

POULTRY

GEESE AND DUCKS ARE PREFERRED

Fowls Require Little Feed and Not Much Care.

We almost swear by our geese and we can make each old goose bring in \$100 a season. It's not easy to make sows return a greater profit when present feed costs are computed. Our old pairs, and we never attempt to raise from young geese, are good for four dozen eggs in a season and will raise 30 goslings each to maturity, writes J. L. Phillips, Whitman county, Washington, in Capper's Farmer. Each goose lays three times and we let her sit on her last laying of eggs.

There is little cost to raising geese on a general farm and that is the place for profits on almost any sort of live stock. Our goslings grow up on grass until after harvest. Then they fatten themselves on waste grain in the wheat and oats fields and on corn and beans scattered where the hogs harvest those crops. They get practically nothing that would not otherwise go to waste. We sell the best goslings as breeders for \$5 each and the common ones at market price for Thanksgiving and Christmas. They weigh 15 to 20 pounds each. By dressing them we get better than \$1 each out of the feathers to pay for the work.

Our ducks are almost as profitable as the geese and if it were not for the fact that the eggs do not hatch in an ordinary incubator, I doubt if we would have a hen on the place.

They lay splendidly and we hatch from April until August. The young are full feathered at eight weeks for the broiler chicken market and we have no trouble selling them. We like them mighty well fried, too, and use a lot of them at home. The old ducks weigh 6 to 9 pounds and the young ones at eight weeks old as high as 4 pounds. We never could get that weight with chickens.

I don't think the average family appreciates the ease with which the water fowls are raised. Ducklings or goslings increase in weight about three times as rapidly as chickens. It makes the need of brooding much shorter and gets some size on them so they will be out of danger from rats or from being tramped on long before chickens have reached that stage.

Marketing Eggs Direct Is Profitable Plan

Many poultrymen who are wanting a better market for their poultry products would find better profits in a direct to the consumer trade, according to W. A. Sumner, University of Wisconsin, who points out that a classified ad in city papers often will bring more customers than a farmer can supply.

He points out the necessity of the farmer poultry producer being in position to take care of orders in prompt and efficient manner and to be able to supply a good reliable product, which in the case of eggs would mean, fresh, large-sized and clean eggs.

This direct to the consumer business depends upon repeat orders and poultrymen must keep up the quality of their shipments so that customers will not look elsewhere for eggs or poultry. A satisfied customer is the best advertisement that the producer can have.

It pays to have neat cartons and crates for marketing eggs and sometimes a producer can develop a trademark name that will help bring more orders and customers.

Health Insurance

A low chick mortality of 9.3 per cent was reported by Pennsylvania poultrymen who raised their chicks in complete confinement last year. These reports were obtained for a total of 12,309 chicks brooded under the "closed door" plan outlined by the poultry extension department of the Pennsylvania State college. A low chick mortality and freedom from intestinal parasites are two advantages of the plan outlined by the specialists.

Chinese Rank Third

The breed which probably ranks third in number in the United States as a whole is the Chinese. There are two varieties of this breed: White Chinese and Brown Chinese. This breed is rather small, the ganders weighing ten to twelve pounds. Their popularity is largely due to the fact that they are the most prolific breed of geese. Under good management they may be expected to produce 60 to 100 eggs in a laying season. Like other geese, their main feed is grass.

Dub Male Fowls

Some breeders dub their male birds like game cocks to avoid freezing of the comb and wattles. The practice appears cruel but probably produces much less suffering than a badly frozen comb which takes weeks to heal. Usually it is only possible to dub birds for the home flock as it injures their appearance and other breeders will not like to buy them. With warmer poultry houses, many male birds are going through the winter without a frosted point.

DAIRY FACTS

FIND SOY BEANS MAKE GOOD FEED

Increasing Interest in Hay Crop for Dairy Cows.

Reports coming to the college of agriculture at New Brunswick, New Jersey, indicate an increasing interest in soy beans as a hay crop for dairy cattle. The heavy yields, amounting to two tons on fairly good land, and the high feeding value, are believed to be the reasons for the popularity of the plant.

The crop is sown at the rate of about five pecks per acre if drilled, or six pecks if broadcast by hand. Farmers have found that if the field has never raised soy beans before it is highly desirable to inoculate. This is easily done by the "seed and soil" method described in Extension Bulletin 32, issued free by the state college of agriculture at New Brunswick; or if soil from another soy bean field is not readily available a commercial culture is used. The purpose of either treatment is to inoculate the seed with certain bacteria that are necessary for proper growth of the plants.

An application of 300 to 400 pounds per acre of a complete fertilizer high in phosphoric acid and potash has generally been found profitable when applied to this crop. Wilson is the favorite in this territory but other varieties such as Haberlandt, Virginia, and Pekin are well adapted to hay making.

Soy beans are legumes and therefore leave the soil in excellent condition for sowing wheat or rye after harvest. Though prompt action is necessary after harvest to prepare a good seedbed for winter grain, disking the soy bean stubble is all that is usually necessary. Extension Bulletin 23, also issued free to farmers by the college of agriculture, gives more detailed information on the raising of soy beans in this state.

Practice Essential in Making Grain Mixtures

Since there is seldom a deficiency in carbohydrates and fat when the dairy cow has all the roughage that she can eat, a roughly balanced ration may be obtained by balancing the protein of the grain mixture to go with the roughage and disregarding the carbohydrates and fat. For low to medium-producing cows good alfalfa hay and corn meal make up a reasonably good ration. To go with alfalfa hay, some grain mixtures are as follows: Mixture 1—200 pounds corn, 100 pounds oats, 100 pounds wheat bran, and 100 pounds linseed oil meal. Mixture 2—100 pounds barley, 100 pounds oats, 100 pounds wheat bran, and 300 pounds corn oil meal. Mixture 3—200 pounds corn-and-cob meal, 200 pounds oats, 100 pounds wheat bran, and 100 pounds cottonseed meal.

If prairie hay is used as roughage the ration may be as follows: Mixture 1—100 pounds corn, 100 pounds oats, 100 pounds wheat bran, and 250 pounds linseed oil meal. Mixture 2—100 pounds barley, 100 pounds alfalfa meal, 100 pounds corn oil meal, and 200 pounds linseed oil meal.

Minerals Are Often Fed When There Is No Need

"Mineral feeds are being sold to many farmers who have no real use for them," says Dr. C. H. Eckles, chief of the dairy division of the University of Minnesota. "If a dairy herd is fed legume hay in winter together with a fair grain ration, and is on pasture in summer, the owner is wise to forget all about minerals unless his herd shows abnormal conditions, such as chewing bones or gnawing boards. Bonemeal alone, or mixed with ground limestone, supplies the minerals usually needed when a deficiency occurs."

Dairy Facts

Sell and buy cows on the basis of butterfat production.

Feeds should be palatable so a cow will have a liking for them.

Off-flavors in milk can usually be avoided by milking the cows before feeding them instead of after.

Insufficient feed and a ration lacking in protein are the most common faults in the feeding of dairy cows.

Use your milk house only for the care and handling of milk, not for storing tools and implements. Milk needs all possible care to keep it clean.

A half-gallon cow is as expensive as a half-hearted farm laborer. They should both be sent down the road.

Cows are improving every day but we haven't found any cows giving dry milk, and they know better than we how to water their milk.

A tubercular cow is not always noticeably poor in health or unthrifty. Some vigorous looking beasts are reeking with the disease. A good veterinary and a good serum test will soon tell you the truth.

Beaumont

After an extended tour in the Western States, Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Meeker and Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Sherman have returned to their home here. Harry Millard and family will move to J. H. Hadsell's farm, vacated by H. C. Montague. Mr. Maillard is a good farmer and expects to have some real crops this fall.

Former Beaumont high school students who are now home from college for the Easter holidays are: Wayne Hadsell, Mariel Lutes and Celeste Levitt.

William Richards and Henry Schupp, who have been spending the winter in the summer sunshine of Florida, have returned home. Although they had a wonderful time while away they are glad to be home once more and greet old friends.

The Senior class of the high school cleared \$64.50 from its play, "The Empty House," given in the high school auditorium last Friday night. The play was very well given and spoke highly of the talents of the players and the excellence of the coaching.

Viola Flowers spent Easter in Brooklyn.

Mrs. Stanley Brown, of Vernon was taken to the hospital Saturday by Paul Nulton in his motor ambulance.

HIGHWAYS BAD

Frost of Winter Raises Havoc With Country Highways

Many of the country roads in this and surrounding townships are in deplorable condition this spring. The road from Dallas to Tunkhamock is rough and full of deep holes where the frost has left the ground. The concrete road to Harvey's Lake is also in need of repair and careful attention. In many places this strip of concrete is bulged and cracked from winter frosts.

Roads or no roads a lot of the boys will be ambling over toward Bowman's Creek and other mountain streams about the fifteenth of April, when the speckled beauties begin to get playful.

Fern Brook

Services at the Glenview Primitive Methodist Church on Sunday will be as follows: Sunday School at 10 a. m. and Divine Worship at 11 a. m. and 7:15 p. m. The pastor, Rev. A. Iveson, will preach at both services.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Turnball and son Robert Earl, of Westfield, N. J., have returned home after spending the Easter holidays with Mrs. Turnball's parents, Rev. and Mrs. Iveson.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mosier moved into the newly built apartment of John Seymoure.

Charles Detrick, who is a patient at the Homeopathic Hospital, underwent a second operation on Thursday. His condition is serious.

Mrs. John Köcher was hit by an automobile in Wilkes-Barre on Tuesday afternoon. She was taken to the General Hospital and later removed to her home where she is resting comfortably.

Mr. and Mrs. George Noble expect to return to their home on Terrace Avenue this coming week. They have been staying with relatives in the city during the winter months.

Historic Venice

The city of Venice has 650 canals and 378 bridges. It is built upon 78 islands.

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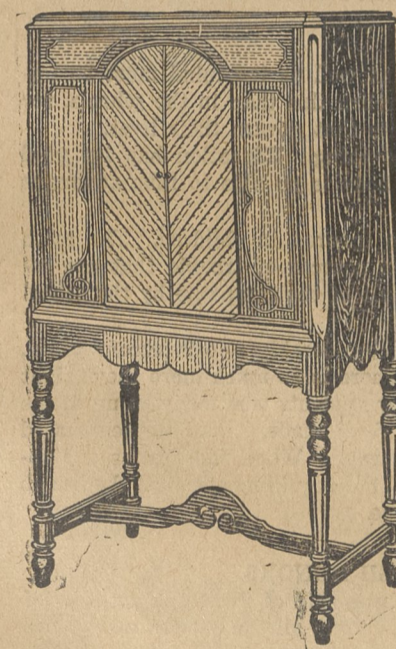
White Ant Lumber's Enemy

There is one insect that takes heavy annual toll in lumber, says the American Tree association. This is the termite, or white ant. These insects penetrate into the wood of floors and walls and foundations. They eat their way through the wood, honeycombing it and weakening it.

Laugh for the Bride

It must be hard for a bride to keep from laughing right out loud during the ceremony when she thinks how she has let the groom believe he has had to drag her up to the altar when he didn't have any more chance than a rabbit of getting away.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

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