When pa was scoldin' ma last night because she'd been short-sighted; He spoke as though he'd lost his job just so that she'd be spited; But ma spunked up at last and said: "You'd spoil a saint's endurance, And you're so healthy, too, with such a lot of life insurance!"

Putting It Politely.
It was evident that the directors were very nervous. Anxiously they awaited the coming of the president, who had summoned them in haste. At length he appeared, greatly distressed, and, taking his place in the chair, he began addressing them without waiting to observe any formalities.
"Gentlemen," he said, "I am very sorry to say that it is my duty to impart to you some disagreeable news. I assure you that this is the saddest day of my life. I would rather have cut off my right arm than been compelled to send for you on an occasion of this kind. It is most—"
"What's the matter?" one of the directors impatiently asked.
"The cashier has aviated."

In the Interest of General Joy.
"They say that owing to the law of gravity one's weight decreases as one gets farther and farther away from the surface of the earth."
"The upper stories of those high buildings they are erecting in New York ought to be finished off for the exclusive use of ladies who are distressed because of their stoutness.

Neglected.
"Pa, are you one of the dear plain people?"
"No, my child. Nobody seems to have found out that I vote."

Culture.
"Mushingham may have made his money in a hurry, but he hasn't neglected to take on a supply of culture just the same."
"I know it. Do you know what he has had done in that theater he bought the other day? He's had the word 'Exeunt' instead of 'Exit' painted over every door."

Her Tongue.
"Put out your tongue," said the doctor.
After the lady had done so she asked: "Is there anything the matter with it?"
"No-o. Worn some, that's all."

As It Appears From a Distance.
The half that doesn't know how the other half lives puts in a good deal of its time acting as if it were afraid it might find out.

Easy.
It is always easy to be polite to people who can throw good things in our way.

Speaking of Raising.
Church—You know we have a wonderful country. Some things we can raise here easier than any other place. Gotham—Are you speaking of the price of coal or eggs?

S. E. Kiser.