

APPENDIX No. 2

style of house as compared with results from a partially warmed house. One instance: In 33 eggs laid by Buff Orpington pullets in a cotton front house, on being tested, only 8 were found unfertile. In the case of 38 eggs laid by Barred Plymouth Rock pullets, in a partially warmed house, when tested no less than 28 eggs were found unfertile.

INFORMATION AS TO TURKEYS, GEESE AND DUCKS.

HOW THEY SHOULD BE MANAGED, FED AND BRED.

TURKEYS—HOW TO REAR, KILL, PLUCK, DRESS AND PACK THEM.

It is of first importance that our farmers breed the largest, best and hardiest birds. Climatic conditions, in the greater part of Canada, are favourable to the breeding of a large number of turkeys, indeed of all kinds of poultry. There are six varieties of turkeys, viz.:—Bronze, Narragansett, White, Black, Buff and Slate. Of these the Bronze are the largest and heaviest. The standard weights of this variety are:—

Cock	36 pounds.	Hen	20 pounds.
Cockerel	25 “	Pullet	16 “

The first requisite in successful breeding is strong, vigorous parent stock. Inbreeding should be avoided. It is admissible to use a good male two years, but not so to use a young male and pullets of the same family. Young hens weighing 15 to 18 pounds, and older ones of 18 to 20 pounds weight, are the best layers, and make the best mothers. One male with 10 or 12 hens is a good mating.

Some turkey hens lay more eggs than others. Eighteen to twenty-four eggs from each hen should be satisfactory. The turkey hen makes the best mother, although some breeders give the first seven eggs to a common hen. The objection to the latter is that she is apt to drag the young pullets too much about.

Twenty-five young birds are all that the turkey mother can keep dry and warm.

It is of first importance to keep the young birds in dry quarters. Great care is necessary in rearing them until they ‘shoot the red,’ (get wattles, &c.). It must be borne in mind that young turkeys before ‘shooting the red,’ are the most tender of all feathered fowl, and afterwards the hardiest.

Too early setting is not advisable in this latitude. Where the winters are milder and spring earlier it is different.

After hatching, the youngsters and their mother should be put in comfortable, dry quarters. Give a grass run if possible. The coop should be roomy, and so conveniently situated that mother and brood can easily be driven into it, in case of rain. Care should be taken that mother and brood do not get into the grass while wet with the morning dew. It is important to remember this. It is also well to remember that experienced breeders have traced the death of many young birds, in their early handling of them, to damp quarters, lice and indigestion, the latter probably from eating uncooked food. Unclean, carelessly mixed and uncooked food has been the cause of death in the case of many young and tender birds. The mortality among young turkeys, from one end of the country to the other, is far too great and is principally caused by neglect of the points outlined above.

PROPER RATIONS.

For the first few days feed on stale bread soaked in milk and squeezed dry. Mix with hard-boiled eggs and onions, both chopped finely. Curd or a sort of cheese made from sour milk may also be given.

Later on feed on granulated oatmeal, rolled oats, or a mash made of stale bread, onion tops, oatmeal, cornmeal or middlings, the whole mixed with skim-milk. The