

POULTRY

SELL ONLY THE FRESH EGGS

Some Farmers Deliberately Impose on Small Merchants by Giving Goods Known to Be Stale.

(By A. G. PHILLIPS, Kansas.)
Selling eggs is one of the handiest ways for the farmer to get a cash or trade return for his produce, during all parts of the year, and if he can increase the efficiency of the machinery which produces and handles these eggs he is putting into his pocket good hard cash.

Almost every housewife who is compelled to buy eggs constantly clamors for some method which she may pursue in order to always get fresh eggs. There is no housewife who has not some time or other had the great displeasure of handling spoiled or rotten eggs. This almost constant occurrence, with the possible exception of the winter months, practically compels those who lecture and carry on experiment station work to plead with the farmers who produce the eggs to put onto the market better produce.

The egg loss each year is enormous and is beyond all reasonable justification, and the blame lies, at least in part, with the farmer for the following two reasons:

First, some few farmers deliberately take to market eggs which they know are not fresh, because they know



Eggs Should Be Packed in Neat Cases.

that the merchant is compelled to take them or lose their trade. Second, and by far the greatest reason, is because of ignorance on the part of the farmer as to what and how to sell eggs.

When the hens on the farm are producing enough eggs to warrant the farmer's taking them to town, arrangements should be made to handle all of them properly. A convenient and clean place should be provided wherein the hens can lay. The natural tendency of a hen is to go off in the woods or to make her nest. This should not be tolerated and any eggs found in such places should be marked and kept at home.

When the clean, fresh eggs are gathered they should be put in a clean, dry, cool place until marketed. Even though the place is clean and cool, if it is not dry, molds, etc., will commence development and the eggs will soon spoil. If the eggs become damp and they happen to be in contact with any colored material they will immediately become stained. Good egg cases in a cool, dry, clean place, kept up off the floor, makes an excellent receptacle in which to keep eggs previous to marketing.

Before these eggs are set aside for market, they should be gone over by the farmer as he collects them, and all small, stained, dirty, doubtful, incubator and rotten eggs should be removed. Small and dirty eggs, if used immediately, are just as good as large clear ones, but they will not sell well on the market, and if sent in with good eggs will spoil the trade. Therefore, they should be kept and used at home. No eggs should be washed, for the packers claim they will not keep well. All eggs from stolen nests, whose freshness is doubtful, and all incubator eggs should either be thrown away, boiled for the little chicks or used at home. They should never be sent to market. Rotten eggs need not be discussed. Any person who will send one to market deserves all the penalty possible from the pure-food law.

When eggs have been properly gathered, handled and kept previous to taking to market, the question of the number of trips to town should be considered. In hot weather the eggs should be marketed two or three times per week, and oftener if possible. If that number of trips cannot be made, co-operate with a neighbor and have him alternate days in the trips which must be made.

In the fall and spring eggs should be marketed at least once a week. Many buyers have had trouble in November with eggs classed as "held eggs." These are common, because most farmers believe that after frost sets eggs will not rot so quickly, but nevertheless they do evaporate and the air cells in them show the candler that they are stale.

Therefore, the more often eggs are marketed, the greater are the chances that they will be good.

Make-Up of Broilers.

A broiler should have a good, plump breast, broad back, clean yellow legs and yellow skin, and small comb. Such is the American epicure's ideal but these requirements bar out such breeds as Brahmas, Cochins, Langshans, or any crosses on them, on account of the feathers on their legs. They bar out all white-skinned fowls, but not a dunger on all large-comb breeds like the Leghorns, Minorcas, etc. The feet should be clean, and the claws being short and sharp, and the toes being straight and not too long.

POULTRY

HOW TO FUMIGATE HEN HOUSE

Building Should Be Closed Tightly and All Fowls Excluded—Be Careful of Poison Used.

Fumigation is a means of reaching germs and insect life in the air of the room and in the cracks and crevices of the wood work, says the Cultivator. The house or room should be tightly closed and all fowls excluded during fumigation. A simple method is to burn the sulphur candles now sold at stores dealing in poultry supplies. The fumes of brimstone may also be produced by burning in a metallic basin (such as an old iron kettle) a number of rags previously soaked in melted sulphur. Sulphur may be mixed with a little alcohol or kerosene oil and burned, or it may be sprinkled upon live coals placed in a chafin dish. The house or room should be kept closed for several hours and then opened as thoroughly as possible to allow the wind to drive out any remaining trace of poisonous gas. In fumigating by burning substances be careful not to set fire to the building. Remember also that in most cases the substances which are used are poisonous to human life and to fowls. Carelessness in their use or in leaving them about where chick or child can get at them may have dire results.

USING A FIRELESS BROODER

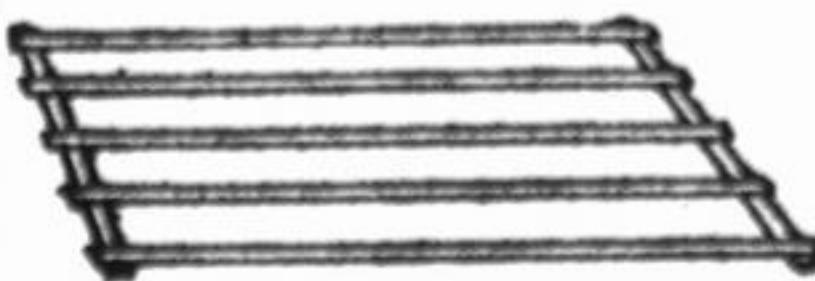
Box Protected by Wool Carpet and Heated by Small Jug of Warm Water is Excellent.

A there are many poultrymen who prefer to raise chicks in a fireless brooder, we give here a plan suggested by W. D. Neale, which has been used successfully for two years, says the Iowa Homestead. He secured a box three feet long, sixteen inches wide and eight inches deep from his grocer for fifteen cents. An opening was made in one side of the box four inches in width and height to admit the chicks. To fit in this box, make a frame of laths two inches less in width and length than the box. The laths were placed



Fireless Brooder.

about three inches apart and nailed securely to cross pieces at either end. This frame fitted inside the box and rested on nails, two at each end, driven through the box at the desired height. These nails were withdrawn and driven higher in the ends of the box as the chicks grew so that they would have more room beneath the frame. A piece of wool carpet was thrown over the top of the frame and pressed down beneath the lath so that



Covering of Brooder.

the folds would just touch the downy backs of the chicks. On cold nights an extra piece of carpet was thrown over the box or a small jug of warm water placed inside. The bottom of the box was kept covered with straw.

POULTRY NOTES

Never harbor mongrel stock. Don't forget to whitewash the interior of your houses.

Expect disease and low vitality when fowls are inbred year in and year out.

Send to market all the stock that you can spare, for the prices of feed are still high.

Pump chickens are wanted in market; remember that lousy chickens will not fatten.

From October 15th to about November 20th the best prices for poultry are generally obtained.

New blood may be added to the flock, by buying some choice pullets of a reliable poultry keeper.

Lining nest boxes with newspapers makes it easy to lift out litter, paper and all. Then set a match to it.

Authorities claim that the eggs from a hen will be fertile for ten days after the removal of the male from the flock.

Do not let your young birds roost with the old hens, as they are liable to catch diseases which old hens are more subject to.

All hens which have completed their second laying season should be disposed of at once, to make room for the young stock.

Save the small potatoes and imperfect heads of cabbage and other waste vegetables. They will all be relished by the hens in the winter.

Don't delay any longer making repairs to the houses or fences, winter may be here before you are ready. At the same time, clean up the runs and walks.

BREEDING STOCK FOR DAIRY

In Selecting Cattle Real Test Must Be Scales and Babcock Test—Confirmation of Cow.

Professor W. J. Kennedy of the Iowa station recommends the following in reference to the selection of breeding stock for the dairy:

In selecting dairy cattle the real test must be the scales and the Babcock tester. The cow is a machine to convert food into milk, thus she must have a large middle and a strong constitution to insure the best results. She must also have a large udder, large milk wells, large crooked milk veins and good sized teats. Her head should be clean and angular in appearance, with the eyes standing out prominently. The neck should be rather long and lean in appearance. The shoulders pointed, and the backbone rather prominent. The skin should be loose and soft to the touch. In selecting herd bulls, either mature animals which have already demonstrated their worth as sires, or younger animals from high testing dams and sires only should be used. The best and surest results will always follow the use of a mature sire which has sired heifers with good records. A good dairy bull should be kept until he is 12 or 15 years old, in fact as long as he is a sure sire. Real good sires are so rare that when we do find one, he should die only of old age. All breeders of dairy cattle should secure yearly tests on each and every cow in the herd. Shorter tests do not really mean very much. It is the cow that stays by her job that is really valuable.

MILKING MACHINE IS HANDY

Operation Performed by Compression in Device Recently Invented by Wisconsin Man.

The Scientific American in describing a milking machine, recently invented by O. C. Siblak of Algoma, Wis., says:

The invention pictured in the illustration in actual use, provides a machine which will cause the milking operation to be performed by compression rather than by suction or stripping; provided a device detachable so as to accommodate it for use in connection with different size cows or



Milking Machine.

those having different size udders; provides an actuator for the milker which is adjustable in accordance with the size of the teats; and provide a milking machine in which the compression cups are formed and operated so as to simulate the form and operation of a person's hand in hand milking.

DAIRY NOTES

Barn room is too costly to house poor cows.

Reef is high, but butter and cream are higher.

Silage may be fed the day after the silo is filled.

Thoughtful dairymen will keep up the milk flow this fall.

Back of many a shortage in the dairy business is a poor sire.

Separating cold milk means that some cream will remain in the skim-milk.

Dirty calf pails are one sign that the calves are not getting care enough.

If the hired man is careful with the cows a few of his faults may be overlooked.

To get rich milk is possible for the average farmer, but it must be through breeding.

To get top prices for farm crops, try selling them to the dairy cow or the shoat.

A good many cow stables resemble hotels. They have both "roomers" and "boarders."

Shade, water and good grass are three essentials for profitable milk production.

If the cream is still warm after separating, don't put the lid on the can down tight.

Letting the calf run with a hard milker has been found to help matters in many cases.

If a farmer will keep a poor hired man out of sympathy for him, what kind of cows must he keep.

The man who leaves his cows out these cool nights will have less manure to haul out. Likewise less milk.

It is highly important to feed producing cows some concentrated feeds in connection with pasturage and roughage.

You are making your dairy cows now while the heifer calves are less than a year old. Be liberal with shelter, liberal with all sorts of kindness.

When absorbent cotton is used in strainers it should be used but once and then destroyed. Good sanitary wire gauze strainers are inexpensive.

The DAIRY

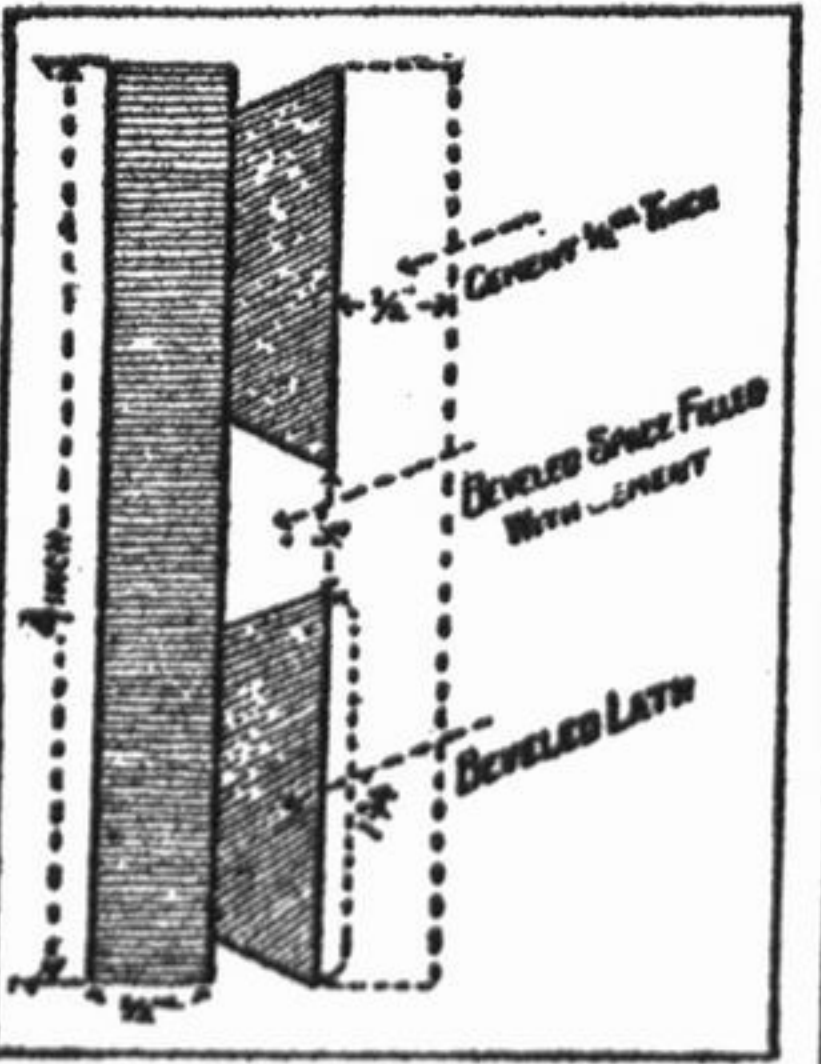


PLAN FOR BUILDING A SILO

Illustration Shows How Inside Sheeting and Beveled Lath and Cement Are Used.

In response to a query for building a silo 12x28, about 24 feet above ground, Hoard's Dairyman makes the following reply:

One-half inch lumber will give fully as good, if not better, service than inch lumber. The accompanying illustration shows how the inside sheeting and beveled lath and cement are used in a silo of this kind. The 2x4's may be set on the foundation 16 inches from center to center. We like the beveled lath as suggested in the drawing, for it adds strength to the silo.



End View.

We know of some instances where common lath has been used, but it seems to us better to use the lath made from one-half-inch material.

The 2x4's will not need any sort of iron hoops. The inside sheeting and the beveled lath are strong enough to resist all lateral pressure. If inch lumber is used and lath as suggested, it would be well to put on the outside some wooden hoops three feet apart. These hoops may be nailed to the 2x4's.

The capacity of the silo is sufficient for 15 milk cows. We believe that a silo 11 feet in diameter and 30 to 32 feet high would be almost better to construct, for it is necessary to remove about one and one-half to two inches of silage per day, especially in summer, if it is to be kept in good condition.

ROOT CROPS FOR DAIRY COW

Make Valuable Addition to Winter Rations Because They Add to Variety of Feed.

No matter what some people tell you, turnips and other roots make fine milk producing feed. Turnips will not affect the flavor of milk if fed at the right time.

If turnips are fed in large quantities and two or three hours before milking, they are likely to give the milk an unpleasant taste, but if fed directly after milking no flavor whatever will be noticed.

A peck of turnips to each animal per day is sufficient in most cases. A good plan is to feed directly after hay in the early morning, and once a day is often enough.

A little salt scattered over the turnips, which should be chopped in quarters or smaller, add to their palatability.

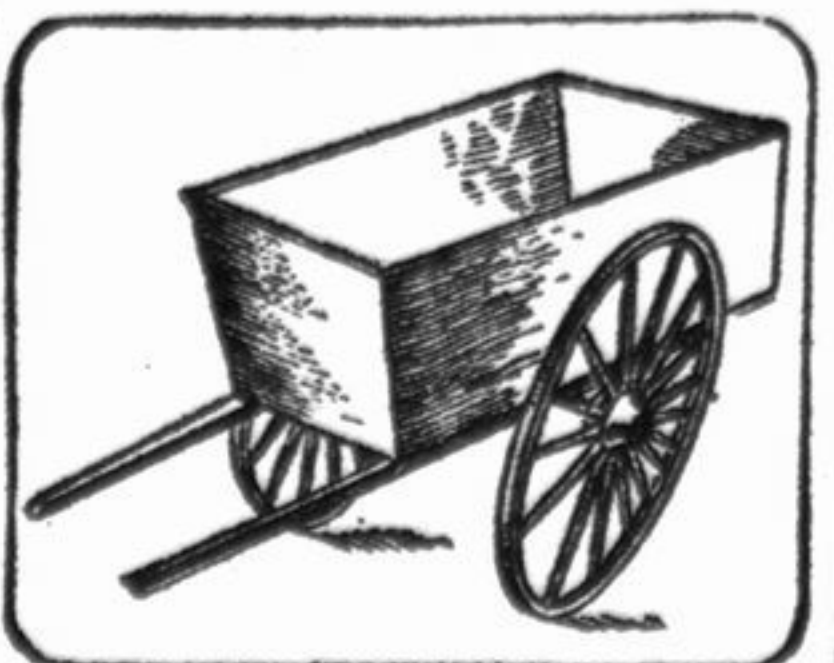
Roots make very valuable addition to the winter ration because they add to the variety of the feed and no animal on the farm appreciates variety more than the dairy cow.

In Wisconsin, Iowa and other western dairy states the root crop is becoming a very important part of the crop of the farm.

CONVENIENT CART FOR MILK

Two Buggy Wheels and Axle Used in Its Construction—Handy for Carrying Fertilizer.

I saw a home-made cart, made from the two wheels and an old axle of a buggy, says a writer in the Rural New Yorker.



A Handy Milk Cart.

It was used to wheel three cans of milk and feed or fertilizers around farm or barn. The illustration shows how it was made.

Brains Make Difference.

A great deal of butter that sells for 20 cents per pound and the other kind that sells for 15 cents per pound is raised on the same land with only a rail fence between. The difference lies entirely in the brains of the men who produce it, and the man who puts it on the big markets.

A SAFETY-DEPOSIT BOX FREE

There should be a safety-deposit box key in every DuPage county home. Think of the losses and complications that would ensue upon the destruction by fire of all the deeds, wills, insurance policies and other like papers that are now exposed to that danger—tucked away in trunks, desks, and dresser drawers!

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