

to have them start laying before the winter sets in for good. Once started they will keep laying all winter, if they are given the care they should have, and good feed such as wheat, oats and corn and roots at noon; also water or snow before them at all times.

I would like to tell the readers of "The Canadian Thresherman and Farmer" a little about our operations with Barred Rocks last spring with trap-nested work, our object being to keep eggs from individual hens and pullets separate and distinct until sufficient had been gathered to make a setting.

Previous to trap-nesting, these hens and pullets have been marked with a leg band during the winter as soon as they started to lay, thus indicating their proficiency in this respect at a time of year when eggs are most valuable.

Such hens and pullets must also show a good Hogan test, and lay a good size brown egg or be rejected from our breeding pens. After taking the best hens and pullets and mating as early in the spring as possible to a good Hogan test male bird, we keep each hen's or pullet's eggs by themselves till we get a sitting of 13 all from the same bird. These eggs are set under a hen, and as soon as they are hatched the chicks are all toe marked, and when a week old they are marked with a colored leg band so that we can tell at a glance the broods from individual trap-nested birds. In this way we can keep families together and know just what we are doing each year.

It gave me great pleasure to find so much interest taken in poultry raising at my meetings in connection with the Agricultural College short course work in the month of February. I think the college is to be congratulated on the splendid work its staff is doing all over Manitoba. May it have many more years of success.

**TAINTED POULTRY
RUNS**
Disease Breeders That Turn
Profit to Loss

Where poultry is raised on the farm or on the large poultry plants there is less danger from tainted runs, for as a general rule they have a wide range and there is no cause for the ground to become foul. Although in some instances we find the yards where they have been temporarily confined to be in very bad condition, but being confined only at times and being on range the rest of the time there is less danger.

On many farms the places where poultry are yarded always remain in about the same condition. Perhaps the farm may

change hands and the new owner will use the same old poultry yard and the consequence is that the ground becomes badly tainted and bad results are sure to follow.

In starting a new plant of course there will be no trouble for a year or so, but if there has been very much crowding bad results will begin to show, then in three or four years' time the trouble will be so bad it eats up about all the profits if things are let run in

this manner. Ground in this shape often becomes infested with gape worms, and it is very difficult to keep the little chicks free from them. Even the freezing of the ground in the winter does not kill these pests, so the chicks that have access to the infested ground soon become afflicted.

A good plan, where one has the room, is to have double yards, that is yards at the front and rear of the poultry house. Keep the

fowls in one yard for a time while the vegetation gets started in the other, then change to the other yard. In this manner the yards may be kept sweet and clean. Plowing the yards after they have had a good coat of air-slaked lime is also recommended.

A southern slope is a good place for the location of yards as it not only receives lots of good sunshine but lots of the impurities are washed away.

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