

ADDITIONAL METHODS OF FEEDING.

No. 1. Whole-wheat bread is fed for the first day or two, and is gradually substituted by Johnny-cake. After a few days, cracked corn and cracked wheat are fed. The Johnny-cake is made of five parts corn-meal, one part wheat middlings, and one part beef-scrap, with a little soda mixed with sour milk and steamed until thoroughly cooked. Another Johnny-cake is made of $2\frac{1}{2}$ quarts of bran, $2\frac{1}{2}$ quarts of corn-meal, 2 quarts of ground oats sifted, 1 quart of clover-meal. These are mixed with milk or water, with a pinch of soda added. Mix the whole thoroughly into a stiff dough and bake three to six hours in a slow oven.

No. 2. Feed cracker-crumbs or dried bread-crumbs, thoroughly mixed with finely chopped, hard-boiled eggs. There should be four or five times as much crumbs as there is egg. Pinhead oatmeal or rolled oats are also used. The chicks are fed this several times a day, and after a time cracked grains are fed.

No. 3. This method has been advocated by the Maine Experimental Station. Bread is made of a mixture of three parts corn-meal, one part wheat-bran, and one part wheat middlings or flour. This is mixed with milk or water and salt is added. It is well baked in a slow oven. The infertile eggs are boiled until hard, and are finely ground, shell and all. One part ground egg and four parts bread-crumbs are then mixed together, and run through a sausage-mill. The chicks are fed in the morning and at night on the bread-and-egg mixture. From after the morning feed until night they scratch in the litter for the dry cracked grain or chick-food which is provided for them. The egg mixture is used for about two weeks, after which time grains and mashes are used.

No. 4. From the first, the chicks are fed cracked wheat and finely cracked corn. This is scattered in the litter, and rolled oats are fed once or twice a day. In about two weeks a dry mash consisting of two parts corn-meal, three parts bran, two parts finely crushed oats, sifted, one part middlings, and one part beef-scrap is placed before the chicks.

No. 5. While the foregoing methods have commendable features, the following, though simple and involving less labour, gives good results and is much more satisfactory in feeding large flocks. During the first two or three days after feeding commenced the chicks are fed some good commercial "chick-feed" or a mixture of finely cracked corn and cracked wheat. In California they add to this cracked rice. The chicks are given this mixture several times a day. It is scattered in the litter and they scratch vigorously for it. After two or three days they are given a dry mash. There is no one best mash, though some are superior to others. A very good mash is composed of two parts of bran, one part corn-meal, one part crushed oats, and one part beef-scrap. This mash should be fed in a hopper similar to that shown on page 17. When feeding this mash for the first time, it is best to give it immediately after they have had a good feed of their regular cracked-grain ration. This will tend to keep the chicks from overeating the dry mash, and they will become accustomed to feeding from the hopper regularly. It is sometimes advisable to run the dry-mash mixture through a sieve for the first few feedings. The chicks thrive well on this combination ration. Some poultrymen in California and other places add rolled oats to the cracked-grain mixture. Rolled oats forms one of the best chick-feeds, and is comparatively inexpensive. Along with the cracked grains and dry mash, green food in the form of kale or lettuce should be given. Grit, fine particles of oyster-shell, and clean water should be kept before the chicks at all times.