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young birds need not be starved to the same extent in order to keep up their appetite, one meal the first day, two a day for the rest of the week, then three. Killing and plucking is done the same way, more care being taken to prevent tearing the skin, which is very tender. Broilers treated this way bring me 30 cents per pound. I have a market for all I can produce at the above price; and have been told that my birds were the best received. There is room for everyone to do the same thing and get the same prices.

Alta.

N. C. TRENCH.

LOCAL MARKET FATTENING

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

Raising the chicks by incubator and brooder as I do, I am able to sell my dressed poultry early in the fall. I sold my first batch of spring cockerels on August 20, and considering that I did not go to the trouble of putting them into crate-fattening pens, but fed them well, running loose, they were very creditable indeed. I find that my early chickens have no competition in the local market, consequently I am able to secure 5 cents or more a pound than I could do on a later market.

To kill, we dislocate the neck, as it seems the cleanest and best way and all the blood runs down to the head. The chickens are caught and cooped the night before killing. I generally kill four at once and pick the breasts of each of these as quickly as possible, as the skin is not so likely to tear then as it is if plucking is left until later. Then I strip off the wing feathers and the rest of the body, leaving it perfectly clean. After that I go over each bird carefully with a small knife, removing stubs, small feathers, etc.

I always pick my poultry dry. It is a little more trouble, but the dry feathers are worth something, whereas by scalding the feathers are of no use at all. After the feathers and stubs are removed I put the birds on clean newspaper, open them up and remove the intestines, cut off the legs at the joint, also the head, turn the neck under and wash the bird with clean, white rag and milk. Milk gives the skin a whiter appearance and everyone knows that white-flesh birds are the nicest-looking and are generally bought before a yellow-flesh fowl. That is why I like the Orpingtons for roasting fowl, as their flesh is so nice looking.

As a rule on the farm, the old birds find so much feed that they do not need fattening in crates, but can be best caught and killed after they have laid their season's eggs.

Of course a better price can be got for these if they are kept until February or March and sold, and I think the extra price will more than pay for the extra feed and trouble. I do not find that I can get any better price in the local town for chickens that have been crate-fattened. One might be able to do better with these in a city. I went to the extra trouble of crate-fattening them once or twice, but the local buyers did not seem to care to pay any better for them than if I just fed them up running around, so I do not do it now. My aim is to have all my young birds sold before fall when there is a lot on the market, and 10 cents a pound is the best to be got for young spring chickens.

Sask.

R. GRABHAM.

POULTRY PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

Poultry is first classified into chickens, fowl, cock birds, capons, slips, ducks, geese, turkeys, guineas and pigeons, and when packed there is a further classification as to size and weight. A standard of grading is set for each class and all birds packed must conform to that standard. The following is the classification and grading suggested for the Poultry Producers' Association of Canada:

CHICKENS.

The term chicken applies to (1) pullets that have not laid and are under seven months of age; (2) cockerels that have not developed a hard spur firmly attached to the leg. They are further divided as to weight into broilers and roasters. The broiler usually weighs from one to three pounds. The roaster usually weighs three pounds and upwards.

Fowl.—The term fowl applies to hens of any age.



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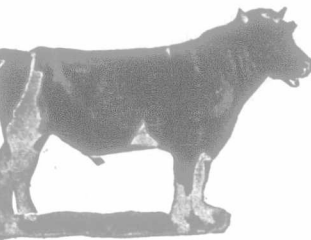
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