



GOOSE BREEDING.

(Continued.)

NOTES ON THE HATCHES.

THE first period of growth began with the hatching of the goslings, and extended to the time of the first weighing. It varied in length from 30 to 39 days, and, therefore, the amount of daily growth is the only just basis of comparison between the different hatches. No account is taken of the original weight of the gosling when hatched, but the average weight of the goslings from each mating is divided by the number of days, and the result in ounces given as daily growth.

FIRST PERIOD OF GROWTH.

First Hatch.—At 35 days old the brown China-Toulouse cross was heaviest, weighing 2.78 pounds, and the Embden-African second, with Toulouse-Brown China third, and nearly as heavy as the first. The best average daily growth was 1.27 ounces.

Second Hatch.—This hatch was weighed first at 39 days old, and was heavier in proportion to age than any other hatch, five of the crosses averaging five pounds or more each in weight. The heaviest was brown China-Toulouse, then white China-Emden, Embden-African, African-Toulouse, and brown China-African in the order named. The Toulouse-Emden cross was the lightest, weighing only 2.91 pounds. The daily growth averaged 2.27 ounces for the heaviest goslings.

Third Hatch.—The goslings of this hatch were weighed first at 35 days old. The brown China-Toulouse cross, of which there were ten in this hatch, were heaviest, averaging 3.58 pounds in weight, equal to a daily growth of 1.63 ounces. African-Emden almost equaled the weight of the heaviest birds, and Embden-African, African pure, and brown China-Emden were but little lower in weight.

Fourth Hatch.—These goslings were weighed first at 30 days old, and the

heaviest was again a brown China-Toulouse cross. The second in weight was African-Toulouse, and the third, Embden-African. The best daily growth was 1.71 ounces, made by the first-named cross.

Fifth Hatch.—The first weight was taken at 35 days old, and the Embden-African cross was found to be the heaviest; African-Emden, second, and African-Toulouse, third. The best average daily growth was made by the heaviest birds, and was 2.15 ounces.

Sixth Hatch.—Only five crosses and one pure bred were included in this hatch. A brown China-Emden weighed most at 39 days old, and brown China-Toulouse and African pure were second and third. The daily growth of the heaviest averaged 2.05 ounces.

SECOND PERIOD OF GROWTH.

The second period ended when the goslings were about eight weeks old, and varied from 16 days to 26 days; four of the hatches being just 21 days between the weighings. The goslings were from 55 to 60 days old.

First Hatch.—The brown China-Toulouse cross was heaviest, weighing 7.06 pounds at 56 days old; African-Toulouse, African-Emden and Embden brown China were nearly of equal weights, and a trifle less than 6.50 pounds each. The first-named cross made an average gain, for the 21 days of this period, of 3.26 ounces, but the greatest gain was made by an Embden-Brown China, viz., 3.71 ounces per day.

Third Hatch.—The pure bred Africans were heaviest at this weighing, having gained 3.84 pounds each in 21 days, or 2.92 ounces daily. The Embden-African cross was second to Africans, and the brown China-Toulouse cross third. All other goslings failed to average seven pounds each in weight.

Fourth Hatch.—African-Toulouse goslings were heaviest at this weighing, with brown China-Toulouse nearly equal to them in weight, and Embden-African and Toulouse-African crosses not far behind. The daily gain made by the first named cross was 2.99 ounces.

Fifth Hatch.—The Embden-African cross was the heaviest; African-Emdens, second, and African-Toulouse held the third place, and these three crosses were the only ones averaging

over 8.5 pounds each. The next best weight was 7.75 pounds in the case of the brown China-Toulouse cross, and all others were lower. The best daily gain was made by the African-Toulouse cross, and was 3.16 ounces.

Sixth Hatch.—The brown China-Emden cross was again the heaviest, with the pure bred African second, and Toulouse-brown China third. The greatest gain was made by the African, and equaled 3.81 ounces daily.

THIRD PERIOD OF GROWTH.

The third weighing was made as nearly as possible at ten weeks old. The goslings were from sixty-nine to seventy-one days old, and the time since the second weighing varied from thirteen to sixteen days.

First Hatch.—The heaviest birds at seventy days old were the Embden-Africans, which averaged 9.83 pounds. Embden-brown China and Toulouse-African crosses occupied second and third places, and these were the only ones exceeding nine pounds in average weight. The first named cross made the greatest gain, amounting to 4.28 ounces per day. The brown China-Toulouse cross which made the greatest gain in the previous period of growth, made the poorest record in this, viz., 1.3 ounces per day.

Third Hatch.—The pure bred Africans maintained their supremacy, and weighed 9.22 pounds at sixty-nine days old, equal to a gain of 2.38 ounces daily in this period. The Embden-African, brown China-Toulouse, and African-Emden crosses were next in weight in the order named, and all others had an average weight of less than eight pounds. The greatest daily gain, 3.61 ounces, was made by a Toulouse-African, which made the lowest gain in the second period.

Fourth Hatch.—The Embden-African cross, at seventy-one days old, weighed 9.39 pounds. The brown China-Toulouse ranked second, and African-Toulouse third; all others

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