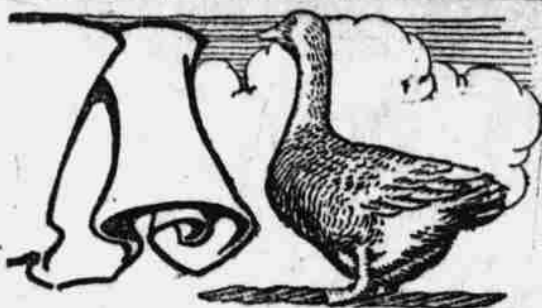


POULTRY SHOW



Y ASSOCIATION
Lectures by
PETERS
ment of Poultry Husbandry
T. E. QUISENBERRY
on Caponizing
Poultry and Pet Stock
L. EDSON, Secretary.

POULTRY FOR AID TO U. S., CHICKEN EXPERT

How to House, Feed, and Also
ation of Back Yard Biddy
Will Yield Good
n Investment.

is, have cloth curtains (burlap) for two-thirds of the open front—the other one-third can be glass. Too much glass results in a wide variation of temperature in the house. Glass, which is a good conductor of heat, warms the interior during the day and temperature goes up. At night, the glass conducts the heat out so that the temperature goes away down.
A fresh air house tends to equalize the temperature; that is, there isn't such a variation during the day and night, and is best for the health of the flock. In short, apply sleeping porch principles to your poultry house. Keep the poultry house free from draughts; build it tight on three sides and locate the open front to the south, if possible. Make an open front house deep. Locate the roosts in the back so that fowls, when roosting, will be away from any possible draughts. Do not build the house over seven to eight feet high in front and five to six feet in rear. All that is necessary is head room to work in. To go above this measurement is only added expense with no value.

Wooden or Cement Floor.
A wooden or cement floor is preferable to a dirt floor, for it is more sanitary and will keep the litter drier. If the house is located so that water drains away from it, three to six inches of cinders will make a good floor.

I prefer a dropping board, for it makes more sanitary scratching room. However, if one does not keep it cleaned off, it loses its value and had better be dispensed with. Allow three or four square feet of floor space and six to 10 inches of roosting space per bird. Overcrowding cuts down the egg yield.

What Feed to Use.
One may have a good poultry house and other conditions equally as good, but if they neglect the feeding they will not get eggs.

Poultry feeds may be classified under five heads, viz.: the grains, such as corn, wheat, oats, barley, kafir, milo, maize, buckwheat, sunflower seed, etc., combined, form the scratch feed.

Ground feeds, such as bran, middlings, cornmeal gluten feed, ground oats, oilmeal, etc., combined, form the mash feeds.

Animal feeds, such as buttermilk, packing house products, fish scrap, etc., are usually mixed with the mash feeds. The mineral feeds are the grits, oyster shell and charcoal. Some of the most common green or succulent feeds are sprouted oats, alfalfa, clover and vegetables.

When Biddy has access to a free range, as on the farm, she gets these different classes of feeds in the form of seeds, bugs and worms, stones and the grasses. In the spring and summer they are the most plentiful, and because of this variety she does her best laying. In the fall and winter, unless these are supplied to her in other forms, her egg yield drops materially.

Feed Chickens Protein.
The back yard poultry raiser usually has to supply all of Biddy's feeds and his success depends upon the extent and manner of supplying them. A study of the grains shows that they contain varying quantities of the

nutrients, protein, carbohydrates, fat and fiber.

The hen's body and the egg contains these nutrients. The egg is a product that has a high percentage of protein. Corn is a product that is low in this nutrient. Therefore it stands to reason that if a hen is to produce a high protein product in quantities, she must be fed feeds that contain a high per cent of protein and not be fed corn alone. The whole grains combined with the ground grains and animal feeds furnish a high protein feed and a feed that is more economical in every way.

Mineral feeds, in the form of oyster shell, furnish lime for the egg shell; a lack of this often results in soft-shelled eggs. Sand or gravel assists in the grinding of the hard grains and is necessary.

The succulent feeds can be supplied in the form of sprouted oats, vegetables, alfalfa or clover. A good way to feed the alfalfa or clover is to steam it in a pail by pouring boiling water over it and pouring this off again, then covering the pail and allow to steam.

Feeding Practice.

The grains should form the principal part of the ration. A good rule is to make about two-thirds of the ration grains and one-third the ground feeds or mash.

The exact amount that each fowl should receive depends upon the season of the year, the breed and the appetite of the flock. The feeder will have to judge these things for himself. This will come from practice and watching the flock closely. I make an allowance of two ounces of grain and one ounce of mash per fowl per day and vary this slightly. One pound or 16 ounces of grain is sufficient for eight hens a day. This should be fed in a deep litter. Make Biddy work for all the scratch feed. It will keep her in good condition and prevent overfattening, which affects the egg yield. It is a good practice to know how much you are feeding. It takes very little extra to feed from a quart cup or measure than to throw out the feed promiscuously without any knowledge of how much.

Feed one-third of the amount of scratch feed allotted to the flock in the morning, the other two-thirds in the evening; that is, if you are feeding three pounds or three quarts of scratch feed to your flock per day, feed one pound or one quart in the morning and two pounds or two quarts in the evening.

A light grain feed in the morning makes Biddy exercise. The heavier feed in the evening sends her to the roost with a full crop, where it can be digested while she sleeps. If there is any feed left in the litter from the evening feeding, she can clean it up the next morning.

Use Open Hopper.

The ground feeds should be fed in an open hopper. Always feed mash mixture of ground feeds. It lowers the total cost of the ration. The hen will lay more eggs; chicks will develop more rapidly and make more economical gains on it.

Leghorns and breeds of similar type may have access to dry mash at all times. Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Orpingtons, Rhode Island Reds, etc., will become too fat if allowed the same freedom. To prevent this, close the dry mash hopper in the evening.

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Cockerels, hens, trios and pens for sale.
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and open it the middle of the next day.

If your flock drops off in laying during a cold spell, it is a good plan to warm them up with a small amount of mash moistened with warm water, to form a crumbly mixture.—Feed this about noon and only what can be cleaned up in 10 or 15 minutes. Table scraps ground in a food chopper may be added to this moistened mash. Pullets can be brought into laying quicker by feeding a wet mash.

One of the main secrets of poultry raising is sanitation. The poultry raiser has to wage a constant war against parasites and poultry diseases. The more sanitary he keeps his poultry house and yard, the less trouble he is likely to have.

Do not feed in a filthy litter. Spade the yards and sow some green crops in the spring and summer.

Keep a constant watch for mites. There is a difference in the habits of lice and mites. Mites attack the fowls only at night when the chickens are roosting and hide in cracks and under filth during the day, and are red in color when full of blood. They appear early in the spring and multiply rapidly. When present in large numbers, they sap the vitality and lower the egg yield of the flock. To combat them, apply a strong disinfectant with a spray, pump or brush, that will kill the parasite when it comes in contact with it.

Lice remain on the fowls all the time and are not as serious as the mites unless in large numbers. A mixture of one part mercurial ointment and two parts vaseline, applied in small amounts around the vent and under the wings, will rid the chickens of lice.

Keep the drinking vessels sanitary. The drinking water is the most common means of spreading disease. A few drops of a solution of potassium permanganate crystals to which water has been added, placed in the drinking water so that it is a cherry red, helps to prevent the spread of colds and diseases in a flock.

Remember that Biddy will respond to proper treatment. She is doing it for others—why not you?

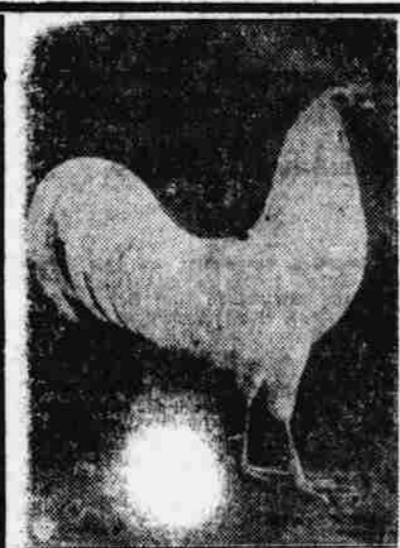
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The Kind That "Lay and Pay"
A few fine Cockerels at \$2 each now. Prices advance 50c per month until March 1.
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Ashes, Grit and Charcoal.

Ashes, grit and charcoal—you will need all three this winter in the poultry house, or near it, and also oyster shell, more so by far than in summer. One handy way to provide the ashes is for those who burn wood or coal to throw the ashes—finely sifted if coal—under some little building to which the fowls have access. Here they keep dry and, of course, as they cannot be rained or snowed on, never freeze up, and the chickens soon learn to go under here and wallow in this dust. If the fowls use such a spot as this they come out at brooding and hatching time in safer condition for such special work.

Grit, too, is difficult to find in winter, if it be found at all, and if it is not provided, February and March may find them suffering from liver troubles. Of course we all know the need of oyster shell, and the refusal of the body to form an egg if there is not enough lime in the body to make the covering, but there are people who question the necessity of charcoal at any time, winter or summer, yet to see how greedily chickens break off or pick up bits of burned wood argues of itself a call in the system of the birds for this product. It is really a tonic medicine for them. It furnishes sulphur and iron to cleanse and strengthen the blood; it sweetens the crop and hurries up digestion, so don't forget this cheap help toward the comfort of Biddy.

Poultry Notes

No cracked or thin-shelled eggs should ever be allowed to enter the regular channels of market egg distribution, but should be used at home and sold locally, where they may be at once consumed. Dirty eggs may mean the presence of bacteria and should never be marketed along with clean eggs. Usually a few dirty eggs will reduce the value per dozen on the entire case, the reduction sometimes amounting to 2 cents per dozen or 60 cents per case. Such methods do not pay.

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