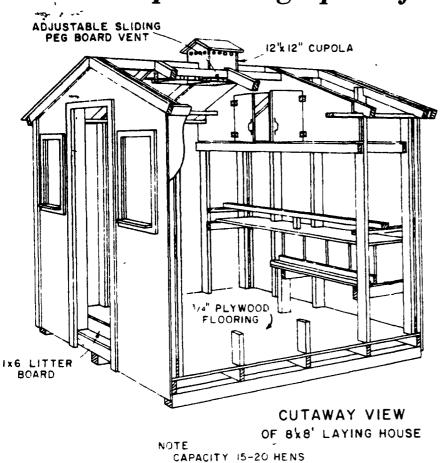
Experts design plans for small poultry house



NEWARK, DE — A growing number of part-time and small-scale farmers are raising poultry for their own meat and egg needs, but plans for small chicken or pigeon houses are often out-of-date or hard to find.

The University of Delaware Cooperation Extension Service is offering a plan for an easy-to-build poultry house which is suitable for brooding or laying hens or pigeons. The design, Plan No. G232, was prepared by the U.S. Department of Agriculture plan services.

The building is 8 feet long by 8 feet wide. As a laying house it will hold 15 to 20 hens with four nests and a roost and storage area. The building is constructed on 4-inch by 4-inch pressure treated skids, so no foundation or concrete work is required. The building does have a plywood floor, however.

Standard stud and rafter construction is used, so anyone with basic carpentry skills should have no trouble erecting the frame. The siding is plywood and the roof is shingles over a plywood deck, giving the structure an overall pleasing appearance.

The building is designed with a door and two small windows for adequate light. Ventilation and building appearance are enhanced

with a roof cupola. Interior arrangements for roosts, nests, coops and other fixtures are shown for pigeons, layers and bantams. Feed and water troughs are not included in the design and must be provided.

Blueprints of this two-sheet plan are available for \$1 from: Extension Agricultural Engineer - Plan Service, 058 Townsend Hall, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19717-1303. Make checks payable to the University of Delaware. Be sure to specify Plan G232 Small Poultry House.

Berks DHIA

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Pinesedge Farm, owned by Sam Yoder gathered all the Milking Shorthorn awards. "Nita" produced 14,766M, 3.5% 518F at 9-07. "Chedrrytart" produced high fat at 3-03 305 days, 13,299M 4.4% and 587F. "Nita" also had high protein production with 3.3% and 483 pounds.

Holstein awards went to the Rothrock herd, R1, Kempton. Their top cow, "Abbie" took all the honors with 34,121 M, 4.2% 1418F, 3.3% protein and 1109P.

The herd winning the low somatic cell count award for the year went to the registered and grade herd of Larry and Cathy Phillips, R1, Mohrsville. With 33 cows, Phillips maintained a somatic cell count average of 95,000. Second lowest herd was the Linden Loch herd of Jim Shaw, Oley, with 65 cows at 105,000.

The new awards this year were for the most improved herds in the county for milk and fat production. Dynasty Holsteins, owned by Jeff Miller, R3, Kutztown, improved their milk production by 3,653 pounds of milk to win the plaque. The largest herd in the county, the 200 plus cow of Dynasty Holsteins, work in a freestall - parlor setup. The most improved herd for fat production is owned by Sam Shirk, Fleetwood. His herd's fat production improved by 120 pounds of fat.

The tester-supervisors of the county were also honored by year end bonuses for the least mistakes on their monthly reports. A new tester incentive was also initiated this year for each tester. A \$50 bonus per each new herd enrolled by a tester will be given to that tester by the association. Stating that the new herd incentive program is working, President Schlegel reported that new herds are being enrolled each month.

New directors for each circuit were also elected at this meeting. The new directors elected to fill out expired terms were: Ralph Moyer, Frystown, Glenn Seidel, Robesonia, Dave Schuler, Oley, and Floyd Martin.



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