

*New Stock.*—One of the following methods can be adopted for re-stocking if after culling there are sufficient good specimens left for breeders.

Procure a good vigorous male from a well known laying strain and mate him up in the spring.

If trap nests are used, hatch only those eggs that are laid by the best winter producers.

If new stock has to be purchased, well matured pullets that will begin to lay in November or December, will pay a good profit over their initial cost and make good breeders in the spring if mated to a good male.

Or, hatching eggs or day old chicks from a good laying strain may be purchased in the spring.

*The Flock.*—It is not advisable to keep hens of the heavy types after they are two years old except in cases where individuals have proven to be of special value as breeders. Pullets are much easier to keep in laying condition, and will produce more eggs than hens, so that it is advisable to raise enough early chicks each year to renew at least half the flock. As fifty per cent of the chicks raised will be cockerels, it may readily be seen that allowing for culling it will be necessary to raise more than twice the number of chicks as pullets required. Purchase or hatch the chicks early in the season, as early chicks mean well developed pullets in the fall, and well developed pullets, properly handled, mean winter eggs. It is the winter egg production that will to a large extent determine the profit on the season's work. If, with this opportunity in view, an increase in the size of the present flock is contemplated to, say, 100 layers, the first consideration is the house to place them in, if this has not already been provided.

The straw loft 16 by 32 type will be found very satisfactory in almost any locality and it adapts itself very conveniently to two pens for 50 pullets and 50 hens. If desired it can at any time be extended to accommodate more.

It is essential for the best results that only good, pure bred, vigorous laying stock be kept and as the cost of feed and labour is no more on a flock of good fowl than it is on a poor flock, procure the best stock that is available.

Scrupulously cull from the existing flock all birds that can be recognized as poor producers and those that are not pure bred. Replace them with good specimens of a proved utility type.

*Kind to keep.*—The question is frequently asked what is the best kind. The best kind for any individual, is the kind best suited to his conditions, but whatever variety is decided on, keep it pure so as to have uniformity in products. Under special conditions where eggs are to be the chief product, it may be advisable to keep one of the lighter breeds such as the Leghorns, but for ordinary farm use one of the "general purpose" breeds such as the Rocks or Wyandottes will give the best results, as they will give good returns in both eggs and market poultry.

*Keeping accounts.*—If a fairly accurate account is kept of the expenditure and returns from the flock it will often prove a revelation. Give the hens all the credit they deserve. If eggs or poultry are used in the house in place of high priced meats, they are giving a profit just as surely as if the produce is taken to market or traded at the store.

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(Publications sent free on application to the Poultry Division, Experimental Farm, Ottawa. *Circulars.*—Natural Incubation, Artificial Incubation, Farm Poultry House, Brooding and Rearing of Chicks, Ducks, Geese, Turkeys, Preservation of Eggs, Trap Nests, Mites. *Bulletins.*—Poultry House Construction, Preparing Poultry Produce for Market, Poultry Keeping in Town and Country, Feeds and Feeding. *Calendar.*—Twelve Months in the Poultry Yard.)