

stronger impression upon its progeny than an Indian Game cock. Mated to almost any other breed, the chickens show a preponderance of Indian Game characteristics and these characteristics are especially marked when the chickens are dressed for market. I venture to assert that an indifferently marked Indian Game cockerel, possessed of the characteristic form and flesh qualities of the breed, is worth not less than ten dollars to any farmer who rears one hundred chickens for the market. This particular form of demand for the males is increasing and will greatly increase when the practical poultry rears learn of the tremendous value of the Indian Game for this purpose.

As a layer the fowl has been both satisfactory and disappointing. It has been satisfactory to those who are wise enough not to expect the highest development of antagonistic qualities. It is simply an impossibility for a fowl to be at once the best table fowl and the best layer. For such a supreme table fowl the Indian Game is a surprisingly good layer, and it is a fair layer under any consideration or comparison. But certain enthusiastic but indiscreet admirers of the breed trumpeted the idea far and wide that the Indian Game was a phenomenal layer and classified it among the great laying breeds. Such statements were not warranted by the facts. They were either ignorance run riot or unblushing falsehood. And those who bought the fowls upon expectations raised by such false praise found the Indian Game, as a layer, a disappointment. They expected the prolificacy of the Leghorn, and they were foredoomed to disappointment. It could not be otherwise. And the result of such indiscriminate praise of raising expectations which never could be realized has been what might have been expected, an injury to this excellent breed, for the disappointment of these misled buyers has caused not a few of them to assert that the Indian Game was a miserable layer. The truth lies between the two extremes. It is not so poor a layer as some assert, nor is it so prolific as others have claimed. It is, in fact, an excellent layer for the best of table fowl, and it is a fair layer, measured by any reasonable standard. I congratulate myself that I have never allowed my enthusiasm for the breed to carry me beyond the limits of strict truth; and my admiration for the Indian Game is intense. I regard its introduction into this country as a public blessing, increasing the amount

and improving the quality, as it has, of the table poultry in the land. Its introduction has added many thousand dollars of value to the feathered stock of the United States and will continue to add to this value in the future. After six years experience with the breed, a longer experience than any other American breeder except one has had, I have lost none of my admiration for its good qualities, and reckon it as one of the best breeds that yet has appeared.

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### RASPBERRY CULTURE.

It is strange that the raspberry is not more generally cultivated than it is, being easy of culture, excellent for canning, readily prepared for desert, and certain of a good crop each year. Every owner of a home would do well to devote a few rods of land to so valuable a fruit. If 100 plants are selected of different varieties, planted and well cared for, they will provide an abundance of fruit for an ordinary family through a period of several weeks.

When only a few plants are set out they may be placed along a fence, as the plant delights in partial shade. When many are planted, as for market purposes, they should be planted in rows seven feet apart and four feet apart in the row. Cultivation with plow and hoe is preferable the first season, after which a good mulch of straw or clover appears to produce better results, the mulch not only keeping down the weeds, but keeping the soil moist and cool, a condition best favoring the development of the fruit.

After the bearing season is over, the old canes should be carefully cut out and burned. They are cut out that all the nourishment from the roots may go to the new canes, and thus enable them to fully ripen the new growth and thus prevent winter killing. The old canes are burned to destroy any larvae of injurious insects which may have been deposited therein.

As the new canes reach a height of three or four feet the tips should be cut off, that numerous laterals may be thrown out, and thus form a bushy plant, which will the more readily stand erect. For this cutting of tips I have found no better tool than a pair of sheep shears, with which one may go over a large number of plants in a short time.

As to varieties, who can decide when so many valuable ones are offered him, each with some claim peculiar to itself, and most of them deserving of trial.

The chief object is to get varieties with firm, large, well flavored fruit, whose seasons of ripening are not simultaneous. The Souhegan is usually counted the earliest, but I have an unknown variety, of equal quality and fruitfulness, which by a number of years of careful culture has been ripening from five to ten days earlier than the Souhegan. The Palmer is an excellent variety, early and productive, as is also the Ohio. The Gregg is a favorite, and Shaffer's Colossal is admired for its enormous fruits, which are produced in abundance. The Golden Queen is one of the most beautiful berries, large, hard, finely flavored, but not overly productive here.

With raspberries, as with most other fruits, one must contend with fungus diseases and insect foes in many localities. The root and stem borers are liable to attack the plants, and may be detected by the drooping of the canes. The injured canes should be cut out and burned.

Cane rust, or anthracnose, a fungus disease, is perhaps the worst enemy of the raspberry, and in some localities has been very troublesome. Three or four applications of Bordeaux mixture in the form of a spray, will prove sufficient if the canes are not badly affected. If seriously diseased, it is best to destroy all the old plants and start a new plantation.

With raspberries to follow strawberries, and continue until the first early blackberries may yield good pickings—who will underestimate their value?—  
JOHN L. SHAWVER, in *Mail & Express*.

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On account of intimate connection between poultry raising and fruit growing. We shall publish from time to time articles bearing on fruit culture. Many a rancher could provide himself a neat little income by careful attention to these two branches of farm industry.

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A word regarding our Kennel Department it has been born out of an expressed desire on the part of several provincial dog fanciers for reliable news each month as to what is going on in their particular field of sport. Broad plans have been laid and as fast as possible the department will be brought up to them. Items of interest covering all lines of dog news will appear from month to month, also occasional papers along various lines that will benefit dog breeders.