

NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



Plant some trees.
Keep up the fences.
Watch brood sows closely.
Have salt handy for the cows.
The hog louse multiplies very rapidly.
Salt is cheap. Give the cows all they care for.
It is easier to select the seed than to grade the grain.
Love for animals finds gratification in their daily care.
Do not keep a cow that tests below three per cent in butter fat.
Don't feed the sow for a day after she farrows. But give her drink.
The ewe flock requires especial attention during the lambing season.
A woodlot provides fairly ideal conditions for the rearing of small chicks.
To make a profit in dairying, get good cows and give them the best of care.
There is more money in a good milker than any other man on the farm.
Plowing when the soil is not in proper condition is a waste of time and horseflesh.
The same properties that make milk a good food for calves make it good for growing chicks.
Keep the hog pens clean and dry—even if you have to floor them with cinders and cement.
The salt in butter will remain in grains, not being dissolved, if the butter is worked very dry.
It is a mistake to try to force a cow to make milk out of food that does not carry milk making qualities.
There is no way to distinguish fertile eggs from those that are not before placing them in the incubator.
Cow testing aids better and more intelligent feeding. The most careful man is the one who gets the best returns.
Don't have much bedding in the nest at farrowing time. Many a pig gets lost in the bedding and is lain on by the sow.
Coarse bone is not necessarily strong, nor fine bone weak. It depends on what the hog ate when that bone was growing.
In the generality of cases heifers with their first calf do not show as high a test of butter fat as they do at a more mature age.
The gasoline engine is the ideal power to run the separator because it can be depended upon to maintain a uniform rate of speed.
A broody hen, if left to her own devices, will frequently select her nest, lay her eggs in it and bring off a good hatch of healthy chickens.
Corn, the last of the great cereals to be discovered, is now grown over a greater area of the earth's surface than any other grain except wheat.
Where the eggs are intended for hatching there should be no forcing of egg production, but the hens should be given ample runs and fed for vigor and fertility.
It is wise to remember that whatever makes the hen more comfortable and more contented helps to produce the good hatch which all poultry keepers desire.
A study of the kind of butter liked best in one's market is quite essential to high prices—as much so as a knowledge of the principles underlying good butter making.
Some feeders say that sheep thrive better by being fed on the ground, but we do not believe it. It is certainly a wasteful method. It is better business to feed in the racks in the stalls.
By keeping up the practise of late hatching and the use of such fowls as breeders from year to year you will decrease the size of the fowls, lower fertility and in the long run injure egg production. The late-hatched chick may be all right for the showroom, but it is, as a rule, a poor proposition for the egg basket.

Keep down the weeds.
Heifers soon make cows.
Renovate the alfalfa field.
Proper feeding is important.
Dock the lambs when about a month old.
Trim the hoofs of the sheep when you shear.
Heavy feeding does not always produce proportionate gains.
Quality is more important than size in selecting the breeding stock.
Great lung capacity in a cow is essential to high milk production.
Hatching eggs should not be washed except when absolutely necessary.
Palmetto is undoubtedly the leading American variety of asparagus.
Have the nest boxes of the right size for the breed of fowls you have.
Large horses do not stand the heat of midsummer as well as small ones.
The way to tell your cow's fortune is to find out what she is producing.
Get the chicks outdoors as soon as possible when the ground is entirely dry.
Provide the hens with lots of nests, both inside and outside the poultry house.
The food for young ducks should not differ radically from that of the young chick.
Don't abuse the pigs because they get through the hole in the fence you forgot to repair.
In nearly all states there is an increase in the number of farms of less than twenty acres.
The condition of the roosting quarters has some influence, indirectly, upon egg production.
Have you raked up the hog lots and burned everything you can burn? This is most important.
We are at the beginning of a period of enlightenment concerning the possibilities of hog farming.
Touch up the thin places in the meadow by applying a thin top-dressing of well-rotted manure.
The quality of nourishment rather than the bulk should guide us in the purchase of feeding materials.
Nests with china eggs, placed in out-of-the-way corners, will tempt the turkeys to make their nests there.
It is best to feed the new calf three times a day for a while rather than give the same amount in two seeds.
The testing association promotes a greater appreciation of the cow and consequently better results are sure to follow.
Thumps will not occur if the pigs get lots of exercise. Make them chase the sow over the pasture and they will not be so fat.
Some bacteria are sure to find their way into the milk, and for that reason the milk must be kept cool in order to retard their growth.
Never locate the road so close to the stream bed that it will be subject to an overflow or on ground which is constantly damp and marshy.
The fact that almost any old plug can make money at farm work obscures from vision the possibilities of his making money when sold.
Every particle of food that the hen can find for herself by ranging over the premises amounts to a direct or an indirect saving to her owner.
It is much easier to run a flock of poultry down than to build it up, and nothing will run down a flock of chickens quicker than improper feeding.
As a rule, there is more profit in marketing fowls reasonably early than at any other time; prices are not only better, but there is a saving of feed.
The hen that is able to mix bugs, grasshoppers, worms, slugs and beetles in with her regular grain ration will need no tonic preparations in her daily feed.
Provide ample roosting places for the growing young chicks. Beware of crowding. Nothing is so conducive to colds as the overheating that comes of crowded quarters.
It is claimed that stack burned alfalfa is not only eaten more greedily than when well cured, but that it contains more digestible nutrients than the dry cured hay. The Kansas Experiment station is authority for the latter statement.
Old ducks are reared much the same as chickens. They need no roosts or scratching sheds, a low coop like a hog house being suitable. They live on whole oats, corn and alfalfa hay very comfortably. They forage on pasture in summer.

FEEDING AND CARE OF THE SPRING PIGS



A Healthy and Profitable Spring Litter.

A sow with several little pigs can be conveniently and profitably maintained by the average suburban householder. The sow and her brood can not only be kept by the surplus waste from the kitchen, but the pigs in November or December will prove a good source of supply for fresh meat; then, too, some of the pigs may be sold at a profit.
The feeding and care of the pigs is as important as the breeding in producing a good hog. Plenty of feed and good care may make a good hog out of a runt, but the lack of it will always make a runt out of a good pig. Young pigs must have a dry bed and plenty of sunshine. Begin feeding them as soon as they will eat and keep them well fed until they are mature. Always keep plenty of clean, fresh water where the pigs may drink at any time. The more milk a sow will give the faster her pigs will grow.
Hog lots should be built where the sun will shine in some portion of them at all hours of the day. Sunshine is one of the greatest factors for destroying germs and keeping down diseases. A supply of clean, fresh water at all times is essential. The trough should always be kept clean and not so much feed given at one time that it would be left in the trough to become sour and filthy. The

troughs should be frequently washed and placed where the sun will shine in them. This is especially true of those used for feeding small pigs. Clean, dry straw should be placed in every house for bedding, as it is essential that the sow have a warm, dry bed when she farrows. Many young pigs are lost each year from cold and exposure at farrowing time. The young pigs must be kept warm, dry and should have plenty of sunshine until they are several weeks old.
A good shelter for little pigs during the summer months may be made by setting four poles into the ground and securely nailing two by six inch material around these about three feet from the ground, and upon these a few light poles may be put crosswise and straw or coarse hay piled on top.
If the pigs show indications of scouring a mixture of charcoal (one bushel), hardwood ashes (one bushel), salt (eight pounds), air slaked lime (eight pounds), sulphur (four pounds) and pulverized coppers (two pounds) where the hogs can eat it at will. This is not only a good remedy for scouring, but is one of the best preventives for worms.
It is also well to remember that pork is more in demand than either beef or mutton, and the danger of overstocking the market is remote.

AVOIDING GRUB IN THE SHEEP FLOCK

Veterinarian Can Relieve Animals, but Prevention of Infection Is Much Better.

The condition known as grub in the head is caused by the presence in the cavities of the head between the eyes of the larva (worm stage) of the sheep bot-fly. The trouble is confined to sheep and occasionally goats. The eggs are laid in the nostrils of the sheep during the summer by a yellowish gray fly somewhat larger than the house-fly. The eggs hatch and work their way up into the cavities of the head between the eyes, but not into the brain. They attach themselves there and remain about ten months, when they loosen their hold and are sneezed out and burrow into the ground. There they pass through another stage, emerging in a month or six weeks an adult fly, and the life cycle is begun again.
A few grubs may not cause enough trouble to be noticed. However, if there are many, a thick, dirty white or yellowish discharge is caused with coughing and sneezing, tossing of the head and weakened gait. Sometimes death results.
A veterinarian can relieve the sheep by trephining, but prevention of infection is a better practise. In fly time the noses of the sheep should be tarred often. Some force their sheep to take their salt through an auger hole, and keep it smeared with fat during fly time. A dark shed where the sheep may escape the flies is a great help.

IMPROVEMENT OF LOOSE SANDY SOIL

Lime Makes Them More Compact and Retentive of Moisture.

Lime may improve loose sandy soils by making them more compact and more retentive of moisture. For this purpose some form of carbonate of lime is usually recommended, and in much smaller quantities than for clay soils. Clay soils will stand more lime than sandy soils. The improvement of sandy soils will often be much greater if the lime is applied to a green crop turned under.
Lime hastens the conversion of the vegetable matter into humus, and this with the lime helps to fill the open spaces between the sand grains. It is claimed by those who have given much attention to light sandy soils that there are no other types of soils that will respond quite so readily to liming, provided the necessary vegetable matter is supplied in the form of a green cover crop turned under.

PREDIGESTED CORN TAKEN FROM SILO

Moisture Essential to Continuance of Fermentations That Make Fodder Palatable.

Why is it that when the corn plant is cut up into small bits and packed in a silo, perhaps with the addition of water, it comes out after a while transformed into a feed stuff essentially different from corn of the same kind left outdoors, even though the latter may also receive an abundant wetting from the rain, questions Northwestern Agriculturist. Why is silage succulent, mildly sour, and tender, while the plant outside becomes tough, dry and tasteless?
The answer is that, as soon as the corn plant is severed from the ground, and its life processes stopped, a number of chemical changes begin, such as the change of sugar into lactic acid—the same that is produced in the souring of milk. Air and light being excluded by the tight walls and covering of the silo, and by the "packing" of the silage under trampling and its own weight, the moisture essential to the continuance of these chemical changes or "fermentations" is retained, heat is generated, and the fodder undergoes a ripening process which makes it palatable and easy of digestion. In fact, the shredded corn plant is, in a measure, like the "breakfast foods," which we enjoy so much, "predigested." The outside plant, on the contrary, exposed to sun and air, quickly loses its moisture, so that the chemical changes cease, and it "dries up" at last, almost to a point of worthlessness.

PROTECTION FOR SORE SHOULDERS

Collar From One Horse Used Indiscriminately on Others Causes Much Trouble.

The shoulder is a tender spot. If a collar does not fit well, it causes the horse about as much discomfort as a poorly fitting shoe. You know how comfortable it is to wear a shoe that fits some one else. Taking the collar from one animal and using the same indiscriminately on others causes about the same trouble. When starting the horses at hard work, bathing the shoulders every night with water is an excellent practise.
Always see that the collars are cleaned up before you put them away. After the team has been working a few hours in the morning it is always well to lift the collars and clean them off. Many teamsters take off the hames during the noon hour in order that the strain may be taken off the horses' necks.

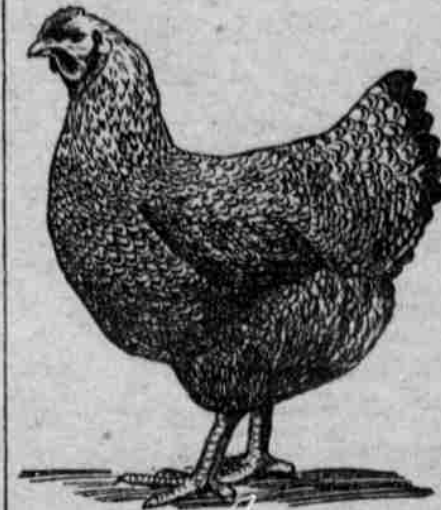
POULTRY FACTS



HEN SHOULD BE KEPT BUSY

Shock or Fright Will Cause Fowl to Hold Up Her Eggs—Overfeeding as Bad as Underfeeding.

Hens hold up their eggs just as cows hold up their milk. A shock or fright of any kind, such as being chased by a dog, the presence of strange dogs, etc., will cause a hen to hold up her eggs, and frequently cause dead eggs. Changing the house will also cause a hen to hold up her eggs for a few days. Hens and pullets should not be housed together, a pullet has not finished her growth when she begins laying therefore she will lay her best on a ration which would throw an old hen off her feet, because she is making feathers, bone, flesh and eggs. This is on the same principle that a growing boy of sixteen will outeat his father.
The hen should be kept busy, she should have plenty to eat of a variety of food; a one grain ration will mean



A General Purpose Hen.

sudden death. She should have plenty to drink, and her owner should know when she shirks her duty of laying eggs. Overfeeding is almost as bad as underfeeding, and is sometimes responsible for eggs without a shell. A well balanced ration provides shell material. If the fowls are too fat do not give mash, substitute hard grains for which they should scratch and add a little epsom salts in the drinking water.

FEED FOR THE BABY CHICKS

Best Plan is to Confine Mother in Coop Until the Youngsters Are Strong and Sturdy.

(By W. E. VAPLON, Colorado Agricultural College.)
If you will notice the Query columns of the poultry press, you will find that to feeds and feeding of baby chicks is attributed most of the blame for the ills they have, especially bowel troubles; my experience has been that the feed has less to do with the mortality of chicks than any one of the several other factors. Farmers generally feel that turkeys are hard to raise, but babying and lice probably get most of those that die. I know two women who are very successful with poultry, one feeding only cracked wheat, and the other cracked corn; in both cases the mother hens are confined and the poulters have alfalfa range. It is a good plan to keep the hens in coops until the chicks and poulters are beyond the danger point and are strong and sturdy. Wheat and corn, cracked, where chickens are on free range is all the grain needed. Milk in any form is not only a good food but a tonic and beats any you can buy in packages. The old fashioned johnnycake made up of ground grains and wet with milk cannot be improved upon.
When dad is using the plow or cultivator, make him turn over a few furrows where the chicks are kept. Feed scattered in this loose dirt will give them something to do and also provide a bath. It's easier to feed twice a day than every couple of hours, and just as well if plenty of fine grain is scattered broadcast where the chicks can find it.
Incentive for Scratching.
As an incentive for scratching a combination of grains may be scattered and the fowls required to work for it. A good combination is as follows: Wheat 6 pounds, cracked corn 6 pounds, oats 4 pounds, kafir or milo 1 pound, barley 2 pounds, buckwheat 1 pound, coarse beef scrap 1 pound.
Rear Ducks Artificially.
All duck raisers who produce any considerable number of ducks each season hatch and rear them artificially. Some of the large duck farms hatch, rear and market as many as a hundred thousand ducklings in one season.
Hatching Geese Eggs.
While geese eggs can be successfully hatched in incubators, it is usually best to set them under a hen or a goose because one seldom has enough at one time to make the use of an incubator necessary or advisable.

The ONLOOKER

BY HENRY HOWLAND

ON UPWARD VOYAGE

Far up on the River of Life there stands a stately city and fair; And below it are shallows and rapids and curves And whirlpools that strain on the steadiest nerves. And many go blundering there, While a few staunch vessels pass upward and on, Stemming with splendid force The current that now is terribly strong. But tomorrow may glide like the lit of a song, Sure in its beautiful course.

Ah, mark how the powerful packet proceeds. With a rush and the roaring of steam. Spreading waves that are high and that hiss in their might. Where many a boatman is swept out of sight. And left to float down with the stream, And the timbers of many a pitiful wreck. Are strewn on the rocks and the shores, And many a boatman is calling for aid. And a few are undaunted and many afraid. And many lean limp on their oars. The banks of the river are barren some-times, Or gracefully sloping and green. And the winds that blow over them often are wild. And now and then fragrantly scented and mild. With orchards a-bloom on the scene; And over the river is winding about, And the bars are forever unknown. For the channel keeps changing by night and by day, And the streams that flow in tempt the many away. While a few journey upward alone.

The city men call by the name of Success Is a beautiful city to see, With domes that are lofty and gilded and bright. And walls that are graceful and splendid and white. And proud vessels moored at the quay; But never from unexplored regions above, Whence the waters eternally flow, Has ever a craft floated down on the stream. To be moored where the columns and cupolas gleam. For those who toil up from below.

Terrible Predicament.
"My husband has threatened to sue me for divorce," sobbed the beautiful actress.
"Cheer up," said her manager, "Nearly every actress has been sued for divorce."
"I know, but think what the public will say. I have always tried to be all that a wife should be. Now nobody will believe it."
"If you're innocent, why don't you fight the case?"
"That's the trouble. I'm afraid if I fought the case they wouldn't give him the divorce."

PICKED THEM UP.
"And what," asked the Sunday school teacher, "is your name?"
"Arthur Henry Brown Williams Green Joyce Brown Corwin."
"Gracious! How did your parents ever happen to give you all those names?"
"They didn't give me all of them. My step-parents helped."

Willing to Extend Sympathy.
"Yes," he said, after explaining to his wife that the lodge meeting had been a very important and a somewhat protracted one, thus making it impossible for him to get home a minute earlier than he did, "and there were two fellows there who made the worst fools of themselves you could imagine. You couldn't find two worse chumps in a row of counties clear across this state."
"I suppose not," she replied. "Who was the other one? I'd like to sympathize with his wife."

The Cruel World.
Before him flowery pastures spread, He hears a glad brook flow along, And from a branch above his head There falls a sweet June shower of song.
There is mild fragrance in the breeze That blows from orchards far away, The missing cows beneath the trees Are being peaceful while they may.

His limbs are straight and young and strong. He gazes forth from undimmed eyes, But, thinking that the world's gone wrong, He sees a far-off cloud and sighs.

Strange Neglect.
"There's one thing, though," said the stranger, "that I can't understand."
"What's that?" asked the old settler.
"Nobody around here has assured me that this is the garden spot of the state."

Couldn't Lose the Chance.
"My husband always remembers my birthday and our wedding anniversary."
"I should think you would positively hate him," replied the other woman.