

## Live-Stock.

### COMMON DISEASES OF FARM-STOCK.

they are among the best, averaging from twelve to fourteen dozens a year and as winter layers they do well under ordinary circumstances. There are five varieties of the Wyandotte breed, and it is only a matter of opinion as regards the choice of the best. The general characteristics are the same in all, the difference in color of plumage being the only distinguishing marks. The silver laced Wyandotte is of a silvery-white plumage, with regularly marked white lacings on the breast and a generous distribution of white and black throughout the entire body. The cock has a silver-white head, a rose comb, silver hackle, with a black stripe down the centre of each feather, silvery white back; saddle same as hackle; breast black, with white centre, tail black; wings half black and half white, or rather black edged with white; when the wing is folded there should be a well-defined bar across it; shanks and toes rich yellow, free from feathering. The silver-laced variety is marked similarly to the male, excepting the back and wing, which are whiter in male than in female. The breast of the female is of much importance in breeding good birds; the lacing should be large and distinct and the white centres of each feather free from black and brown pencilling.

The Golden Wyandotte is marked like the Silver, excepting that the color is golden bay and black instead of white and black. The white variety is perhaps the favorite, from the fact that it is not so difficult to breed to feather, the plumage being pure white throughout. It is for this reason the more practical fowl for the farmer, or those who keep poultry for market. The Buff Wyandotte is in color a rich, deep clear buff, uniform in shade throughout, except the tail, which is of a deeper buff or copperish-bronze color. The Blacks are of a rich glossy black, with greenish sheen, excepting breast primaries, secondaries, tail and fluff, which are pure black.

The standard weight of cocks is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  pounds; hens  $6\frac{1}{2}$  pounds; cockerels  $7\frac{1}{2}$  pounds; and pullets  $5\frac{1}{2}$  pounds.

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Indigestion, with its common consequences especially in young animals, was discussed in my last article. Adult animals do not however enjoy any immunity, and if the effects of indigestion are not so widely fatal as they are when young animals are attacked, they are in many cases associated with loss of condition and general disturbance of the nutritive functions.

As in the case of young animals, so in regard to adults, it may be remarked there is a general disinclination to apply the term or to treat the disease as indigestion. Horses are often said to be in bad condition. With a ravenous appetite, they continue to lose weight; the skin is adherent to the tissues beneath; the coat is rough, in spite of good grooming; a dry, harsh cough is present, and very often an eruption of very small pimples occurs on different parts of the skin, associated with light discharges and loss of hair. Chapped heels, grease, and thrush are also in some horses particularly likely to occur under these circumstances.

When the question of treatment arises, the owner is very much disposed to select one of the symptoms and deal with it as the disease. This "out of condition" as indicated by emaciation is a common complaint, and certain remedies are sold for it under the name of condition balls or powders. The derangement of the functions of the skin is called hidebound, and is, or was once, treated as a specific malady, for the cure of which, in the olden time, force was used, in order to disconnect the integument from its attachments. Eruptive diseases are looked upon as surfeit, and are treated as original disorders of the skin; and the same may be said of grease, cracked heels and thrush, even when they are merely symptoms of a generally disordered state of the system, and not the consequence of local derangement.

If it should happen, as it often does, that parasites, bots or round worms, are expelled by the sick animal, they are without hesitation accepted as the true causes of the animals' bad condition, and worm powders are selected as the appropriate remedy. It is hardly necessary to add that cracked heels, thrush, and grease are always

