

possibly not quite so high a quality. The recognized color is yellow, brownish, or reddish fawn. White markings, especially on the legs and under part of the body, are quite common. White or amber-colored horns are preferred, and they should curve gracefully inward and slightly upwards. Breeders lay emphasis on the yellow secretion, which is characteristic of the Guernseys. The color of the skin is a very deep yellow, and quality is indicated by thin, mellow, elastic skin with moderately fine hair. The breed is kept pure on its native Island by the exclusion of all other breeds. Live cattle brought to the Island must be slaughtered within twenty-four hours after their arrival. Careful selection with definite ideals in view for many years has produced a valuable dairy breed. Size, strong constitution, rich milk in large quantities were points always kept in mind by the breeders. Mature bulls average around 1,500 pounds, and mature cows weigh from 1,000 to 1,100 pounds.

The udder is large and of fine quality, with fairly good-sized teats, but it lacks somewhat in uniformity of conformation as compared with the Jerseys. This is particularly noticeable in a large line-up of mature cows in milk. As a rule Guernseys are retentive milkers and the average yield is fairly high, while exceptionally high individual records have been made. One cow has an official record of 24,000 pounds of milk in one year, and another made 1,098 pounds of butter-fat. Ten cows recorded in the American Guernsey register gave an average production of over 18,000 pounds of milk and 954 pounds of butter-fat. Four thousand seven hundred and nineteen yearly records in the advanced register show an average yield of 8,805 pounds of milk and 439 pounds of butter-fat; 1,852 of these were heifers with their first calf. Over 1,000 of the number gave over 10,000 pounds of milk, and over 500 pounds of butter-fat. Seventy cows averaged 14,458 pounds of milk testing 5.3 per cent. These figures convey some idea of the productiveness of the breed. Not only are they capable of producing a large flow of milk, but it is rich in butter-fat. In recent dairy tests Guernseys have given a splendid account of themselves, and the short and long tests have done a great deal towards advertising the milking propensities of this fawn-colored breed.

Guernseys do not mature particularly fast. They are considerably slower than Jerseys. Sires used on grade Jersey cows tend to improve the size and productivity of the offspring. When crossed with a heavy milking breed, the quality of milk of the offspring may be expected to be improved. The breed does not rank high as beef producers, they do not dress out a very high percentage of high-priced cuts, and as a rule the fat is too yellow. The Guernsey is strictly of dairy type, is docile and possesses a hardy constitution. Although not widely distributed the breed is easily adaptable to different environments.

POULTRY.

Produce More Eggs.

Professor F. C. Elford, Dominion Poultry Husbandman, believes that the prospects for a bigger demand and better prices for eggs were never more promising than at the present time. However, with the high price of grain the tendency is for poultrymen to sell stock that should produce high-priced eggs this winter, fearing that eggs cannot be produced at a profit. However, eggs are correspondingly high in price and many have produced them at a profit, even with grain at a high price, when proper conditions are supplied. Last winter at the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, a pen of 100 pullets produced eggs at a cost of twenty-four cents per dozen for the six months from November to April. The egg yield was from five per cent. in November to fifty per cent. in April. Professor Elford claims that the percentage of egg yield determines more than anything else the cost of production. When the egg yield was twenty per cent. the cost was twenty-one cents per dozen, but with the forty per cent. yield the cost was only ten and one-half cents per dozen. The average dozen eggs sold for twenty cents more than the cost of feed required to produce them, and this from a pen selected to represent an average farm flock. Each bird averaged ninety-nine cents over the cost of feed in six months, which, though not large, proves that even at the high price of feed eggs can be produced at a profit. Grain was bought on the local market and the price received for the eggs was forty-four cents per dozen. With table scraps and a supply of milk, which is usually found on the average farm, the cost of feed would be materially lessened.

It does not pay to winter non-producers, especially when feed is as high as it is at present. Late-hatched pullets or those not sufficiently matured to start laying in the early winter should be marketed, and hens over two years old seldom prove to be profitable producers. The birds must be housed in a suitable pen which furnishes plenty of sunlight and fresh air, but at the same time is free from drafts and is dry. A damp house may be improved by additional ventilation, and it is a good plan to have a straw loft, where possible, although this increases the difficulty of keeping the house clean and free from mites. Do not overcrowd the birds either on the roosts or scratching floor.

It pays to feed the pullet well from the start. Wheat screenings, shrunken wheat, barley, oats or buckwheat all make suitable feeds, while clover leaves and milk aid in keeping down the cost. Two or more of the grains may be mixed in equal proportions for the grain

ration, and the mash may consist of ground barley, oats, bran or shorts. This can be fed either dry or mixed with milk. Corn may be safely fed during the winter, and at the present time is probably as cheap a grain as there is on the market. Grit and shell should be before the layers at all times. If the feed is withheld the birds will not lay the eggs.

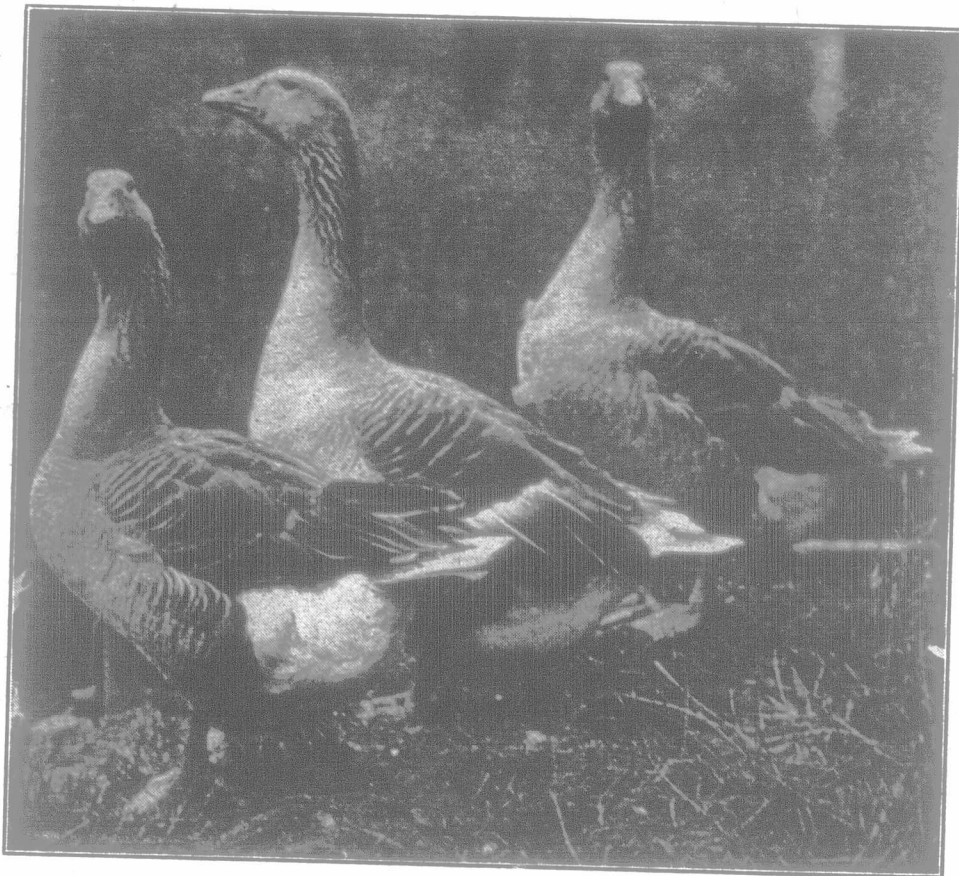
Depletion of Breeding Stock Unwarranted.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Judging from the unprecedented heavy deliveries of poultry on the central eastern markets so early in the season, it would appear that farmers and producers generally are not only depleting their flocks unwarrantably but also rushing them to the market in an unfinished condition. As a result, the current price of chickens is much below normal value at the present time, in comparison with the prices of other meats. This is directly due to the overloading of the market.

With the brisk inquiry for Canadian poultry from Great Britain, it is expected by exporters that the demand for well-finished, good quality stock will be very keen during the coming winter. Besides, there will be a good demand for home consumption. The price for well-finished birds continues firm, but with so much poor stock arriving, wholly unsuited for either storage or export, many buyers have recently reduced their quotations for all low grades.

The presence of pullets and young fowl has also been noted in many shipments. This is most unfortunate considering the price of eggs. The very firm prospect for the profitable marketing of all poultry products points to the necessity of conserving in every possible way all



All that Was Left of Them.

suitable laying and breeding stock. Unless this is done, there will be but little poultry left in a short time on the farms in the central eastern portion of the country. Even though feed is scarce and high, it would pay farmers well to finish the birds before offering them for sale, and spread their deliveries over a longer period.

Current receipts to date have consisted mainly of live poultry. The season is now sufficiently advanced, however, to warrant more liberal shipments of dressed poultry. In light of the fact that there will be a considerable movement of Canadian poultry to Great Britain, it is of the utmost importance that all poultry killed on the farms, in addition to being well finished, be properly killed and dressed. The British market, in fact all markets, prefer poultry bled in the mouth and dry picked. While killing by dislocation may be preferred by some, the presence of blood in the neck and the resultant discoloration make it unsuitable for storage or export purposes.

Proper and complete bleeding is most essential. Sometimes the arteries of the neck are not completely severed, the bird fails to bleed properly, with the result that the carcass takes on a reddish appearance. With proper attention to details, a useful reputation for Canadian poultry can be established on the British market this year. It is of the greatest importance, therefore, that all poultry marketed be well finished, well bled and dressed and packed in the most attractive manner possible.

DOM. LIVE STOCK BRANCH.

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Advice to the Beginner with Poultry.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

If you have seriously considered the poultry business in all its phases, and are satisfied that you have the make-up of a successful poultryman, and you are determined to give it a trial, then go about it in a business-like manner and thoroughly inform yourself on the theoretical side of the business at least before putting your money into it. If you were going to engage in any other business about which you knew nothing, you would consider it good policy to carefully investigate the probable chances of success or failure before investing your money. It is true you might go into the poultry business and make a success of it without having had previous experience, but the odds would be against you. I mean that you should have experience before engaging in the business with the expectation of making a living of it from the start. Beginning in a small way and building it up to a paying basis, while you are engaged in some other calling is quite a different thing.

I am firmly of the opinion that "chicken fever", and money do not make a good combination for a new beginner. The idea I wish to convey is that a beginner who has considerable money is liable to invest his money—to jump in too deep before he has the necessary experience. For this reason a beginner will stand a better chance of success if he has a business or profession upon which to depend while getting acquainted with his fowls and the best method of caring for them, he will be more likely to go slow at the start.

I will assume that you are in possession of a small piece of land, the rear of a town or city lot is sufficient for your immediate purpose. As your flock increases you can change to a location better situated for the business, you will have gained in experience and be able to choose more wisely. Before investing in eggs or fowl, subscribe for a good poultry and farm paper, and also purchase a book or two on poultry and poultry houses. It will pay you both in time and money, to study very carefully what you read, pick the wheat

from the chaff, and accept the teachings of the most experienced breeders. I should not advise the beginner to take up more than one breed at the start. One breed bred right along until you are successful, and then if you want to, and have plenty of room, you may try another kind.

After having selected your choice of breed, you will need to determine whether to begin with eggs or fowls. It would of course be more expensive to begin with fowls, but by purchasing a trio or pen you would probably receive the advantage of having them mated for you by the breeder, who, if he is honest, could give you the benefit of his years of experience in mating fowl. You can at least see what you buy. In any event, get the best you can afford, pay a fair price and insist on getting full value for your money.

After you have given your order for fowls, (assuming that you have decided to start with fowls,) prepare a temporary place to house them upon their arrival, as they should not be placed in permanent quarters for at least a week or two. This will give you a chance to rid them of any vermin, and to make sure that they are free from disease, and also to prepare permanent housing, if you have not already done so. The house need not be a costly, elaborate affair, but build it neat and substantial, with the fixtures as simple as possible. The principal thing is to have the house dry and well ventilated, plenty of fresh air and no drafts; make it comfortable but not too warm. No doubt a curtain-front house will give better satisfaction than a closed house, provided it be otherwise properly constructed. Before placing your birds in their new home, give it a thorough coat of whitewash to which has been added a good disinfectant.

If you have plenty of room, fence off two yards, one as a runway, and the other for green stuff. In the latter you can sow rye, oats, rape, grass etc., and after it has attained sufficient growth, turn the fowls in for an hour or so each day. When the soil of the runway becomes contaminated, dig it up and sow green crop, and use the other yard as the runway, in this way you can keep the yards in a sweet and clean condition. As flock increases and you are obliged to seek a new location where you will have more room, you will find it more satisfactory to make the fencing movable as far as possible without difficulty in order to get the ground plowed whenever it shows signs of becoming

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