

The Poultry Yard.

WORK FOR OCTOBER.

Sort out the larger chicks and market them. Don't sell those needed for breeding. Refuse apples and vegetables will be appreciated by the hens. Hens which get through molting quickest and in best condition are the most vigorous and should be kept for breeders.

Buildings should be cleaned thoroughly, whitewashed and made ready for cooler weather. The laying stock may be moved to winter quarters and pushed for egg production. Give a variety of grain diet and what ever green food can be had. Feed cut hares twice a week. Birds for exhibition should be made ready a week or two before sending to the show. Accustom them to being kept in the exhibition coop, and get them as tame as possible. Look them over carefully to see that they are in condition to appear best.

Cool weather will bring on disease, if care is not taken. The most common disease is roup, which is caused by dampness and draft in almost every case, unless caught from other fowls. Drafts which cause a current of air to blow over the fowls at night are especially dangerous. At the first signs of disease, separate the sick fowls from the well, place in a warm room, and feed carefully. Iron tonic in the drinking water is excellent. Lay in a stock of cheap vegetables for winter use.

MAKING MONEY FROM PIGEONS.

I am a busy farmer's wife and have 200 pairs of good working pigeons which I care for myself, and love the time spent among them. This industry, without doubt, pays a larger percentage of profit on the money invested than many other kinds of business at the present time, much depending upon the care and management of course.

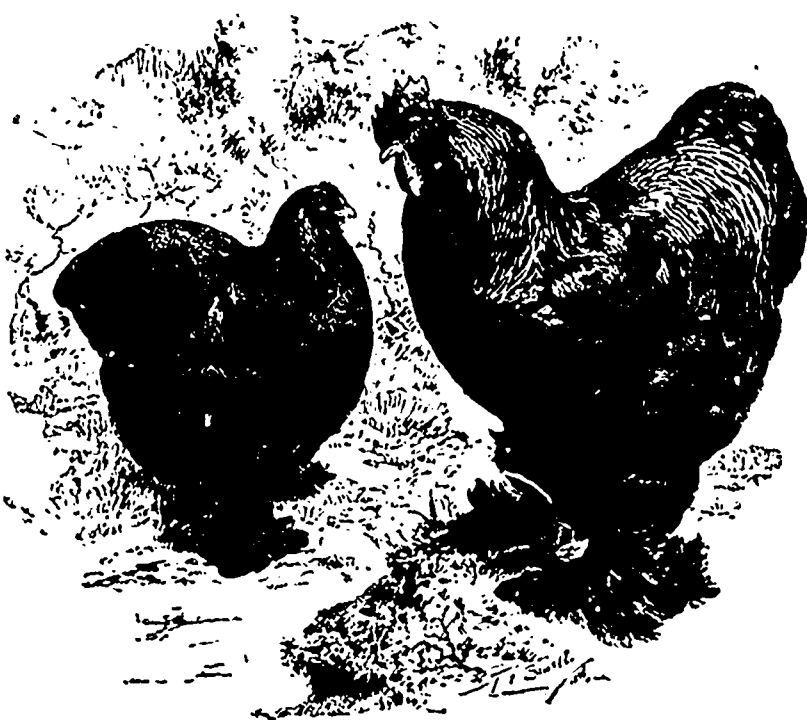
This is my estimate on 500 pairs. A pair of good breeders will have at least eight pairs of squabs per year. The average cost of feeding one pair a week is about 12c or 15c a year. Taking an average of eight pairs per year, 500 pairs would have 4000 pairs of squabs. Supposing 500 pairs of these would die, which almost always happens to a certain extent, at the close of the year 3500 pairs of squabs will have been sold. At an average price of 35c a pair for squabs the whole year round, receipts would amount to \$1225. Feeding will cost about 250, thus leaving a profit of \$975.

My husband claims that the manure from the pigeon loft makes the most valuable kind of fertilizer for corn. Any farmer is glad to buy it at a reasonable price. What better employment can any one find where the profit is so large? No one can expect to succeed in this business, as in any other, unless he puts his mind down to it and pays all attention possible.—[Mrs Anna J. Smith, Bucks Co., Pa.]

A CHEAP POULTRY FOOD.

The raising of chickens, turkeys and ducks can be made as profitable as a dairy of cows if the proper attention is given. I have found sunflower seed to cheapen their food to a mere nothing. It makes chickens lay and has fine fattening qualities for turkeys. It can be produced with very little labor and expense. I raise about 2000 plants every season by planting around the edge of the cornfield and in and around the potato patch, where only waste ground is occupied. On I. I. and in N. J. the sunflower is raised on a large scale and the poultry fattened on it has a fine flavor. The seed is small, but very rich and oily. Some of the flowers will give 40 in and some plants will bear 20 to 30 flowers. A small garden will produce a great abundance for 50 chickens with a small amount of other food. [De Witt C. Haddock, Madison Co., N. Y.]

Against Zigzag Breeding—When cross breeding is mentioned, zigzag breeding is not meant. Mixing up half a dozen breeds in succession will be certain to muddle the flock into a set of run-down mongrels. Determine what is wanted, cross with that end in view and hold to it. For instance, if the main idea is to get a big supply of dark eggs, cross a White Leghorn male on White Wyandot hens. Select the best of the pullets, and those which lay

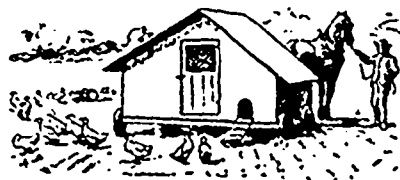


Modern-Bred Partridge-Cochins.

These heavily feathered Partridge-Cochins are typical show birds depleted by Sewall, the famous poultry artist. They are beautiful fowls, somewhat resembling the Dark Brahma in style of plumage, which is in color a mingling of glossy rich brown or reddish brown and black. The breed has the general qualities of the Cochins, heavy meaty bodies, hardy, good winter layers, persistent but rather clumsy sitters, dark brown eggs.

the darkest eggs breed back to a Wyandot male. The result will have the vigor of a cross and some of the valuable qualities of both breeds, but whatever crossing is done, hold to the original breeds and do not breed the cross-bred males.—[Burr Knapp.]

A Movable Henhouse On stubble fields there is often a great deal of food wasted which could be utilized if the fowls could be induced to forage



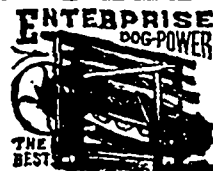
MOVING THE POULTRY HOUSE.

for it. In some places, the young and growing fowls are housed in small, lightly constructed buildings placed on wheels which are large enough to accommodate 60 to 75 chickens. The birds are put in the house and drawn to the field, then fed once or twice to accustom them to it. They are supplied with plenty of fresh water and changed to new ground as often as they have picked up all the fallen grain.

Our Subscribers' Inquiries Answered—Mrs M. S.: The White Leghorns are the most popular of the Leghorn class, but the Brown and the Buff are equally as good layers. Plymouth Rocks are the most popular farmer's fowls. White or Buff Wyandots are also favorites.—G. H. The hens whose necks are bare may have the itch. A hen with the itch is constantly scratching and biting herself and her feathers become droopy and fall out. Give sulphur in the drinking water for three days.—R. E. H.: The disease in which your chickens have limber necks and soon die is called by the Germans "Kriebel." The cause of it is smut found on corn or wheat, and would injure poultry most in hot, moist weather. The cure is to remove the cause, feed nothing but good sound grain.—W. W. Young chicks should have fine grit as soon as they are hatched. If not supplied with grit they will surely die.—Tyro (O) Subscriber: Eggs may be kept in a room cooled with air from ice stored overhead for 3 to 5 mos. Care must be taken to store only strictly fresh eggs. Keep temperature as low as possible which may be about 34 degrees.—P. A.: A house should be at least 15x45 ft. divided into three parts for 100 hens. Four 12 light 2x12 in glass windows on the

south side would give enough light. To get winter eggs, it would pay to plaster the house inside. Two cocks to each pen would be sufficient for most breeds. Sow timothy and redtop for hay, 14 lbs of each per acre.

Received Woods Natural History and am well pleased with it.—[William Roos, Wentworth Co., Ont.]



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