

be fed very carefully and kept clean, with fresh water before them all the time. The first feed should be small quantities of coarse oatmeal and finely chopped hard-boiled eggs. Never feed chicks more than they eat up quickly, but feed little and often at first. This is important, as chicks to do well must be kept busy, and this will not be the case if food is before them all the time. In a few days they should be put on a commercial chick food, composed of numerous small grains; besides this, the laying hen's hopper food (see formula later) must be kept before them at all times. At four weeks wheat and cracked corn can gradually supersede the chick food, and at six weeks chicks will no longer need brooding. They should then be placed in colony houses in flocks of 25 to 40, and later cockerels can be taken away to other houses for fattening. If a large range is provided, a great deal of labor can be saved by feeding entirely by hoppers, placing wheat, cracked corn, hopper mash and shell in them. I find chicks do very well this way. Water is given twice a day, and all houses shut up every evening and opened early in the morning. Colony houses are 3 x 6 ft., wire front and sides and lumber back. Height 4 ft. front, 3 ft. back. The roof is covered with roofing material. Heavy duck is put over wire on each side to prevent chickens being in a direct draft. Low perches are put in the house. Cedar lumber is the best to use, as it is lighter, and houses can be moved more easily. About 1st of September pillels should be transferred from the colony houses to the laying house.