

POULTRY

BLACKHEAD CAN BE CONTROLLED

Disease Is Caused by Animal Germ in Young Fowls.

Blackhead of turkeys is one of the most dreaded diseases of this class of poultry, but destructive as it is, the trouble may be controlled.

"We find that blackhead is caused by an animal germ," says Dr. B. F. Kaupp, head of the poultry department at state college. "It generally attacks young turkeys from five to seven weeks of age on up until they mature. To tell definitely whether a bird has blackhead, one has to open a dead bird and if blackhead is present, the liver will appear to be spotted. If the liver be cut through, these spots of dead tissue will be found scattered throughout. To prevent future spread of the trouble, the eggs for hatching should be soaked for ten minutes in a 1 to 10,000 solution of bichloride of mercury and hatched in an incubator or by a turkey hen away from chickens. Where blackhead is not on the premises, these precautions are not necessary. A drug called sulphophenol may also be used. Always give the birds all the buttermilk or soured skim milk that they will drink. This tones up the general health conditions."

To learn more of the real nature of this disease, Doctor Kaupp will begin field studies with turkeys in the four mountain counties of Ashe, Madison, Jackson and Avery. These four counties have many turkeys and the owners have suffered losses in the past by reason of the blackhead trouble. Doctor Kaupp states that all the experimental work will be conducted under actual farm conditions and he hopes to find definite and practical control or preventative methods which may be used by all farmers.

Turkey-growing offers good profits, especially to the grower who is prepared to put first-class birds on the market at Thanksgiving and Christmas. There are many successful turkey farmers in various parts of North Carolina and if it is possible to find a practical control for blackhead, the industry should easily become more profitable.

Runner Ducks Classed as Heavy Egg Layers

Runner ducks are classed as laying ducks and are the only breed recognized in that classification. In many instances Runners have produced as many eggs as chickens. If managed properly ducks of this breed may be expected to lay almost as well as hens. These ducks are small in size, the males weighing four to four and one-half pounds and the females three and a half to four pounds. In spite of the fact that they are heavy layers they mature quite rapidly and make good broilers. They are killed for this purpose when they weigh about two and a half to three pounds. These ducks are long and narrow bodied. The body is carried very erect. There are three varieties of Runner ducks: Fawn and White Runners, Penciled Runners, and White Runners. In all three varieties the matings are made in the proportion of one drake to each six or eight ducks.

Poultry Hints

A point to keep in mind in feeding mash to the turkeys is that they need the vitamin D provided by a good high-grade cod-liver oil just as badly as do chickens.

Most turkey raisers will wish to hatch the eggs in an incubator and breed the poults artificially. By doing this they can keep the turkey hens in production almost continuously.

There's no better feed for young poults than plenty of sour milk. Feed five times daily at first, but don't overfeed, and be sure to keep grit, charcoal and clean water before them at all times.

Build open sheds for turkeys to roost under as soon as they begin to want to fly up to roost.

Keep young turkeys shut up until one week old. Then turn out for a few hours each day during the warm part of the day until they are two weeks old.

Each turkey egg is worth a great deal more than a single chicken egg, and because of this fact the loss is greater when the eggs do not hatch or when they hatch into weak turkeys.

Start birds on bran and clabber mash if possible; otherwise, use corn bread.

Don't try a late hatch unless you have separate enclosure for these late turkeys. Two ages of turkeys don't mix any better than two ages of chickens do.

Usually it is necessary to use one gander to every three or four geese. A young gander will do provided he is fully matured. Geese may be turned out in any moderately cold weather.

The DAIRY

GARLIC FLAVORED MILK NOT WANTED

Precautions Needed to Keep Cows Away From Plant.

Garlic may have its place in the dietary, but that place does not include the milk supply. Most consumers, in fact, object seriously to milk tainted with its noisome odor and, ordinarily, only a few bottles of it need be left at their door to cause them to change dealers.

Because of this, the dairy department of the New Jersey agricultural experiment station, New Brunswick, has suggested that dairymen take special pains to keep their cattle from indulging in the pernicious weed which causes the trouble. It has been found that even a very little partaking of this member of the onion family will become evident in the milk given by the cow shortly afterwards. Where milk purifiers are available to the milk distributor it is possible to remove much of the garlic aroma, but since such devices are not in universal use, various precautions are needed to keep the cows from the garlic plant. This is especially difficult in the spring just after the herds are turned out to pasture.

One method of circumventing the difficulty is to turn the young stock out on pasture at least two weeks ahead of the milking herd. In this way the young animals eat off the weeds. When the milking herd does finally go to pasture it should be returned to the barn about noon every day for a few days and given a liberal feeding of hay. Several days may pass before it is safe to turn the herd out at night. After that the garlic has become more or less stunted in growth and the animals have lost their first tendency to eat everything that is green. In other words, they seem to become more particular in their eating.

Milk Powder for Calves Tried in Various Ways

Many dairymen have tried in various ways to make use of skim-milk powder in calf feeding. Maurice Baird, connected with Ohio State university, who has charge of a number of dairy calves now on feed, outlines this method:

Use whole milk until the calf is two months old. This should be followed by a dry feed mixture, 300 pounds each, corn and cob meal, and ground oats bran, and 100 pounds of meal. Two to three pounds of this mixture is fed daily. Skim-milk powder is added to the feed so the calf will receive one and one-half pounds of the mixture. Feeding is made at morning and evening periods. The skim-milk powder is omitted when the calf reaches nine months. Mixed hay and a pound of dried beet pulp are used, and plenty of water is available at all times. Silage may be used, replacing the beet pulp. Plenty of salt is supplied. Clean stalls at all times, and these stalls when cleaned should be sprinkled with lime, after which a plentiful supply of bedding is applied.

"The eye of the master fatteneth his flock," is always a part of the scheme of animal feeding. Experiments with skim-milk powder diluted in water have caused calves to get off feed, and have affected digestion. Skim-milk powder is well supplied with minerals needed by the calves. The cost of feeding and raising a heifer is so great that only good stock should be considered. Stock from disease-free herds, born and raised under sanitary conditions, is the most desirable.

Supplement Grass With Efficient Grain Feeds

The dairy farmer loses a great deal of money through turning milk cows out on pasture during the spring and summer months and not supplementing the grass with grain. True, the milk flow is very often stimulated to a marked degree as soon as the animals are turned out, but at a loss of body weight. Spring pasture is relatively high in protein and consequently we are interested in feeding a grain mixture that will keep the cows in good flesh and at the same time maintain their production. In this case a ration testing about 12 per cent protein should be used.

During the late summer when the pastures are poor the protein of the grain mixture should be raised to about 16 per cent and silage can be added to supply the cow with succulence.

It is practically impossible to bring a cow back to high production in the fall when she has not been grazed during the summer months.

Feed for Calves

Give the calves access to the hay and fodder, allowing them to eat as much as they want. A grain mixture of half-ground corn and oats would be satisfactory. Oats and barley give a little too much crude fiber for the young calf. Feed the grain dry and until about four months old give them as much as they will eat up clean. From that age on limit the amount to not over three pounds per calf daily. Give water as soon as they seem to want it.

Sweet Valley

W. R. Shaw has broken ground for a new bungalow which he will erect on the lot recently purchased of Albert Holcomb.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Clark Edwards, Jr., have recovered from an attack of measles.

Mr. and Mrs. George Wesley, Jr., have gone to housekeeping in the Bronson flat.

Mrs. Clark Edwards, Sr., is quite seriously ill.

D. R. Post, who has been ill for several weeks, is slightly better. Mr. Post is one of the oldest residents of this place, being in his ninetieth year.

The following people from this place attended the installation exercises of the officers of the I. O. O. F. and Rebecca Lodges at Harveyville recently: Mr. and Mrs. Warren Boston, Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Mead, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. W. Long, Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. Torrence Naugle and Miss Merle Nagle.

The Loyal Borean Class of the Bible School of the Church of Christ was entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hontz recently.

A social evening was spent after which a dainty lunch was served to Miss Mary Hoover, Miss Vida Post, Miss Ilene Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rood, Benjamin Rood, Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Davenport, Mr. Robert Birth, Mr. Milo Birth, Mr. A. M. Hontz, Mr. Arthur Hontz, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Hontz, Mr. George Bronson, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Hontz.

Harry Mettler, of Gregory was calling on friends here on Tuesday. Mr. Mettler has sold his farm and will dispose of his personal property at a public sale on May 4.

Perry D. Wesley, of Kingston, spent Wednesday at his cottage at North Lake.

Richard Harris, of Plymouth, is improving the appearance of his cottage by a coat of paint. He is also building a garage.

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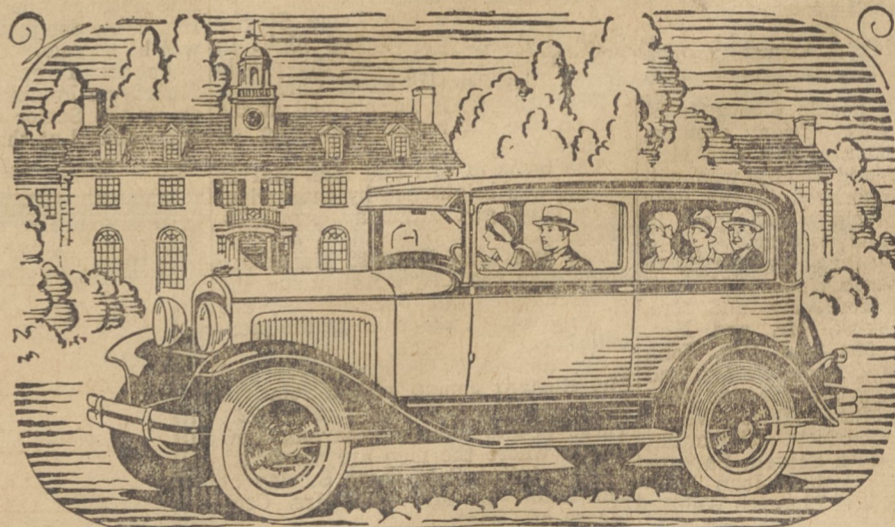
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