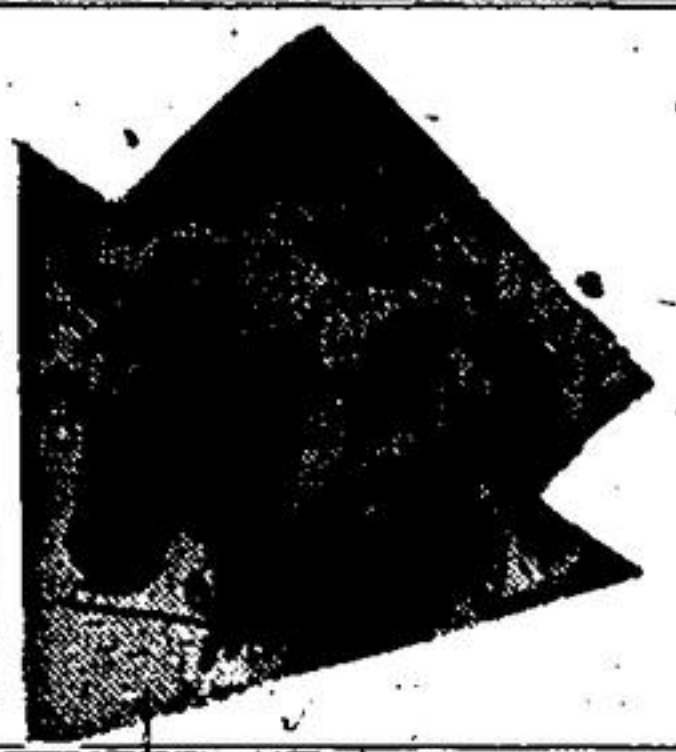


Interesting Items
FOR
Local Farmers



Give Attention to Broody Hens

Unless broody hens are given special attention to break them of the instinct to hatch, their usefulness as egg producers will be lost for many weeks. If they are left to clutter up the nests they interfere with the layers and are often the cause of broken and soiled eggs.

If hens are removed from the nests at the first signs of broodiness they can be brought back into production in a little over a week. A good plan to follow is to have a three or four compartment pen with a flat bottom and wire sides—each section large enough to hold several hens. Go over the nests the last thing at night and put any broody hens in the pen. As the air will be free to circulate around the hens they will be broken of the habit in about three days, when they should be let out. While the hens are shut up in the pen they should be well fed with laying mash and grain and plenty of fresh water. Once broken of the desire to brood a hen will in all likelihood settle down to consistent production.

Many poultrymen put a coloured leg band on a hen when she starts to go broody. If she goes broody again they change the colour of the band. This provides a basis for culling later on.

PORK CONSUMPTION AND BACON EXPORTS

The domestic consumption of pork in Canada from all indications has been at a high level in recent months compared with normal requirements, states the May issue of the Current Review of Agricultural Conditions in Canada. Despite the present high level of hog production, the high rate of domestic consumption coupled with the movement of hogs and products to the United States, made it somewhat difficult to secure sufficient export bacon to fill the original contract requirements of eight million pounds weekly to Great Britain, plus the recent additional requests of 28 million pounds for the year. However, the increase in export bacon prices announced on May 2 should overcome this difficulty, and may be expected to stimulate hog production during 1942, because of the resulting improvement in the hog-feed ratio.

Some provincial governments have already taken steps to stimulate production of desirable types of hogs by the payment of additional bonuses for quality carcasses. The 1941 wheat acreage reduction policy recently announced by the Dominion Government may have the effect of further encouraging the production of hogs in Western Canada. The surplus of hogs in Canada during 1941-42 will be clarified when further indications of Great Britain's bacon requirements for 1942 have been received and when estimates can be obtained of feed grain production in Canada for 1941, especially in the Prairie Provinces.

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HOME CANNING OF ASPARAGUS

Here's How It's Done by an Easy Method

To can asparagus at home use only freshly cut stalks.

Cut off any woody portion. Scrub thoroughly with a brush to remove sand and scales.

Put in bunches of size that will conveniently slip into a pint jar. Stand the bunches upright in a saucepan with about two inches of water.

Cook closely covered for four minutes. Pack in jars, allow one-half teaspoon of salt to each pint jar and fill with boiling water. Use the water in which asparagus was cooked, adding sufficient freshly boiled water to fill all jars to overflowing.

Put on rubbers and tops and partially seal. If screw top jars are used, seal completely, then loosen one-half turn. If spring top jars are used press down one clamp.

Place jars in sterilizer. If pressure canner is used, follow directions for the type and allow forty minutes at fifteen pounds pressure. If water bath canner is used allow water to cover jars at least two inches and sterilize two hours. Be sure that water is kept boiling.

When jars are removed from the sterilizer seal at once.

Cool, wipe dry and store in a cool, dark place.

5,400,000 Dozen Eggs Will be Shipped to Britain from Canada This Month

HINTS FOR EGG PRODUCERS

Don't Sell Your Producing Hens in May.

Feed Your Hens Good Laying Mash.

Remove Males and Produce Infertile Eggs. Such Eggs Hold their Quality Better.

Gather Eggs at Least Twice Daily — More Often is Better.

An Open Ventilated Container is Best for Collecting Warm Eggs.

Market Eggs Every Day if Possible.

When Transporting Eggs Protect Them from Too High Temperature and Too Much Jolting.

Cooling Eggs as soon as possible after they are laid assists in holding their grade and means more profit to the producer.

Never Place Warm Eggs in Cases.

Produce Clean Eggs. Clean nesting material helps to prevent dirty eggs — keep the nests dark.

Order is Accepted for Big Shipments of Canadian Eggs

An order has been accepted by the Special Products Board from the British Ministry of Food for 5,400,000 dozen eggs for shipment in the month of May. This means that if the order is to be filled egg production of the present laying flocks will be taxed to its maximum capacity.

Here is the challenge to the patriotic effort of every egg producer in Canada. The approximate price to be paid by the British Ministry is from 23 to 25 cents per dozen according to grade delivered on board ship at Montreal, packed, ready for export. What is wanted immediately on the part of egg producers is:

1. Maximum efficiency in production.
2. Special efforts to retain the quality of eggs.

Efficiency in production means securing every egg possible from the flocks. Do not sell producing hens during the next two months.



FEEDING

To obtain maximum production it is essential to feed a good laying mash. A good commercial mash may be used but where home-grown grains are available these may be ground and mixed with a good commercial concentrate according to the manufacturer's directions. Keep a hopper of mash constantly before the flock and supplement it with a light feed of scratch grain in the morning and a full feed in the evening. Hoppers of grit and oyster shell should be kept before the flock.

WATER

An egg is 65 per cent water. It is essential that an abundant supply of clean, fresh water be kept before the flock at all times.

QUALITY AND GRADE

If the greatest returns are to be obtained eggs must be Grade A and to do this they must be clean and be produced by properly fed hens. Hens should not be allowed to range the barnyard and obliged to drink from filthy pools. Neither should they be allowed into muddy yards in the early part of the day during which time most of the eggs are laid. A hen entering a nest with muddy feet will almost certainly soil any eggs that are in the nest thus reducing their grade. A good plan is to keep the birds confined to the house until the afternoon or early evening. If they have two or three hours range before going to roost they will get sufficient green feed to keep them in health and if the litter in the house is kept clean as it should be the danger of soiled eggs is largely removed.

MALES

As soon as the breeding season is past remove all males from the pens as infertile eggs retain their quality much better than those that have been fertilized. Soiled eggs should be retained until after the spring flush of laying. Any healthy pullet will lay sufficient to more than pay for its feed during this period, and thus will help to defray the cost of her keep up to this time.

Keep the hens free of lice and the house of mites. An occasional painting of the underside of the roost with nicotine sulphate will keep the birds free of lice. If mites are present there will be grayish-white deposits round the cracks and crevices of the roosts, nests and walls. When the mites are engaged with blood they will be red. When they are present in large numbers egg production will be greatly reduced or may cease. A thorough house cleaning is immediately indicated.

Farm Cash Income Likely To Be Higher

Cash income from the sale of farm products during the first half of 1941 will be considerably higher than in the corresponding period in 1940, states the latest issue of the Current Review of Agricultural Conditions in Canada. Marketings of most of the important farm products are running well above marketings a year ago. In the Prairie Provinces, the deferring of wheat marketings in the fall of 1940 has resulted in greater deliveries in the spring of 1941 and cash income is higher than in 1940. Increases in the marketings of hogs have more than offset lower prices, while both the volume of cattle marketings and the prices received are above those of a year ago. Dairy products are likewise bringing higher prices with a greater volume of production.

With further increases in consumer purchasing power during the next few months, it is expected that the cash income of farmers will continue to increase over 1940. Fruit and vegetable growers, live stock and poultry producers and dairymen will receive the greatest benefits from the increased incomes. During the last six months of 1941, farm cash income will be affected by the size and delivery of the 1941 wheat crop. Decreases in income from wheat in this period will be offset by Government payments for compliance with the acreage reduction program. It is likely however, the cash income for the country as a whole will be higher than in the corresponding period of 1940, as increases in income from live stock and animal products may be sufficient to offset reduced income from wheat.

JERSEY COW SETS RECORD

The Jersey cow, Tranquil Royalist, owned and tested by R. J. Graham, Georgetown, Ont., has recently completed a record of 9,332 lbs. of milk, 475 lbs. of fat, with an average test of 4.87 per cent as a junior four year old in 305 days.

Royalist Miss Ringleader, a junior four year old has produced 10,381 lbs. of milk, 532 lbs. of fat, testing 5.00 per cent in 325 days. Ringleader is a daughter of the silver medal bull, Brampton Favorite Royalist.

SUBSIDY ON HOGS NOW IN EFFECT

The Ontario Agricultural Department announced that the Ontario Government subsidy of \$1.00 per hog carcass grading "A" and 50c for "B" carcasses would apply to all hogs slaughtered in approved plants after May 5.

The subsidy applies on carcasses graded in packing plants where a Dominion Government grader is in charge of grading or in smaller plants which have been approved by the Ontario Government. These plants work in co-operation with the Dominion graders. Grading is according to Dominion standard.

To receive the subsidy the farmer must have his hog identified so that the carcasses can be graded and a grading certificate can be issued in his name. In addition he must secure from the drover or shipper, a grading certificate signed by the grader. Next he is to secure an application form from his shipper, packing plant or agricultural representative to be attached to grading certificates and forwarded to the hog subsidy division of the Ontario Department of Agriculture within 60 days from the time the certificates are issued.

EGG SHIPMENT TO BE 60% 'A' AND 40% 'B'

Of the 180,000 cases of eggs to be shipped to the British Ministry of Food from Canada in May by the special Products Board, 60 per cent are to be graded A and 40 per cent Grade B. The British Ministry would have preferred the whole shipment to have been grade A but knowing it would be impossible to get all top grade eggs a compromise on the 60-40 per cent basis was made.

If the prevention of hens from scavenging were more generally followed by poultry keepers and plenty of good feed were provided, there would be a much greater percentage of Grade A eggs available for both the export and domestic markets.

Many eggs that ordinarily would be graded A are put into B grade because of being soiled. This is to often the result of allowing the hens to run in muddy yards and return to the nests with dirty feet.

It is well to remember that a product properly produced is already more than half marketed.

The teacher was not satisfied with the efforts of the singing class. "Open your mouths wider," she said, "and sing as heartily as you can. 'Little drop of water' and for goodness sake put some spirit into it."

LAST MINUTE CALL FOR SEED WAS HEAVY

Up to the time seeding commenced the sale of seed grain was slow in many districts. Orders then came with a rush and seed-cleaning plants were operating night and day in some districts in order to meet the demands. When the inquiries for seed grain were so slow in March and early April many growers who had a lot of good grain on hand hesitated about going to the expense of grading it. However, the last-minute buyers of seed grain have materially stepped up the business for many growers.

Seed barley found ready sale. Erban oats were rather slow sale, while Carter oats found a ready sale in western Ontario.

McCormick - Lindbergh's Backer

Attacking President Roosevelt for calling Col. Lindbergh a traitor to his country, the Chicago Tribune in its issue of April 28th praises Lindbergh highly and goes on to say, "Mr. Roosevelt is exposed to the comment that he is angered to find himself at a disadvantage in his own field of speech and surpassed in it by a man he cannot equal in the latter's field of science, adventure and discovery."

Continuing the attack, the Tribune on May 1st carried a cartoon ridiculing the Roosevelt or administration's policy of aid to Britain. This cartoon states: "The U.S. furnishes the assets—the Allies furnish the liabilities."

Col. Lindbergh has been much in the public attention of late for his radio speeches sounding the same note. Not long ago Lindbergh spent a week-end at Col. McCormick's and it was the Chicago Tribune radio station which he later used to broadcast his views against Britain. Without the McCormick support, Lindbergh's campaign would soon come to an end.

—The Huntington Gleaner (Que.)—



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