

Riverside Farm

ALBERTA'S
FINEST
STOCK FARM



1000 Acres

Situated on Beautiful
Lake and River

Flowing Springs.

400 acres under cultivation.

Abundance of wood.

No waste land. Located ten and a half miles from city of Wetaskiwin.

Only \$32.00 per acre

On Easy Terms. Write to

W. J. MacNamara

Owner

Wetaskiwin, Alberta.

the birds have a warm roosting place. To secure this line the back wall, the ceiling and end walls for four feet from back of building; which should face south, put tight dropping boards two feet from floor, making a platform three feet wide to catch the droppings and keep the cold from coming up underneath the roosts. Ten inches above the dropping boards place the roosts, and in front of all hang a curtain to be dropped or drawn in front of the roosts at night. This makes a snug, warm place for the hens during the cold winter nights. The nests may be placed under the drop boards and should be made in such a way that the hens enter them from the back, the eggs being gathered from within the house. This form of nest is also described in the bulletin. For convenience in feeding, a sugar barrel or large box fitted with a tight cover, can be kept in the house and the grain and measure kept therein. A book and pencil should hang above this, and any grain put into the bin should be noted, as also the number of hens and house in eggs laid from day to day. This is a very simple method of answering the question: "Do hens pay?" The floor should be kept covered deeply with clean straw and all grain fed therein, as exercise is very necessary to the health and well-being of the birds. If fed on the bare ground they will spend the larger part of their day on the roosts crowded together for warmth, but if fed in litter they have no time for loafing, and keep up the circulation by scratching for feed.

In cold weather keep a lump of snow on the floor. It is better than ice in a pan. Dry bran in a hopper and oyster-shell and a few mangolds or turnips on the floor, and a feed of boiled grain at noon twice or three times a week with a handful of salt to a pail of feed and two or three times during the winter a handful of epsom salts to a pail of feed, will keep the birds in good condition. Keep no bird past the second spring, and keep any breed of bird you may fancy, so long as you can name the breed.

Sask.

C. G. GOLDING.

HOUSING FARM POULTRY

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

A flock of 100 birds require a house 50 feet by 16 feet and 8 feet high, running east and west with all the windows that can be crowded in above 3 feet from the ground on the south side, doors at the end or ends with a small window in the south half of the ends and no windows or doors in north side or in the north half of either end. The roof should have a centre ridge and two ridge ventilators and can be covered with inch sheathing, two layers of tarred paper and good cedar shingles. Frame work, built of 2 x 4 feet scantling, three feet apart, well braced, is sufficient. I prefer outside sheeting, running up

and down, first a layer of half inch lumber, then two thicknesses of tarred paper and grooved siding outside. All should be well painted. Inside lining should consist of two thicknesses of half-inch lumber, with one or two layers of tarred paper between and the upper floor of half-inch by 6 inch lumber laid one-half inch apart. Fill the loft with fine straw that has been thoroughly wet with saturated lime water and well dried. If this work is properly done, the best of ventilation and a vermin-proof system is secured and it will last for years.

A framework to carry the nests, dropping board and roosts can be constructed of 2 x 4 scantling all along the north side. The dropping board occupies the center 4 feet from floor, and is made of one inch matched flooring, is 4 feet wide, and firmly nailed to cross pieces, which are 8 feet apart. Ten inches above the dropping boards there is halved into the cross pieces three 2 x 4 scantling, the top edges of which are planed off, for roosts. The roost from the rear is placed 12 inches from the back wall, the second 10 inches from the first, and the third 10 inches from the second. Do not nail the roosts but be sure they will not turn. The nests are two story and are placed under the dropping board with front three

inches from the front edge of the board, and close up to it. They are built in groups 12 feet long and made of half-inch lumber, the lower tiers 4 inches deep. The sides and back are closed. The front is cut away in the center so that the hand can be put in to take out eggs. The depth from front to rear is one and a half inches less than the upper story. The upper story or true nest is 14 inches wide, 14 inches high and 16 inches deep round. A hole 9 inches in diameter is cut in the back of the nest. The front is in two sections, the lower 10 inches wide, the upper piece 6 inches wide and hinged at top so that it can be turned up to put straw or hay into the nest. A two-inch hole is bored in the center of the bottom of the nest proper into the egg nest or lower story. This system of nests insures clean, unbroken eggs; hens cannot eat their eggs and a wholesome effect is exercised upon a would-be broody hen. Such nests discourage broodiness. At the back of the nests is placed a 1 x 8 inch board as a bridge for the hens to walk along and choose their nests.

For spring convenience this house can be divided into three sections with suitable partitions, which can be opened into one run for winter use. Each compartment must have at least 4 boxes 18 inches deep and as large as the

division admits of, say 4 feet square. These boxes are to be filled, one with 12 inches of cut straw or chaff, one with dry, fine earth or sand, one with wood ashes, with plenty of granulated charcoal and insect powder and one with fine, clean gravel. These boxes are placed under the windows, where the sun can get at them. The balance of the floor, which has been raised at least a foot above the original ground with loose earth can be spaded into cones filled with mixed grains as often as two or three times a week. All grain, except the evening feed, should be mixed with the contents of the several boxes every morning.

Cubic boxes 30 inches to the edge and conveniently made for cocks, etc., can be provided, also a sufficient number of troughs for feeding porridge, etc., should be on hand. A 4 ft. by 4 ft. room in one corner is of great use in picking fowl and for breaking bones in. The doors should be wide enough to run a wheelbarrow through and for admitting good-sized boxes. Small doors, 9 inches in diameter, can be placed under windows for admission of birds to yards. With such a house and young hens or pullets and the right feed and care, winter or any season, baskets will be remuneratively and profitably filled.

Sask.

J. E. FRITH.



A LATE HATCH