

POULTRY

PROFIT IN GESE AND DUCKS

Fowls Are Important Adjunct to Farm and Farmers Living Near Water Should Raise Them.

Those living close to water should raise geese and ducks. They will get a large part of their food from the streams and swamp lands, requiring very little grain during the summer months.

Toulouse geese are hardy, early layers and prolific, often raising two broods of goslings a year.

Of the four varieties of ducks, Rouen, Cayuga, Aylesbury and Peking, we give the preference to the last for size, early maturity, abundance of eggs, hardness and domestic habits.



Profitable Geese.

The best location for a duck farm is on a tidewater stream or cove, where there is a constant succession of sea food with every tide.

WHICH ARE BETTER LAYERS?

Poultrymen Are Debating Whether Hen or Pullet is Capable of Greater Egg Production.

No matter how successful we may become in any business we are trying all the time to find how we may increase our profits.

DOULTRY NOTES

Health goes with a clean body, inside as well as out.

Plenty of grit for the flock will mean fewer digestive troubles.

Leghorns are nervous fowls, and excitement decreases the egg yield.

A lousy, dyspeptic fowl is a very good representative of the cholera victims.

Never place ducks in close, stuffy quarters. They need plenty of air and dry floors.

A London remedy for roup is about three drops of camphor on a piece of bread.

A damp henhouse is a disease breeder, and dampness and filth are a very bad combination.

No wonder some men's hens never weigh anything. The lice have just about carried them.

Spraying a chicken house with 1 to 20 solution of lime-sulphur will effectually destroy all nits and lice.

POULTRY

PROPER FEED FOR CHICKENS

Considerable Studying and Experimenting Required to Ascertain What Laying Hens Need.

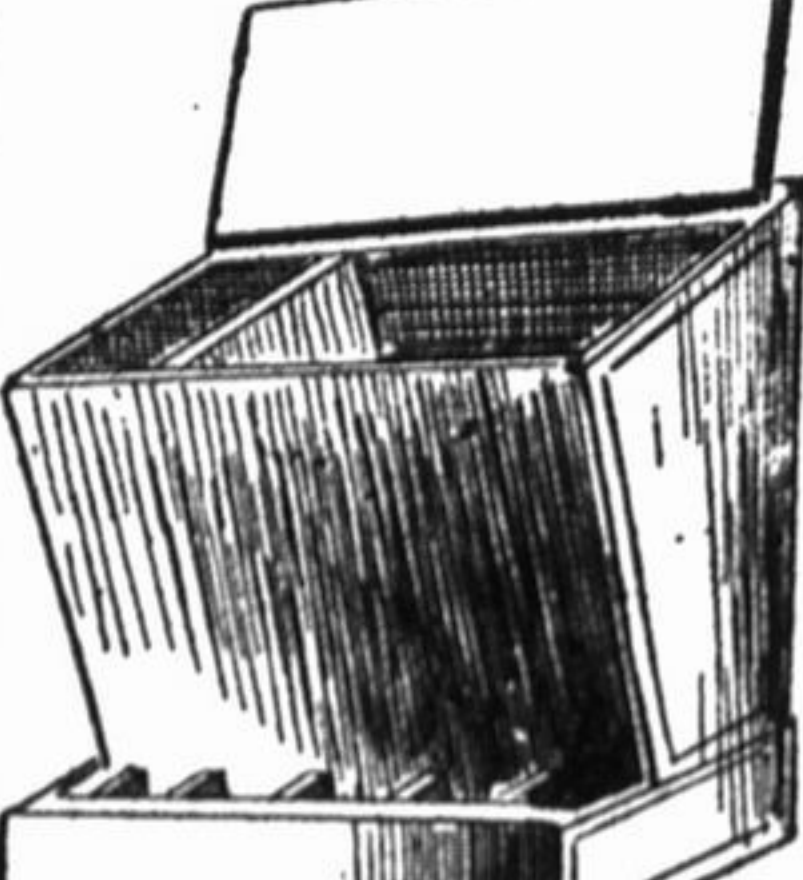
(By K. A. GRIMES.) It takes considerable studying and experimenting to find out just what the hens need, and how much they ought to have, but we must learn as soon as we can, or we will find our poultry is not so profitable as it ought to be.

Experts tell us that a hen needs about six ounces of food per day. A flock of ten, then, will need about 3 1/2 pounds per day, or a trifle over 26 pounds a week.

Of this amount two-thirds by weight should consist of grains. The grain should be a mixture of equal parts wheat, cracked corn and oats.

The other third should be mash, which is a mixture of bran and other finely ground feeds, usually fed dry.

Some poultrymen moisten the mash, but the majority claim that it is better to feed it dry and let the hen moisten it in her crop by drinking what water she wants.



Hopper for Feeding Grit, Shells or Mash.

is less danger from certain kinds of disease.

A good formula for a mash is as follows: One-half bushel of bran, 4 quarts of alfalfa meal, 2 quarts each of ground oats and corn meal, tablespoonful of salt and 1 spoonful of pepper.

IMPORTANCE OF PURE FOOD

Experience of Long Island Duck Raiser is Given—Trouble Located in Sand Given Fowls.

To show the importance of purity in food, an experience of A. J. Hallock, the Long Island duck raiser, is worth quoting: At one time a lot of ducks were sick and off their food; they were dying and no cause could be discovered.

THE VALUE OF GUANO

None of Species That Inhabit United States Do Any Harm—Guano of Value.

There is no doubt of the great value of bats in the destruction of mosquitoes and other noxious insects, especially beetles.

The investigation, however, is beset with difficulties owing to the fact that bats habitually seem to thoroughly chew their insect food before swallowing it.

None of the species that inhabit the United States do any harm, although they sometimes cause annoyance by congregating in large numbers in the attics or under the eaves of country houses.

In connection with the economic importance of bats the value of their guano as a fertilizer is not to be overlooked, as it brings a high price wherever it can be obtained in marketable quantities.

We know of at least one instance in Mexico where a small dwelling was given up to the exclusive use of the guano for the purpose of annually or semi-annually gathering the guano for fertilizer.

Value of a Cultivator. Professor Massey says: "The man who walks across the fields four times, or even two times to cultivate each row of corn or cotton wastes enough labor in one season, if he has a crop of any size, to pay for a two-horse cultivator."

Single Comb White Leghorn. Five months. Therefore it is easy matter to raise pullets at a profit.

The eggs of pullets do not hatch as well as those of hens. Not only that, but the chicks do not seem nearly so strong and healthy as those hatched from hen eggs.

These who have tried it claim that a teaspoonful of Venetian red in a gallon of drinking water is a good bowel trouble preventive.

ROUND-HEADED APPLE TREE BORER WELL KNOWN OVER GREAT PORTION OF COUNTRY

Insidious Beetle Is Easily Recognized by Two Longitudinal Stripes of White Between Those of Brown on Back—Larva Descends to Lower Part of Burrow on Approach of Winter.

The round-headed apple tree borer is an insect known over the greater portion of the country. It bores into the apple, pear, guinea and similar trees.

The adult beetle is easily recognized by two longitudinal stripes of white between those of brown on the back.

The beetle flies only by night, and is not likely to be seen by the orchardist. It appears early in the summer, and the female deposits her eggs in the bark of the tree, quite close to the ground.

The female makes an incision with her jaws in the bark, causing it to split open one-third to one-half inch in length, and thrusts the egg between the inner and outer bark, accompanying it with a gummy fluid, which cures and secures it in place.

The beetle is in a short time, and the small footless grub commences to eat its way into the bark. They usually remain in the tree as a grub for three years, during which time great damage is done to the trees infested.

The young lie for the first year in the sap wood and inner bark, excavating flat, shallow cavities which are filled with their sawdust-like castings. Their presence may be detected in young trees by the bark becoming dark colored, and sometimes dry and dead enough to crack, through which some of the sawdust-like matter often protrudes and falls to the ground.

On the approach of winter the larva descends to the lower part of its burrow, and doubtless remains inactive until spring.

The best remedy for this insect must be preventive. Apply washes to the trunk of the trees that are so repulsive to the borer that it will not lay its eggs on a tree protected by such washes.

Soft soap, reduced to the consistency of a thin paint by the addition of washing soda, is recommended by eminent authorities.

Carbolic acid solution is also recommended. This should be used with moderation, as it is liable to injure the foliage if applied too strongly.

In case preventive measures fail, the insects should be dug out with a pocket knife, and where they have burrowed deep, they may be reached and killed with a stout wire thrust into their holes.



Work of the round-headed apple tree borer. a, wound where egg is deposited; b, same with wood split lengthwise along the line (a, c), and turned so as to show an egg in place; c, same, with the bark split open along the line and removed to the left, so as to show the manner in which the egg is commonly thrust to one side under the bark; d, the egg, enlarged; e, hole of exit of beetle; f, the same, as it appears from the side when split along the line (a, c); g, the burrow, as it appears while the insect is in the pupa state, and before the bark is perforated.

BATS KILL MANY NOXIOUS INSECTS

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MAKE CHARCOAL FOR THE HOGS

While Feeding on Corn Animals Never Appear to Get Too Much of Burned Cobs.

When hogs are being fed corn they have insatiable appetites for charcoal, and this goes to show the coal meets the requirements of the animal system.

I utilize all the corncobs on my place for making charcoal to feed my hogs, says a writer in the Iowa Homestead.

In feeding the charcoal, I make up the following mixture: Five bushels of corncob charcoal, one bushel of wood ashes, eight pounds of salt, two quarts of air-slacked lime, two pounds of sulphur and a pound of coppers.

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A SAFETY-DEPOSIT BOX FREE

There should be a safety-deposit box key in every Du Page 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!

Every head of a family owes it to himself and those upon whom such a loss might fall to protect his valuable papers.

And we feel that it is a duty we owe to this community to make such protection so cheap and so convenient as to utterly eliminate this danger within the sphere of this bank's usefulness. Therefore,

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Single Comb White Leghorn