

## Home Garden Book Available Free from USDA

A 1958 revision of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's manual on growing vegetables in urban home gardens is available to help town and city gardeners with their planning for this spring.

All phases of home vegetable culture are discussed in this 50-page booklet by Victor R. Boswell and Robert E. Wester of USDA's Agricultural Research Service. Included are sections on planning the garden, arranging crops, choosing and caring for tools, preparing the soil, use of fertilizers, choosing varieties, planting, transplanting, cultivating, watering,

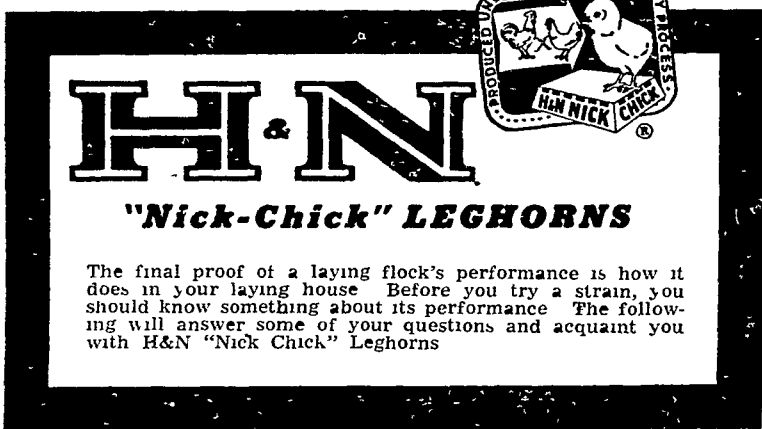
controlling diseases and insects, and harvesting and using products from the garden.

Written in an easy-to-understand manner and well illustrated, the manual contains maps showing frost dates for all sections of the country and a simple guide for determining the best time to plant various vegetables.

Detailed suggestions on the cultivation of particular crops are included, along with hints to help inexperienced gardeners avoid some of their commonest difficulties.

Single copies of this publication, "Growing Vegetables in Town and City," USDA Home and Garden Bulletin No. 7, may be obtained free on request from the Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

## Questions and Answers on

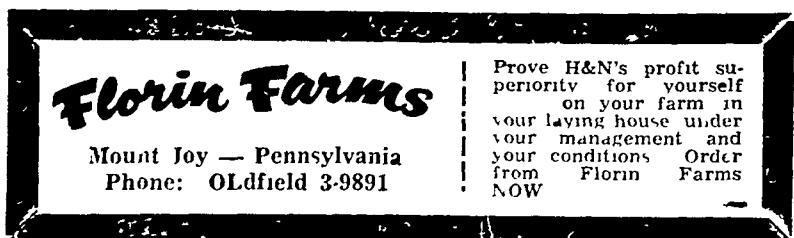


**H&N**  
"Nick-Chick" LEGHORNS

The final proof of a laying flock's performance is how it does in your laying house. Before you try a strain, you should know something about its performance. The following will answer some of your questions and acquaint you with H&N "Nick Chick" Leghorns.

- Q.** What is an H&N "Nick Chick" Leghorn?
- A.** H&N "Nick Chick" Leghorns are the offspring of a cross between unrelated lines of white leghorns. This crossing gives the chicks you get a good boost in performance because of hybrid vigor.
- Q.** How is H&N "Nick Chick" Leghorn livability?
- A.** H&N "Nick Chick" Leghorns have earned a record of 85% livability in ELEVEN YEARS of OFFICIAL RANDOM SAMPLE TESTING compared to the test average of those years of 76%. It is important to note that this record was established, not by one group of birds in one test but by ELEVEN ENTIRELY SEPARATE groups of birds, some purposely exposed to leukosis. Thus H&N provides long range proof of high livability because one year's test is never a reliable indication of true strain comparisons.
- Q.** At what age can I expect H&N "Nick Chick" Leghorns to reach 50% lay?
- A.** Once again it is difficult to give an exact answer as maturity depends upon hatch date and other factors. However, H&N's are noted for coming into production rapidly. H&N's on an average hit 50% production at about 160-180 days, or 5 to 5½ months.
- Q.** How well do H&N's resist respiratory disease problems?
- A.** Field reports from areas with a high incidence of C.R.D. show that management is a very important factor in preventing and controlling this problem. A sound vaccination program is essential. Protection from cold winds or other severe climatic changes also seems to be effective. Consistent with good management, H&N's have relatively high resistance to respiratory problems. Proof is the many H&N's which are being raised successfully in areas which have the reputation of being hot respiratory problem spots.
- Q.** How about egg size?
- A.** H&N's Balanced Breeding Program emphasizes profits for the poultryman. This means we aim for an egg size which will permit high egg numbers, efficient feed consumption, and the right sizes for highest earnings. Obviously, there are many variables, but ordinarily H&N's will be producing 50% large eggs at 7 months of age.
- Here are figures taken from the 6th and 7th California Random Sample Tests. Egg size averaged 25.3 ounces per dozen for the test period. In the 8th California Random Sample Test, the H&N egg weight was 26.1 ounces per dozen at approximately one year of age. H&N had 22.6% extra large, 44.5% large, 26.5% medium and 6.2% small for the entire test. In the first two Wisconsin Random Sample Tests H&N's were 2nd and 1st respectively in the number of large eggs produced.

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## Angus Breeders Study Grading, Management at Fresno Conference

"Angus Design for Western Progress", the theme of the Fourth Annual American Aberdeen-Angus Conference at Fresno State College, Fresno, California, March 9 through 11, was emphasized in the material presented by cattlemen, educators, and researchers to 300 people from 20 states. Termed one of the most successful events of its kind, conference visitors heard discussed and saw demonstrated Angus herd classification, modern methods of herd management and merchandising, and steer grading and carcass evaluation.

Prof. L. E. Kunkle of Ohio State University gave the opening address in pointing out that it is time cattlemen do some careful planning if beef is to hold its eminent position among the foods that get first consideration in the standard of living enjoyed in the United States. He stressed the importance of breeding and feeding animals that produce superior carcasses efficiently.

To illustrate Professor Kunkle's talk Fenton O'Connell, Gilroy, California, and Robert Glim, Fresno State College, gave a demonstration of live grades of slaughter steers. This was followed by the judging of a class of carcass steers on foot, conducted by E. J. Rousek, Fresno State College, L. E. Kunkle, R. F. Johnson, California State Polytechnic College, and Fenton O'Connell.

In reporting on Angus herd classification, Dr. R. H. Nelson of Michigan State University said type classification has more to offer to a greater percentage of Angus breeders for the improvement and merchandising of their

cattle than anything that has come along for many years. Angus breeders have developed an outstanding breed of beef cattle, continued Dr. Nelson, but when one does an outstanding job, competition usually forces a person to look for better ways to continue making progress.

Only after a period of years can the real value of herd classification be realized by the breeder, stated Dr. John I. Miller, of Cornell University, in reviewing the work in New York State. It is then that more complete records on the production of individual cows, family lines, and sires become available for comparison. He believes that the herd owner who has, and uses, records which include accurate, unbiased appraisals of type along with other important information such as rate of gain or weights and feed efficiency can do a better job for himself and his customers. The conference participated in a herd classification demonstration conducted by Fred C. Francis, Wilmington, Illinois, Dr. Nelson, and Dr. Miller.

After a banquet Monday evening, Dr. John F. Lasley, University of Missouri, reviewed all research that has been done on dwarfism in beef cattle. He told of studies currently underway to detect carriers of the gene. He stated that in the control of dwarfism cattlemen should pay attention to pedigrees, progeny tests, and other methods of detecting carriers of the dwarf gene. Dr. Nelson presented the recommendations of the Association's research committee to the board of directors. They included complete

pedigree studies.

A panel discussion on "Herd Bulls, Their Selection, Development and Use" opened the Tuesday morning session with Dr. Bruce R. Taylor, head of the Department of Animal Science, University of Tucson, acting as moderator. Members of the panel included Lee Leachman, Ankony Farm, Rhinebeck, New York; Dale M. Bly, Wesdale Farms, Harrington, Washington; L. B. Pierce, Woodlawn Farm, Creston, Illinois; Les Ljungdahl, Essar Ranch, San Antonio, Texas, and William Verdugo, Fresno State College.

"Cow Herd Management—Purebred and Commercial" was moderated by Dr. Dan Roberts, 77 Ranch, Wichita Falls, Texas. Panel members included John Hershey, Rivermere A-A Ranches, Oldale, California, William G. Volkmann, Jr., Selma, California, Frank Gwerder, Walnut Grove, California, Paul J. Carlson, Hoots Argus Farm, Grants Pass, Oregon; and Tom Greenfield, Marana, Arizona.

The final panel, "Selling Our Cattle or the Breeder's Promotion Problems", moderated by W. W. Brainard, Jr., Downsbragh Farms, Far Hills, New Jersey, included Harold Rankin, Hermiston, Oregon, Ken Gross, Emerald Acres, Elk Grove, California, Dr. Paul Keese, KerMac Angus Farm, Poteau, Oklahoma, and Lee Leachman.

Professors Kunkle and Rousek concluded the program with an evaluation of the steer carcasses. General chairman was Frank Richards, secretary, American Angus Association. The group was welcomed by Dr. Arnold E. Joyal, president, Fresno State College and the pierce was given by Lewis B. Bierce, vice-president, American Angus Association.

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