

ruary, the fertility is so low that it is discouraging. Exactly the experience that we have been giving in your paper. Again, we read that eggs from hens pushed to lay large numbers of eggs, hatched very poorly. Again, we are told that the winter feeding and composition of the rations are all important factors in producing fertility or otherwise. And, now that the subject is receiving the scientific investigation so necessary, it is likely that a remedy, or partial remedy may soon be found.

And it is to be borne in mind that, in the instances given, the hens were not forced to lay eggs for sale at high winter prices and were then mated up to lay fertile eggs for incubator use. The hens were mated, fed and managed to lay eggs for incubator use only! And this in the eastern portion of the United States, where the winters are mild as compared with Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec winters. We hear people remark occasionally on the overdoing of the early broiler or roaster market. But the difficulties attending the production of the article are great and have to be overcome before the output will be so great as to affect the price. And when prices are lower, because more broilers are produced, more people will eat chicken. Meanwhile, he or she who is most successful in overcoming the obstacles in the way will make the most money.

THE REVIEW QUESTION BOX.

AM thinking of going into the chicken and egg business, not fancy, but for market.

From your experience would you suggest one strain only for both laying and broiling or one for each and which are the best?

Kindly send the May Review to start as there are some articles in it I would like to see.

Yours truly,
C. B. N.
London.

The white Wyandotte is the favorite bird now for your purpose, especially for broilers. You might

try, say, two or three breeds and then get down to one or two breeds as conditions advised.

For carcass, Wyandottes, Plymouth Rocks. For eggs, Leghorns, Minorcas, Andalusians.

Some friends and I have been discussing whether a sitting hen should be lifted from the nest every day, to give the eggs an airing, or should be quietly left to herself. I think the last method the best, as it looks the most natural one. The opinion of some of your practical readers would oblige,

GUS. A. LANGELIER.

Quebec.

Our own practice is to close the hens on the nests and feed but once a day. This is a necessity where eight, ten or more are placed in one compartment, at one time. The few that we have been able to allow to choose their own nests have hatched a larger percentage of chicks, in two cases bringing out 100 per cent. of eggs set. These and other cases lead us to the conclusion that they do best when left alone, the trouble is that large numbers cannot be trusted to agree and each one seek its own nest again after feeding.

1. Would it do to use my barred Rock cockerels another year on pullets of their own get? They are not related to the mothers of the chickens?

2. Would it be advisable to mix a small quantity of pea or oil meal with food for very young or older chicks, if so, how much?

3. Will it pay to make fattening coops for about twenty Rock hens one year old that I wish to prepare for market, having plenty of unused stable room for them?

4. Is there a demand for them in the summer for shipping to the English market, and to whom should I apply?

Yours truly,
G. H. EVANS.
Napanee, Ont.

1. Yes, if both males and females are strong and vigorous. We are presuming you are not breeding for feather points, as in

that case, other conditions would have to be considered.

2. Pea meal or the pea in any shape is not a desirable food for fowls. A very little oil meal may be used when the birds are growing their feathers.

3. We do not think so. Rock hens fatten easily.

4. There is no demand in England for old fowls in any quantity, and it would not pay to ship them. Better fatten and sell in the local market in March, April and May, before the young chicks come in.

I thought that I would write you and see if you have heard of any trouble going around in the hens. We have some hens, that have lost all the power of their legs, they cannot walk at all. The trouble is in both of their legs. They cannot move, but they can eat all right; and one of them laid. They are all right in every other way, only that they cannot walk. We had a couple of others that hung around, their combs turning white, and one of them fell off the roost dead, and I killed the other one. If you have had any experience with such cases, I wish that you would please inform me what to do for them, and oblige.

Yours truly,
JAMES, SHAW.
Sherbrooke, Que.

We can only suggest that the ones referred to first, had rheumatism or are over-fat. For the former keep dry and warm, no trouble at this season. For the latter, reduce the feed. Look closely for insects on those whose combs turned white.

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