

machines. Talk about perpetual motion. If the chick's digestive apparatus comes not the nearest to that much sought-for machine, we do not understand the principle of the same.—*Fanciers Review*.

Many flocks of poultry are made unprofitable by injudicious feeding, which is a very important factor in the management of this business. The value of the different grains should be looked into and a study made of the different fowls so that the proper food may be given to the different varieties.

For instance: A Leghorn will stand more corn in warm weather than a Brahma or Plymouth Rock. Wheat, barley, buckwheat and shorts make good food for warm weather, and hens like a variety. Germ meal is excellent, and milk can always be fed with profit. In cold weather corn meal may be used in the soft food, and corn added to the variety of hard grains. Clover is an excellent and economical food, and it is a good plan to store some away for Winter use. Fresh water should be always accessible, and fowls in confinement need grit of some kind. Oyster shells are most commonly used.

If due care is given to feeding, and the fowls furnished comfortable and clean quarters, there will be no trouble in finding the balance on the right side at the end of the year.—*American Stock-Keeper*.

One of the first requisites towards profit is to keep pullets for layers and 2-year-old hens and cocks for breeders. Good results have come from a yearling male bird, with 2-year-old hens; the yearling male is to be preferred to a 2-year-old bird, that has served a large number the season before, but otherwise 2-year-old birds will usually give better satisfaction, as the chicks generally are larger, hardier and more robust.

This is especially the case with the Asiatics, their growth being slow, their development is equally slow, and long after they have attained grossness of size, the whole organism undergoes a maturing process which gives strength, elasticity and firmness to every muscle, solidity to bone and flesh, and full development to the organs of reproduction. The smaller breeds have five or six months to mature after reaching ordinary size, so full development is attained when they complete their first year.—Joseph Wallace in *Poultry Monthly*.

Very often chicks, artificially brooded, form the habit of picking each others toes, and if allowed to continue will soon cripple their victims. Evidently it is a desire for meat. In fact we feel assured it is, for when the meat supply is kept up we have no trouble. Carbolic salve should be put on the picked toes.—*Germantown Telegraph*.

Don't be afraid to sift a little raw bone meal into the mixed poultry food two or three times a week. It is highly advantageous, especially to the maturing stock.

The wild purslane that grows in all gardens during the summer months makes excellent green food for fowls that are confined. Chop it up and mix with scalded corn meal.—*Fanciers Journal*.

The care of poultry comes natural to women, and most of us can call to mind some mother, aunt, or neighbor who spent at one time many hours each week with her poultry, and found it not only a source of pleasure but of profit. The income from a well cared for hennery brings many luxuries to homes that would never know them but for the eggs that are sold, and

every family having a small piece of land can find in a few hens a means of diversion and pleasure that have been before undreamed of.

Never set an egg over a month old. Those about a week old are best.

The following causes of poor hatches may be avoided by careful attention: Weakly or impotent males, over-fat females, cold weather and exposure of the eggs after being laid, retained too long before being placed under the brood hen, failure to change the position of the eggs day by day, unsteady sitting hens, time required for nervous hen to get down to business, and the required 103 degrees of heat necessary to make a vigorous start of the germ is not kept up for the first three or four days, and thereby weakly chicks are sure to result, and some which will probably die before the eighteenth or twenty-first day of incubation; the nest may be in a cold and windy place, causing the heat to remain at too low a temperature, the brood hen sitting too close. All of these dangers can be easily avoided. Judicious feeding and care of the breeding stock and brood hen, as well as careful handling and packing eggs for shipment, is all the breeder can do, and doing this he can conscientiously feel that he has treated his patrons honourably.

Some farmers will care for their cows, and will feed and protect their cats and their dog, will shelter their sheep, their horses and bees, but their chickens they leave to starve and to freeze.

When we consider that in the days when cock-fighting was the chief amusement of sporting squires and festive noblemen, the "black-reds" and "birchen duckwings" were fed upon