

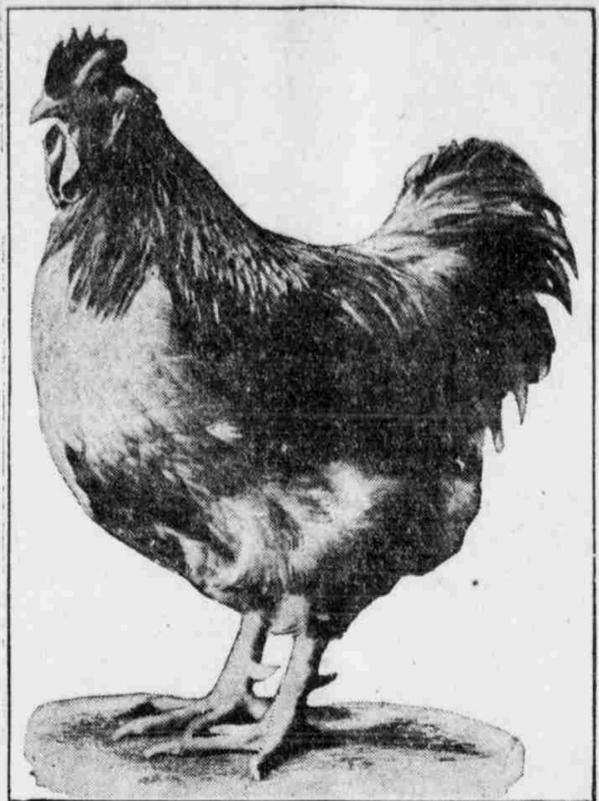
NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM



Keep ahead of the weeds.
 Rotation keeps out disease.
 Keep the chicks free from vermin.
 Fertilizer is an important problem.
 Never let the colt nurse if the mare is heated.
 Don't shut the bull up in a dark, lonesome place.
 Oats are made more palatable for poultry by sprouting.
 Thin out the hills of corn. Three good stalks are enough.
 Only quiet, kind, fast milkers should be allowed in the dairy barn.
 All the clovers are very hard to cure, as the stems hold so much sap.
 Don't fool with garget. Begin treatment as soon as it is discovered.
 Uniformity of type may be gotten in a herd by using bulls of a uniform type.
 With poultry as with other products, it is a good rule to market as soon as ready.
 The first requirements of the young chick is grit to aid in digestion, and pure water.
 A cow's pedigree is all right to tie to just so long as it tallies with profits in the milk pail.
 A number of dairymen in the New England states use hay caps for the curing of clover and timothy.
 It would be impossible to foretell definitely at just what date alfalfa should be broken in any given locality.
 It is better to thin the fruit than to prop the trees. It means better quality of fruit and is not so hard on the trees.
 A bit of wheat bran or ground oats will put the fat on lambs fast, but give it every day. Haphazard is no way to do anything.
 Many a valuable horse has been "hipped" starting in at the barn door that was simply thrown back and not propped open.
 The hog has been called the "mortgage lifter," but it is the hen that keeps the family in groceries while the hog is growing.
 Never grease the hen that is setting, as grease getting on the shells of the eggs will close the pores and smother the chickens.
 The closer you keep up in marketing your eggs the less loss there will be. It doesn't take long for eggs to spoil when the mercury is hot.
 Now and then we run across a farmer who plants his corn before the ground is rightly prepared. It never pays to get in a hurry and "hog it in."
 It is little less than cruelty to animals to put a sore-footed horse on the road. Keep him on the farm if you will, but never try to make a roadster of him.
 The swine industry is profitable and affords a market for waste products and materials of little or no value in themselves. Swine fit perfectly into a diversified farm plan.
 To start an alfalfa field where the soil is deficient in lime and plant food is sometimes quite a task, but when once established it is like a bank account for years.
 Take good care of the work animals, for much will depend upon their efficiency during the busy season when crops must be cultivated frequently and perhaps hurriedly.
 Hog sheds need not be expensive, but they should be dry, tight enough to exclude rains and snows, and also capable of being well ventilated in summer when the weather is hot and shade is needed.
 Barnyard manure is a very variable substance. The more important conditions which determine its composition and value are age and kind of animal, quantity and quality of food, proportion of litter, and method of management and age.
 The difference between hen-cost—which is more than mere feed—and the product of the average hen is not enough to warrant one in keeping unproductive birds, so it is wisdom to give a third personal examination when birds come to maturity.

Study your dairy cows.
 Handle the calves kindly.
 Low-headed trees are best.
 Feed hogs three times a day.
 Red clover makes a fair grade of ensilage.
 Young chicks are babies—treat them as such.
 Selection is what brings results both in crops and in animals.
 Chicks should not receive feed until they are thirty-six hours old.
 Cowpeas, alfalfa and soy beans can be successfully made into silage.
 A treeless pasture is good neither for sheep nor any other animal.
 Feed corn to the setting hens. It digests slowly and keeps up heat.
 Immediately after the pigs are farrowed allow them to suck the dam.
 An egg is never in better condition for setting than on the day it is laid.
 Chicks require about the same food that full-grown hens do, only less of it.
 A man who drives over a bad road and is contented with it is a moss-back.
 It is astonishing how the good seed movement does wake up the boys on the farm.
 Don't sow seed on poorly prepared land. It means more work and often poor returns.
 It is far easier to destroy one weed this year than a thousand of its offspring next year.
 If chicks are kept growing and free of lice they are less liable to become victims of disease.
 Oatmeal boiled and made into a gruel and mixed with milk, is an excellent feed for calves.
 If you want to be really up to date sweep down the ceilings of your stables and whitewash them.
 Well-fed hogs possess great resistance against disease and are not so liable to attacks of worms.
 A solution of copper sulphate will destroy weeds in gravel and cement walks. Apply with a sprinkler.
 Where June grass or dandelion is troublesome the alfalfa should be cut while these weed pests are still green.
 The water wallow in some brook or creek in which crude oil or coal tar dip is sprinkled also spells rout to lice.
 The successful farming communities are those that pay some attention to the social side of life as well as the industrial.
 Chicks should have access to a clean drinking fountain which should be so constructed that they cannot get themselves wet.
 A too liberal diet of corn will bring on indigestion and liver troubles—conditions that are so frequently taken for cholera in chickens.
 A piece of growing corn near the hen houses is an excellent thing for the birds to run through. They will get a lot of feed from it.
 Don't over-tax the mares when they are suckling a young colt. Go easy with them. Remember they are doing double duty. Feed them generously.
 The first eggs laid by pullets should not be set as they are small and will produce weak, undersized chicks. Let the eggs come to full size before setting.
 When handling a horse self control is essential. Don't get out of patience and abuse him. Don't expect the horse to guess at what you want him to do.
 If owners of dairy stock would always remember that the calf of the present is to be the cow of the future the treatment would be different in the majority of cases.
 If rain is imminent while the oats hay is in the windrow the oats should be piled up into big shocks—the bigger the better, for the big ones will come nearer turning water.
 In selecting eggs for hatching much care should be used. Select only nice brown, well-formed and good-sized eggs of healthy stock. Keep them just cool and incubate them as soon as possible.
 Doubtless buttermilk can be fed to pigs with great success, but as a general thing the sweet milk or skimmed product will be better, because it more nearly approaches the sort of nourishment the pig has been accustomed to all his short life.
 There are several good remedies for the deadly head lice on chicks, but if they cannot be obtained it is well to use lard, plain vaseline or carbolated vaseline, being careful to thoroughly grease the head and upper part of the neck of each chick.

EGG CAPACITY OF THE VARIOUS BREEDS



Single-Comb Buff Orpington, "Champion New Yorker."

In nine months' test of the laying capacity of 328 hens of different breeds, conducted by the New Jersey station, and reported to the department of agriculture, the following percentage egg yield was obtained: White Leghorns and Rhode Island Reds, 40; White Plymouth Rocks, 37; White Orpingtons, 32; Buff Orpingtons, 31; Black Langshans, 27; Barred Plymouth Rocks and White Wyandottes, 26; and Light Brahmas, 17. In general, there was noted among all the heavy layers a long body in proportion to its depth, with the heavy development behind forming a wedge-shape when viewed from the side, late molting, a faded shank, bright full eye, often faded in color and free from surplus face wrinkles. The poorer producers were noted for an early molt and general sleek appearance.

KEEPING SMALL FLOCK

GOOD REVENUE FROM POULTRY ON VILLAGE LOT.

Safe to Say That Any One With Ordinary Sense and Industry Can Make Money by Raising Chickens—Feed Only the Best.

(By KATE ST. MAUR. Copyright, 1914.)

With 150 square feet of ground suitable for poultry, and devoting half an hour every night and morning, with an extra two or three hours on Saturday, you should be able to add two or three hundred dollars to your income. My authority for this is my knowledge of a bank clerk whose home is beyond the city limits, who made \$800 last year from a flock of 100 hens, and of a postmistress who made \$462, though neither of them gave more than a few hours a week to poultry, so it seems safe to say that any one with ordinary common sense and industry can make three or four hundred dollars. Any sort of old hens and coops won't do. A person who starts with very little capital will find it advisable to buy three good birds rather than twenty poor ones and make a clean, new house, even if it's only 3 by 6 feet, rather than patch up some vermin infested shanty. This is the time to lay the foundation of winter eggs and next year's profits, so if you have a flock of any of the popular breeds hatch every one. But, if your flock consists of mongrels, feed well and get all the eggs you can, sell them for table use and with the proceeds buy eggs from some reliable dealer, or, what is better, sell a few old birds and buy a small incubator. There is a good little metal machine costing six dollars which holds 50 eggs. Fireless brooders from the same firm cost the same.

Feed Only the Best.

Chicks should have nothing to eat for 48 hours after leaving the shell. The reason is the yolk is absorbed immediately before a chick breaks through the shell and must be allowed time to digest and pass through the bowels before any foreign substance is introduced or indigestion and diarrhea will result.

Commercial chick feed is the best feed, being a mixture of seeds and finely broken corn, specially put up for chicks. Once a day give a little pot cheese or stale bread soaked in milk and squeezed dry. When confined to brooders vegetable material must be added, such as lettuce leaves or tops of green onions chopped fine. Keep clean water, ground charcoal and fine grit always before them and remember, with really good birds, your profits come in the spring from selling eggs for hatching or for day old chicks. Indeed, you should not begrudge the utmost thought and care to your poultry in the growing stage, for it is then you are building the foundation for a profitable poultry plant.

Improper Feeding is Bad.

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.

HANDLING THE FARM POULTS

Wing Feathers Should Be Pulled When the Youngsters Are From Four to Six Days Old.

According to some good authorities, little turkeys stand a better chance of living and thriving if long wing feathers are pulled when they are four to six days old. At this time they come out easily. No doubt this prevents too much strength being taken from their systems by the extreme growth of the long feathers that hang down (almost drag sometimes), giving the little birds an untidy appearance.

When turkeys are about two weeks old, says a writer in Inland Farmer, we begin to feed them just a little cracked wheat and other small grains such as chicks do well on, making the change by degrees. When feeding milk curd we sprinkle it lightly with charcoal occasionally; this helps prevent bowel trouble. And once in awhile when we are giving moistened feed we sprinkle it lightly with little chick grit.

If you find young turkeys drooping, the first thing to look for is lice and watch about feeding too much. On farm range a turkey hen will raise her flock with very little feed from the house; just enough to keep them tame and let them know they have a home. The little turks won't stand domesticating as a chick will. They have to have plenty of air; won't do to shut them in a close coop.

FEED PAN FOR THE POULTRY

Ordinary Vessel Placed in Shallow Box Makes Form for Concrete Receptacle for Fowls.

An excellent water or feeding pan for small chicks can be made of concrete. Take an old pan and place it in an inverted position in a shallow box, as shown in the sketch, then mix

Poultry Feed Pan.

the concrete and pour it over the pan, says Popular Mechanics. When the cement sets, turn it over and a pan will be had that small chicks can climb out of, should they get into it.

Important in Breeding.

The most important thing in poultry breeding, or any other kind of stock breeding, is to have one desirable element predominating. That is totally wanting in the case of mongrels; nothing whatever is fixed about them, and the innumerable conflicting elements in their composition, each striving for mastery, only insures mediocrity.

Stealing a Nest.

A hen will use extreme caution when going to a stolen nest to lay and will cackle loudly leaving the nest. This is to discover the whereabouts of the rest of the fowls, as the male bird will answer her.

COMMON SENSE SUGGESTIONS IN HOG LOT



Prize Berkshire Hog.

Hogs are fond of sugar beets and thrive on them.
 Mange is mainly caused by filth in the sleeping quarters.
 In the hot weather hogs should have good pasture and little grain.
 Sunlight is a natural tonic for the little pigs and they revel in it.
 The feeding pails should be scrubbed and scalded every day.
 Young pigs that are weaned should be fed four or five times each day.
 We do not believe in dosing hogs with medicine except in serious cases.
 Beware of the sway-back pig, no matter if all the other points are good.
 The hog is an economic accessory on the well managed diversified farm.
 Reading other people's opinions often shows us how far off we are in our own.
 Hogs thrive best when clean, and they will always keep clean if given the chance.
 Excellence is the result of hard labor and paying attention to little details in pig raising.
 It is a bad practise to take all the pigs from the sow at once. She should be dried up gradually.
 Just because it is only a hog, do not forget that clean, pure water is more acceptable than slime.
 Give plenty of range, clean pens, clean feed, clean water and the hog will as a rule take care of itself.
 Select your brood pigs from the largest litters as they are generally better breeders and better feeders.

Any man who persistently breeds his gilts too young will find the quality of his breed steadily deteriorating.
 Select your brood pigs from the largest litters, as they are generally better breeders and better feeders.
 No matter what the subsequent use of the pig on the farm is to be his early development should be carefully guarded.
 When the green corn comes along a little later, do not stuff young pigs all they will eat or thumps will be the result.
 A sow that suckles a big litter of hungry pigs needs a great deal of nourishing feed, but some farmers never seem to learn that fact.
 The farmer not prepared with woven wire fencing, with ample alfalfa or clover pastures, is not properly prepared for the economical production of pork.
 Newly purchased hogs should be carefully examined for vermin, and should not be turned out with the herd, until they are known to be free from these pests.
 Certainly a good forage crop for the hogs is one of the most profitable crops a swine breeder can raise especially when one considers the fact they will harvest it without cost.
 The main points to be looked after to be successful with hogs are good shelter, a warm, dry bed, freedom from lice and worms, plenty of good drinking water and nourishing food at regular hours.

FEW PECULIARITIES OF SWARMING BEES

Old Queen With Half of Workers Leaves Old Home and Starts New Colony.

(By FRANCIS JÄGERL)

Bees increase by swarming, or dividing one large colony of bees into two. The old queen with about half of the bees leaves the old home and starts a new colony somewhere else. The young queen will take charge of the old home as soon as she hatches. Long before swarming-time bees begin to make preparations for it. First they raise a large number of drones or male bees, from which some day the young queen may choose her mate. When later the colony increases in strength the queen lays from eight to twenty eggs in especially prepared wax cells called queen cells.

The egg laid in a queen cell, being a common worker egg, will hatch into a larva which the bees will feed abundantly on "royal jelly." This special food and the large cell will make the egg develop a queen. The ninth day after the egg is laid, the bees cover the wormlike larva which hatches from it, with a porous cap. The queen cell at this time is not unlike a peanut in appearance. As soon as the first queen cell is capped over, a sign is given and the old queen with her workers leaves the hive.

After circling in the air for a while the swarm settles upon some tree or shrub and sends out scouts to find a new home for them, and the old queen never again sees her old home or her children, and even if starving to death she will not go back to the old house for one drop of honey.

Feed and Care Count Much.

It is wrong to expect the cow to yield a large profit simply because she is well bred. She must have feed and care or the breeding will amount to nothing.

MAINTAIN FERTILITY BY STOCK RAISING

Barnyard Manure and Good Phosphate Produce Excellent Results, Used Together.

All the grains, when sent to market, carry away from the farm plant food taken from the soil. The same is true of milk, poultry and poultry products, cattle, sheep and swine. There is a steady and ceaseless outward current of the elements of fertility. Every load of hay, vegetables and fruits means a loss of ammonia, phosphoric acid and potash.

In trying to replace fertility lost by the never-ceasing sale of products, the farmer uses barnyard manure. This material contains less of the three elements of plant food above mentioned than the crops extract from the soil. It is evident, therefore, that, sooner or later, a complete commercial fertilizer, furnishing ammonia, phosphoric acid and potash must be bought in order to make good these losses.

This is why commercial phosphates came into existence.

Barnyard manure and a good phosphate produce excellent results when used together.

A typical artificial manure or phosphate for grain may be said to contain 2 per cent of ammonia, 8 per cent of available phosphoric acid and 2 to 5 per cent of potash.

Routing Cabbage Worm.

There are various ways of routing that universal pest, the cabbage worm. Road dust, wood ashes or flour sprinkled lightly over the cabbage heads when wet with dew will interfere with the workings of the insect. Soapuds sprinkled over the plants has also the desired effect. But, perhaps there is nothing more satisfactory than salt and water. This not only finishes the worms but tends to make the heads develop more fully.