

## POULTRY YARD

## Roup—Its Symptoms and Treatment

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Roup is one of the most frequent and prevalent diseases of poultry. In its advanced stages it is very dangerous and generally proves fatal. It may be checked if taken in time, and a cure results.

## SYMPTOMS

Roup is somewhat varied in its attack. The most reliable symptom is noticed when the fowl is on the roost, a rattling sound is heard which sounds like water thrown on a fire. This noise is caused by the fowl breathing through a clogged wind-pipe and nostrils. The eyes become inflamed. A watery discharge from the nostrils may be observed and which, when and, as the disease advances the swelling generally increases sometimes enough to obstruct the sight. The eye may even be fatally injured by the swelling. Finally the nostrils become filled by the matter hardening in them and the fowl can only breathe through the mouth.

## CAUSE

Roup is nothing but neglected cold which may be caused in different ways, viz., roosting in damp apartments, particularly if manure is allowed to accumulate under the roosts which pollutes the air. Draughts of cold air passing above them in the roosting apartments will also cause it.

## TREATMENT

Many different methods, several of which are reliable, are advanced for the treatment of roup. First, place the fowl in dry, warm quarters, keep out all draughts of cold, damp air, and feed hot bran and mashed potatoes and meat. Inject kerosene oil into the nostrils. When the disease is first checked, give the fowl a dose of epsom salt, then afterwards give a pill containing two grains of quinine, morning and night. When the disease is far advanced, the only sure way to be rid of it is to use the hatchet, which is perhaps best at any stage. Be sure to remove the affected fowls. Be sure drinking from a pan of water may infect a dozen or more. Disinfect all drinking fountains and feed troughs to prevent the disease from spreading.

## How to Produce Good Eggs

The most important requisites for the production of good eggs are summarized in a United States government bulletin as follows:

1. Hens that produce not only a goodly number of eggs but eggs of unusually large size (weighing 2 pounds each on an average). Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds, Orpingtons, and Leghorns or Minorcas that are good on egg farms are varieties that may be expected to do this.

2. Good housing, regular feeding, and watering, and, above all, clean, dry nests.

3. Daily gathering of eggs, and when the temperature is above 50 degrees, gathering twice a day.

4. The collection of all broody hens as soon as discovered.

5. The rejection as doubtful of all eggs found in a nest that was not visited the previous day. Such eggs should be used at home, where each may be broken separately.

6. The placing of all summer eggs, as soon as gathered, in the coolest place available.

7. The prevention as all times of moisture in any form coming in contact with the eggshells.

8. The distal of young cockerels before they begin to annoy the hens. Also the selling, or confining of old

male birds from the time hatching is over until cool weather in fall.

9. The use of cracked and dirty as well as small eggs at home. Such eggs, if consumed when fresh, are perfectly wholesome, but when marketed are discriminated against and are likely to become uneconomical.

10. The marketing of all eggs at least once a week, and oftener when convenience allows.

11. Keeping poultry as cool and dry as possible while on the way to town and while in country stores.

12. Keeping eggs away from musty cellars or bad odors.

13. The use of strong, clean cases and good fillers.

14. The shipping of eggs to the final market at least once a week and as much oftener as possible.

## Poultry at the O. A. C.

The poultry department at the Guelph Agricultural College is of some what large proportions. Recently a recent addition is an up-to-date incubator cellar, a substantial brick building, 60 x 40 ft. It contains besides office, coal room, and two small incubator rooms, one large and two small. The large room is used for the practical work in connection with incubation. The two small rooms will be used for experiments in incubation. The rooms are well ventilated. Professor Graham attributes considerable of his success to the thorough ventilation he has in his incubator rooms and in fact says that this is the first year that he has been troubled with so called white diarrhoea, owing he says to the fresh air provided.

## FARMING CHICKENS OUT

The most unique feature in connection with the department is the system Professor Graham has of farming his chickens out. The chicks are not kept in the old runs as formerly but are put on the farm. Some are along the edge of an old gravel pit around which shade trees have been planted for the purpose of hiding the pit. A colony was put at the edge of the tree and the chicks allowed the free run over the adjoining pasture fields. Another colony was found at the edge of the corn field and the chicks were allowed the free run through the corn and the way they were growing proved that this system of rearing the chicks is satisfactory as far as the chicks are concerned. He also had them placed in the orchard, in fact any where that he could find available space. Those in charge of the various departments seemed quite pleased to have the chickens on their land all thinking that it was just a good deal of the land as for the chickens. This idea should become more and more popular with farmers. A few colony houses run in the corn or pasture fields would take the chicks where they could find food that would otherwise be wasted would be obtained.

## Selecting Breeding Stock

The only absolutely sure way of making selection of breeding stock is by means of data obtained from the use of trap nests. Only investigators and an occasional poultryman can afford the equipment and the expense involved in operating trap nests, but every poultryman can, by closely observing his young stock during the autumn, select the pullets that are commencing or preparing to lay, and secure for the next season's breeding a pen of birds that have the largest eggs produced so strongly developed that they give evidence of it by their early chicks.

As evidence of the value of early-laying pullets, attention is called to the work performed by 29 April-hatched pullets that were selected from among their sisters on the range in August and September, when they showed that they were laying or

about to begin laying. They were not selected because of form or type as indicating egg production, but they were either just picked up as they were found on the nests or taken because their comb were red or because they tagged the attendant around and pecked the work they were soon going to do. They were carried to the laying house, marked with bands, and given access to trap nests.

Of the 29 birds in the year. The smallest layer of the remaining 25 laid 137 eggs the first laying year; 13 laid more than 160 eggs, and 8 over 200 eggs, and the average of the flock for the 12 months ending August 30, 1905, was 180 eggs. This average was much higher than that of all the pullets carried that year, and the flock contained no poor layers, but a phenomenal number of high layers. The high average of good layers point out the advantages of this method of selection when the use of trap nests, or other equally reliable methods of selection, is not practicable.

Poultrymen are generally desirous of securing as many well-bred pullets as possible, and so use 1-year-old hens as breeders in addition to the 2-year-olds. The work done by pullets from September to February or March is a pretty good indication of their use-

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fulness, and their eggs are available for breeding during the pullet year. While the chickens of such eggs are not generally so large at maturity as those from older hens, they do not appear to lack constitution or vigor, and there is no apparent reason why they are not desirable for breeding purposes.—U. S. Farmers' Bulletin 357.

## Pointers

The poultry products of the State of Missouri reached the enormous total of \$46,000,000 last year, the greatest in the history of the State. This includes both poultry and eggs.

The main requirements in rearing chicks are to keep them from getting a chill; to feed them just enough of the right foods; to keep them clean; and to give them plenty of exercise. Don't attempt to place chicks in a brooder that has ever been used before without first disinfecting it. It takes something stronger than a mild winter to kill the disease germs of last summer.

Another line of disinfection that must not be forgotten is that of the intestinal tract of the adult stock. Once or twice a month cut Epson salts in the mash, estimating a third of a teaspoonful to each adult bird. A day or two after the fowls have had a good purging, with this remedy I would want to go over the runs with a strong disinfectant, particularly something of a drying nature. For this I know of nothing better than lime.

## Jerseys, Guernseys and Grades

(Continued from page 6)

Heifer, one year old, out of milk.—1st and 4th, Mackenzie; 2nd and 3rd, Bull & Son. Some of the younger Jerseys did not show the high quality that was exhibited in most of the older cattle.

Heifer calf under one year old.—1st, 2nd and 3rd, Bull & Son; 4th, Duncan.

Heifer calf, calved after Jan. 1st, 1909.—1st Duncan; 2nd, 3rd and 4th, Bull & Son.

Four animals, the progeny of one bull.—1st, Duncan, in whose showing was two yearlings, one an exceptionally good one in milk, as fine a yearling as one could wish to see. Bull & Son took 2nd and 3rd.

Herd of one bull and three heifers.—1st, Duncan; 2nd and 3rd, Bull & Son.

Graded Herd.—The four heifers entered made a most beautiful showing. Mackenzie took first with a herd that the judge remarked would make anything in the States hustle. 2nd, Bull & Son; 3rd, Duncan.

The female senior and grand champion went to Miss Plaisir's Farm, now owned by Bull & Son, Duncan & Matinella of Don carried off the female championship.

All through the Jerseys were a very good lot and were well up to the average in the eyes of the judge. Some criticism was offered that the judge favored the fancy points of the breed and tended to overlook utility form.

## STEWARDS

Guernseys were represented by two herds, those of Guy Carr of Compton Station, Que., and the Guernsey herd of the Tre'trevet Model Farm, Weston, Ont. The Quebec herd were not shown in competition while the Tre'trevet herd were exceptionally well bred and consequently captured the majority of the prizes wherever shown in competition. All that Mr. Tre'trevet showed were Island Reds and are only recently imported. The awards follow:

Bull three year old.—1st, Carr. He had two entries and was without competition.

Bull two year old.—Carr 1st and 2nd, again with no competition.

Bull one year old.—1st Tre'trevet, with Billy's France of the Hongue. 2nd, Carr.

Bull calf under one year.—Carr, a single entry.

Bull, senior champion.—Carr, Junior and Grand Champion.—Tre'trevet, with Billy's France of the Hongue.

There was much more competition in the cow classes. Cow four years old.—Tre'trevet 1st, with the Fillip 14th. Tre'trevet also got 2nd with Sundari 21st, in competition with two cows from the Quebec herd.

Cows three years old.—Tre'trevet won 1st and 2nd with two cows that were good handlers and of fine quality.

Cows two years old, 1st on heifer one year old and 1st on heifer calf under one year, there being no competition.

Heifer calf, calved after January 1st.—Carr 1st, Tre'trevet 2nd.

Herd, one bull and three females.—Tre'trevet 1st, Carr 2nd.

Female junior and grand champion went to Tre'trevet. He winnow with Fillip 14th. Junior champion was awarded to Carr on his heifer calf under one year, a very neat calf and one of the best things in the exhibit.

## GRADERS

The grades were easily disposed of, there being but very few entries. Female, two years and over.—Bull & Son, Brampton. 2nd, Tre'trevet Model Farm, Weston. Female, under two years.—1st and 2nd, Bull & Son.

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