

POULTRY

INCUBATOR CROWDS OUT HEN

Poultrymen Who Are in the Business Commercially Cannot Get Along Without Machines.

(By R. HARRIS.)

Where not many years ago nine out of ten farms had never heard of an incubator, today the word is passing from farm to farm that the profits are larger, the work less onerous, the hatches more sure, and the hens are taking fewer holidays—laying more eggs. Not all on account of the incubators, but primarily on account of the incubator, and secondarily on account of the large amount of book knowledge distributed with it.

The farmer's wife is doing her share in the profit making. She always has done it, but now she is getting recognition as a partner in the business.

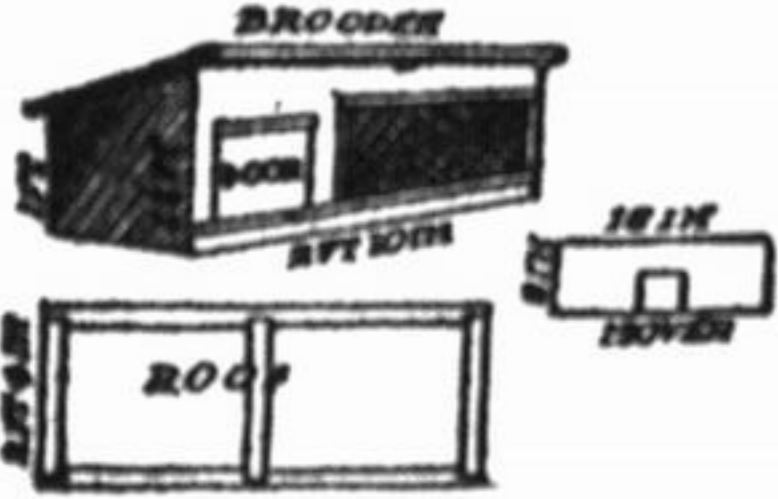
This is having—it has had—its effect, and the result is, farmers are now posted on poultry profits. They will continue to be posted, and those who have been operating incubators will go back to hen incubation only when they return to the old custom of treading out the grain with oxen—only when they are prepared to put the cream separator on the shelf.

Poultrymen who are in the business commercially—whose living depends upon the profits—would as soon think of threshing the grain with the old-time flail as they would of hatching chicks or ducklings with hens or ducks. The thought would be absurd. Without the incubator they would have to go out of business.

BROODER AND COOP COMBINED

Device Made From Old Wagon Wheel, With Waterproof Roof, Found to Be Excellent Shelter.

I have used all shapes and sizes of home-made jug-brooders and like best the one made from an old wagon box. All holes in sides and floor were patched up when making it, and a roof put over one end. This roof is so put on that it may be raised and



Brooder and Brood Coop Combined.

lowered, writes Mrs. O. M. Spencer of Van, Mo., in the Missouri Valley Farmer. It is waterproof, but gives free circulation of air. A partition put through the box makes the hovers about three feet square, with two doors for chicks to run in and out. On damp or cold days and every night a lantern is kept burning in the hover, which has a cloth hanging from the top that bags down onto the backs of chicks. The light does not annoy them. Indeed chicks always seem to prefer to huddle in a cold light place rather than a warm dark one. The rest of the wagon box is covered with poultry netting to keep out the other chickens. On rainy days it is well to spread a canvas over the netting. Keep the young chick dry by all means, and keep his crop full. A chick fed all he wants from the time he is 24 hours old will never overeat. On cold or stormy days I feed and water the chicks in the hover and shut them back in the hover till they get restless, then feed and water again.

HANDY FOUNTAIN FOR CHICKS

Mason Jar With Nick in Mouth, Turned Upside Down, Is Sanitary and Easy to Operate.

I am illustrating a very simple chick fountain that can be made up for a few cents, and which is simple to operate and perfectly sanitary,



A Handy Chick Fountain.

POULTRY

RESULTS BY HOPPER FEEDING

System Causes Least Trouble and Affords Birds Opportunity to Balance Their Own Ration.

(By R. G. WEATHERSTONE.)

There are different methods of feeding poultry that have given good results under varying conditions. Much has been said concerning the warm mash and the good results obtained therefrom. The hopper system is the least trouble and with a variety of feed placed before the birds they can perhaps balance their own ration better than the poultryman. The writer



White Wyandotte Cocker.

uses a Cornell hopper with six divisions in which are placed wheat, wheat bran, meat meal, sunflower, oyster shells and grit. Corn is fed on the ear. In addition to the above the flock receives the table scraps and fresh water is supplied twice daily.

With the above system of feeding ten White Wyandotte pullets produced 1,594 eggs from March 1, 1911, to February 29, 1912. The house (6 by 10) door is left open during the day and one of the two window openings is covered with burlap. The cockerel's wattles were slightly frozen on the night that the thermometer registered 30 degrees below zero. It will be noted from the above that the birds averaged nearly 160 eggs each per year with a minimum amount of labor in their case.

NOT HARD TO RAISE TURKEYS

Poultis Not Especially Difficult to Rear If From Vigorous Stock and Properly Cared For.

(By MRS. C. R. JONES.)

Turkey poultis are not especially hard to raise if they are from vigorous stock and are properly taken care of. Above all things else, don't overfeed them, see that they are kept free from lice, keep them from getting wet when small, and make them "rustle" for their living. To rid them of lice, should they become lousy, paint the bottom of a deep box with liquid lye killer and put the poultis into it. Cover the top of the box with a cloth, but be very careful not to smother the birds. It is well to leave a part of the top uncovered, as the fumes of the lye killer are pretty strong. After they have been in the box for a short time, take them out and dust with some good lice powder. Eternal vigilance is the price of success in turkey culture.

POULTRY NOTES

A variety of feed will stimulate the hen to her greatest egg production.

Most chicken coops are too small and close and too inconvenient to clean.

Don't crowd the chickens in warm weather, and don't put those of different ages together.

Contrary to what we are often led to believe, turkey raising is not a business to take care of itself.

The houses must be kept clean and the hens must be free from lice if the best results are to be obtained.

Lack of moisture in the incubator is one of the common causes of chicks falling to break out of the shell.

Great size of an abdominal pouch in a goose indicates great age, a fact that is useful in purchasing breeding stock.

The beginner in poultry business usually has his hopes and expectations too high. This accounts for most of the failures.

The smaller the quarters the greater the care. Crowded fowls are much more liable to become affected with vermin and disease.

It is claimed that in laying an egg, the pullet parts with about one 60th part, by weight, of the total solid nutriment of its own body.

The correct mating is eight to fifteen hens for each cockerel. The smaller the breed the more hens may be allowed to each rooster.

A broiler should be short in head; broad, deep and full in breast; small in comb (rose or pea); and a pound and a half to two pounds in weight.

Before the breeding season begins the chickens should be carefully culled and graded. Only the strongest and most desirable should be saved.

For the benefit of the approaching season by soaking some eggs in a solution of lime strong enough so grains will form on the shell. This leaves them in better way.

NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



Grain raising robs the soil.

Never overfeed an idle horse.

Filthy houses encourage vermin.

Keep the old and young pigs separate.

Kerosene is an excellent remedy for scaly leg.

The silo is the cheapest farm building we can erect.

Better too much working of butter than not enough.

It requires a keen sight to detect signs of falling pasture.

It is absolutely necessary to keep your fertility on your farm.

Wheat and oats make one of the best general diets for fowls.

In mixed farming the income from the dairy is the most reliable.

Comfortable shelter goes a long way towards making dairying pay.

Cultivate vegetables and flowers when the weather is hot and the soil dry.

It is not uncommon for a Bermuda lily grower to plant 15,000 bulbs at one time.

An old boot-leg makes an effective device for keeping bottles off horses' noses.

The horse cannot rest while fighting flies. Better shade or screen the barn windows.

For aphids on sweet peas, use insect powder or tobacco dust, applying with a small bellows.

To secure a good brood sow, an even development is required from pig brood to full maturity.

Hay stacked in the open loses 20 per cent. of its value by spoiling on the sides and bottom.

Five or six pounds of corn are usually required to produce a pound of pork in dry-lot feeding.

As soon as the corn is up, or even before, go over the field with a weeder or smoothing harrow.

Some gardeners make the mistake of laying by such crops as early potatoes and tomatoes too soon.

Celery delights in a low, rich, heavy, moist soil and is usually grown upon the same land year after year.

It does not pay to devote high-priced land, for long periods, to pasturage and the production of hay.

Time to get the mower in shape for the haying season which is so rapidly approaching. Sharpen up the knives.

Don't push the fat horse on hot days either in the fields or on road. Once overheated he loses half his value.

Prime fat lambs cannot be produced by alternate grass and grain. They must be pushed to lay on fat from start to finish.

The little chicks do best on corn bread made of sour milk, soda and cracked corn. They should be fed on something clean.

Unlike other poultry, the turkey has never been thoroughly domesticated, but has remained practically a wild bird in its requirements.

Fence posts of wood that lasts only four or five years can be made to last 20 years by standing two hours in a tank of boiling creosote.

The large tomato worms can be destroyed quickest by hand picking. They can be easily killed by throwing with force to the ground.

Insect pests that destroy or injure the fruit crop may be controlled in a large measure with timely applications of the various spray mixtures.

There is many a dairy farmer who is working hard to feed 20 cows when 10 of them would give him just as much milk and possibly more profit. The testing association is the index that points to prosperity along this line.

Goosings are very little trouble if given plenty of range, plenty of water and green food. The little birds will make rapid growth on water, grass and a little cracked corn. For the first few days the goosings should be fed nothing but green and water.

The silo makes feed cheap.

Keep only thoroughbred stock.

A dibble is a handy garden tool.

Sort eggs according to size and color.

Curry the filth from the cow's coat before milking.

Late cabbage is a good crop to follow early potatoes.

Let nine milkings pass before using a fresh cow's milk.

Cabbage is one of the very best vegetables to feed to poultry.

High quality of cream can be produced from clean, pure milk.

Better use is made of ground than of whole grain by the dairy cows.

Do not allow the stall where the cow must stand or lie to get filthy.

Never offer a poor pound of butter for sale; rather feed it to the pigs.

Silage and alfalfa combined make the foundation for the best dairy ration.

Woven wire fence is being bought by the mile instead of by the rod now.

The coming of the silo is developing some new high records for high-priced beef.

The secret of successful stack building is to keep the middle full and well tramped.

The calf should have plenty of water to drink and it should always be clean and pure.

Manure is one of the by-products of the dairy farmer and it represents a decided profit.

Many practical hog raisers are now using artificial wallows, built of either cement or lumber.

If winter dairying is to be the most profitable it must be planned for definitely in advance.

Any man who will strike a horse in the head should never be allowed to touch one again.

Keep the laying hens working. To do this feed them at daybreak and just before sundown.

Hogs follow the rows and tramp down less of the rape if it is drilled instead of broadcasted.

If you want a lasting cement use melted alum. It hardens at once and water does not affect it.

The poorer the cream the faster should be the speed of the churn slower where cream is rich.

A man cannot work on boiled turnips alone; neither can a horse work on a diet of straw and fodder.

The best location for the warm weather chicks is in the orchard, and the trees also protect them from storms.

Forage crops added to the grain ration cut the cost of pork making 20 to 30 per cent., says F. G. King. Purdue station.

On an average Great Britain yields 30 bushels of wheat to the acre; New South Wales, 15; the United States, 12, and Russia, 8.

Young fruit trees that were planted in the autumn of last year, or in the spring of this year, should be examined carefully.

Cowpeas sown in corn and the entire crop pastured down by hogs gives one of the very best returns that can be secured from farm land.

A few trees in the poultry yard are to be desired at this season, but if the yard is devoid of trees it is easy to arrange for artificial shade.

Breeding stock should never be saved from a litter of a vicious old brood sow which is always restless and chasing about the pasture.

Only about one grape seedling in 100 is worth further testing. A 1 to 100 shot offers enough chance to make it interesting to grape enthusiasts.

Do not allow the stall where the cow has to stand or lie to get filthy. It is not only uncomfortable for the cow, but unhealthy for her and the family that drinks her milk.

Never let young chickens perch until their breastbone can endure the strain, as crooked breastbone decreases a fowl's market as well as breeding value considerably.

The successful swine grower studies the form, and the general makeup of the ideal hog, thus getting a clear conception of what constitutes healthy, strong, money-making porkers, and then select and breed to that ideal.

Spray twice for peaches—first when the husk is about half off, with arsenate of lead alone or arsenate of lead and self-bottled lime-sulphur solution, and the second spraying about 10 days later with the self-bottled lime-sulphur and arsenate of lead.

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"How do you do?"

"Yes, it is very warm today. One hardly cares to eat at all—and much less to prepare meals."

"That is true, but there are a number of things which are very palatable and also very easily prepared."

"Take salad for instance. Here are some splendid dressings—Yacht Club and Monson for 25 and 15c."

"Which do you think the best?"

"Either one will make an excellent salad. We have all the vegetables and other necessities to go with it. And by the way here is something I know you will like, chicken salmon, deep red, rich, tender and oily, the best on the market, 25c."

"Isn't that rather high?"

"No, not for that grade. You always want the best and I am sure you'll be pleased. We also have cheaper grades of salmon and they are all very good for the price which they bring."

"Well, I hardly know what to get. I am worn out trying to find out what the family wants. One wants this and the other that."

"Try our delicious fresh fruits, berries and peaches and here's some fine watermelons. These muskmelons are very nice to serve for breakfast. Here is some of the finest cheese you ever tasted. See this fine red sliced beef. Here are lemons; you will surely want some of these as they aid in keeping cool."

"Well, I think you know more about my needs than I do myself."

"I am glad that my suggestions have helped you and am always glad to give all my customers all aid possible."

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