

# DAIRY FACTS

WATER SUPPLY IS IMPORTANT ITEM

Cow Must Have It to Aid in Digesting Food for Milk.

(By G. A. Williams, Purdue University)  
The importance of a liberal supply of pure fresh water for the dairy herd during the winter season should be given careful consideration on every farm. Many herds are undersupplied at this time.

There are more than eight gallons of water in each 100 pounds of milk. The cow must have water to assist in digesting the food which makes the milk. Then the body gives off moisture in addition to the other needs. It requires nearly seven pounds of water for each quart of milk which a cow produces.

This must come from the feed or the water trough. During the winter season a large part of the ration consumed is dry roughage. This necessitates the drinking of larger amounts of water than if pasture were a part of the daily feed. When the water consumed is insufficient the effect is not long in reaching the milk pail.

Watering the milking herd once daily is not often enough. Such a practice forces the cow to consume five, eight or perhaps ten gallons at one time. Although the stomach of the cow is larger than that of any other of our farm animals, taking this large quantity of liquid into the stomach at one time tends to interfere with the digestion of the feed. This is especially true if the temperature of the water is near the freezing point.

Water at a low temperature must be raised to approximately body temperature before it can be assimilated by the tissues. Heat must be absorbed from the body to accomplish this. Inasmuch as part of the feed which an animal eats goes for the production of heat and energy, the consumption of large amounts of cold water tends to increase the food supply used for this purpose.

Dairy cattle in milk should be supplied with water not colder than 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Even in winter water pumped from the well will not be colder, but as it stands in the trough on a cold day the temperature approaches the freezing point. Many dairymen are finding the tank heater a very profitable investment for the dairy herd where a water system is not installed in the barn.

The expense for fuel required to heat the water consumed by the stock is almost negligible. Some dairymen use corn cobs for the purpose. It is poor policy to use a well balanced ration to increase the milk flow when the herd is not receiving enough water. The water supply is an important item on the dairy farm in winter.

## Buckwheat Has Feeding Value for Dairy Cows

Buckwheat has a fair feeding value for cattle. The woody hulls of the buckwheat kernels have little feeding value themselves, but may be used to add bulk to a ration of other grains. Buckwheat middlings, which are separated from the hull in milling, contain 28 per cent crude protein and a fair amount of fat. Buckwheat bran is, of course, less valuable than buckwheat middlings, and when the bran does not contain more than half hulls it is regarded as about four-fifths as valuable as wheat bran. Such bran has about 16 per cent protein and 24 per cent fiber. Buckwheat products help to produce a large flow of milk when fed intelligently to dairy cows. If buckwheat is not given in excessive amounts it is not injurious to the quality of the butter produced by a herd.

## Dairy Facts

It costs money to grow feeds for cows.

For washing and rinsing utensils, a clean, safe water supply is absolutely necessary.

The dishcloth may be justly charged with being responsible for a lot of the unclean utensils now being used to handle milk and cream.

The main essentials in housing dairy cows in winter are to keep them dry, out of the wind and drafts and to provide plenty of fresh air and sunlight.

With good breeding to produce cows of high production, never hesitate to give an individual all the feed she can efficiently convert into milk and butterfat.

Milk that has curdled will separate with difficulty. Previous to separating, such milk should be thoroughly mixed by pouring from one can to another, breaking up the curd as finely as possible, so as not to clog the machine.

Do not neglect cooling your milk and cream even though the weather is cold. Since cold water will cool your milk or cream 21 times as fast as air, it is important to always set your milk in cold water regardless of the temperature of the air.

# POULTRY

EARLIER HATCHED CHICKS FAVORED

Good Business to Have Good Laying Flock in Summer.

By hatching a part of the poultry flock between January 15 and February 15, so that the birds will mature in July, the poultryman takes a big step toward maintaining his late summer and early fall production, advises R. R. Hannas, poultry research specialist, in the New Jersey Agriculture.

Mr. Hannas points out that the price of eggs begins to climb as the summer wanes and that it is good business to have a flock of layers at this time. Ordinarily a decline in production takes place with the old fowls about July. If one-quarter to one-third of the flock is hatched between the middle of January and the middle of February the poultry keeper can offset this decrease.

The article goes on to say that brooding of chicks early in the season has been carried on successfully for a number of years. Chicks thus produced will reach a good growth and development before hot weather comes on, thereby giving them an advantage over later hatched stock.

One precaution, to prevent leg weakness, is advised. Because bad weather is likely to make it unsafe to let the chicks out on the ground and there is a lack of green food at this time, cod liver oil and sprouted oats should be supplied. The oil is given at the rate of 2 per cent either of the amount of grain or of the amount of mash fed. Experience has shown that it is easier to mix it into the grain, and that however used, it is highly effective in preventing leg weakness.

The writer concludes with the suggestion that the earlier hatching enables the general farmer to get this phase of his work out of the way before the heavy rush of spring arrives.

## Crowded Conditions in Many Poultry Houses

A recent survey of a number of farms shows crowded conditions in the poultry houses. Many of these houses are almost wholly lacking in ventilation.

At night when one of these buildings is crowded with chickens the air is not fit to breathe. A human being will not remain long in such a place. If he did remain throughout the night, he would be "all in" by morning. And this is just the trouble with a lot of chickens now.

The chickens are badly crowded at night in a poorly-ventilated house. They are forced to breathe bad air. They become too warm. They are "all in" in the morning, and emerging into the cool outside air is a sudden change that many of them cannot withstand.

These crowded conditions at night and sudden changes from warm to cool air are responsible for many of our poultry ills. Giving the chickens medicine will not do any permanent good so long as the cause of the trouble remains unchanged. Either additional room should be provided or the size of the flock reduced.

## Crooked Breast Bones Found in Chickens

Crooked breast bones may be caused by inbreeding and general debility, or may come from improper food and feeding, or poor management of some kind, writes Michael K. Boyer in the Farm and Ranch. There is no question about heredity being the fault, at least to a certain extent. That being the fact, it should be bred out, which might be done by the selection of only straight breast-bone fowls for the breeding pen.

Lack of bone-making material in the feed of growing stock, which is the prime cause of leg weakness, has also the effect of producing crooked breast bones in young chickens.

There used to be a theory, which by many still is believed, that very early roosting of growing birds causes the soft breast bones to bend. This might be so in some instances, but does not hold good with the general run of stock.

## Buying Pullets

Buying pullets by weight may be more satisfactory than buying entirely by age. April hatched pullets on insufficient rations may be of less value than May hatched pullets which have been properly fed and brooded. A May 1 pullet is much better than a May 30 pullet if the conditions have been equal. The later hatched chick has missed four fine weeks for the development of poultry meat, but the name of the month is not fully descriptive of quality.

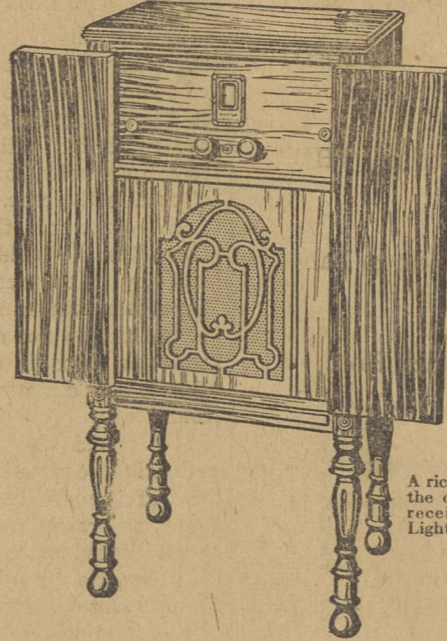
## Culling Farm Flock

There are two essentials in culling farm poultry. First, to get rid of hens that are not laying, and second, to distinguish between the hens that have been good producers and those that have not laid enough to pay for their feed. Culling should start in late May or June and continue throughout the year at regular intervals. Eliminating the hens as they become unprofitable saves feed and labor and improves the conditions for those that are laying.

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## Sweet Valley

Leonard, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Karn, is seriously ill.

Charles Quoss, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Quoss is ill at the home of his parents.

Dr. and Mrs. Lee Rummage visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rummage on Sunday.

The condition of Mrs. Mitchell who is a patient in Nanticoke Hospital is about the same.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hock and family, of Nanticoke, called on local relatives on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. William Trumbower and daughter, Mary of Muhlenburg, were Sweet Valley callers on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Emory Lutes called on Mrs. Lute's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Allen on Sunday.

Mrs. F. M. Hazlett and Harold Freeman called on Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Davenport on Sunday afternoon.

A business meeting of the Christian Endeavor Society of the Church of Christ was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Callender last evening.

This evening a Christian Endeavor birthday party will be held in Christian Church. A large cake bearing forty-eight candles will be served to the guests. Other interesting features will be introduced. An invitation is extended to all to attend.

Last evening W. N. Multer, of Kingston, delivered an address in accord with Christian Endeavor week.

The Christian Endeavor Society of the Christian Church met in the church hall on Thursday evening when officers received their charges and pledge cards were signed and received.

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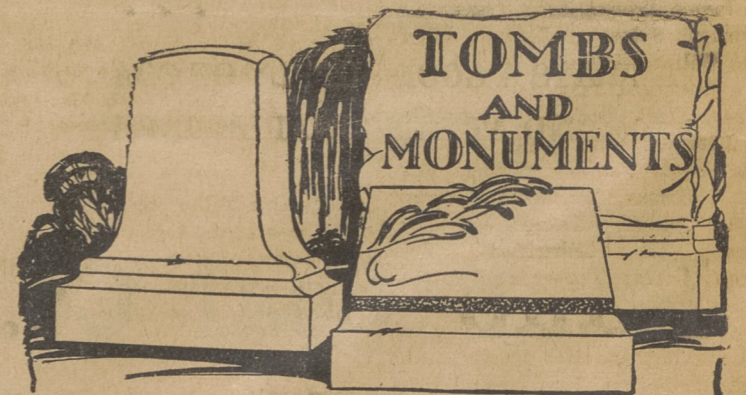
## Freak Haddock

Those who argue that nature works on an intelligent plan are called upon to explain the appearance of a three-eyed haddock found among a catch of fish brought to Boston. The extra eye was on the left side of the head.

## NOTICE!

Notice to Taxpayers of Dallas Township. All taxes remaining unpaid February 1st, 1929 become delinquent after that date. I will be obliged to collect according to law. Kindly take care of this and avoid additional cost.

JOHN A. ANDERSON,  
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