

it necessary to mix other grains with it. I doubt very much if it is advisable at any time to feed only one kind of grain constantly, as a variety is better; some birds like one grain while others relish another.

Wheat bran is fed dry in hoppers also in mashes. It has considerable feeding value. It helps materially in adding bulk to the ration, and prevents impaction in the stomach. In other words, it aids the digestive fluids in acting upon the food.

Middlings or shorts is of value in mashes, to all classes, and is one of the good foods to check looseness of the bowels, where an excess of vegetables is given.

Low-grade flour is often a cheap and economical food in mashes for stock birds or for fattening chickens. It also has a tendency to check looseness of the bowels.

Corn is not used so much in Ontario as in the New England States. There it appears to be used quite freely in both summer and winter feeding of fowls. It is used whole, ground, and cracked, the meal being used principally in the mash foods. Cracked corn is used largely for young chicks, and fowls when scattered in the litter. The whole corn is rather large and conspicuous; and when in the litter, does not usually give sufficient exercise. I am of the opinion that corn can be used in portions of Ontario, where it is grown extensively, much more freely than it has been heretofore. Corn is a heating and fattening food, and is, therefore, best adapted for winter use. It is considered by many, when fed in large quantities, to make the hens over fat; yet it is used extensively by many progressive poultrymen with little or no evil effects.

Oats should be a first-class poultry food, but owing to the large percentage of hull, they are not relished by chickens when fed whole, and for this reason are somewhat indigestible. When rolled hull and all they are an ideal food as a dry mash, and are relished by fowls better than any other dry mash we have yet used. Ground oats without the hull are used extensively for fattening chickens.

Barley, either whole or ground, is very good. It has rather too much hull, but otherwise is a satisfactory food. It is considered by many to be next to wheat in point of value.

Buckwheat is very popular as an egg producer in districts where it is extensively grown. Some difficulty is at times experienced when first feeding it to fowls in getting them to eat it, but this is usually overcome in a day or so, if other feeds are withheld. Boiling the buckwheat will sometimes start the birds to eat it. After they once get accustomed to its appearance, it is much relished by them. Ground buckwheat is an excellent food to use in a fattening ration. It is somewhat like corn in its fattening properties and, therefore, it is better for winter than for summer use.