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The Claims of the Breeds on the Farmer

The Rhode Island Red as a Utility Fowl

Geo. B. Curran, Sec.-Treas., Canadian R. I. Red Club.

THE Rhode Island Reds are to describe the second purpose fowl in the second purpose for the second purpose of the second purpose of the second purpose for the second p HE Rhode Island Reds are to Kansas, Nebraska, and Wisconsin. In addition they are bred extensively in every other state in the Union. In Canada they were first introduced into Ontario, but have now spread over the whole Dominion and are bred from Nova Scotia to British bred from Nova Scotia to Bridge Columbia. They are enjoying a wonderful boom at present in the western, and in the Maritime Pro-vinces. In addition there is an exwinces. In addition there is an ex-ceptionally large demand for them in South America. South Africa, Aus-tralia and India. They are also quite popular throughout Europe.

How They Originated.

Why have the Rhode Island Reds spread all over the world in such a epread all over the world in such a short time. They were not known to the poultry public until about 1900, and in the short space of sixteen years have become the most popular general purpose fowl in the world. The reason for this is because of the origin of the Rhode Island Red. The farmers of Rhode Island have for the century marketed their dressed poultry and eggs on the Boston mar-ket, which required yellow-skinned poultry and brown skilled poultry and brown-shelled eggs.
Practically every recognize breed of
poultry known up to about 1850 was
bred in Rhode Island. As a final resort the Preserved. sort the Brown Leghorns from Italy were crossed on the Asiatic type of were crossed on the Asiant type of fowl. This gave a good general pur-pose fowl and is the foundation of Rhode Island Reds. The red color was obtained by crossing Red Major males brought from Asia on the com-non fowls. These red males groups males brought from Asia on the common fowls. These red males produced cockerels of a rich, brilliant red ed cockeres of a rich brillian re-color so attractive in appearance that they were-retained for breeding purposes, and this unusual color persistdissections. The females came all colors, but by per-sistent use of the reddest males the females gradually become a fairly uni-form red color. Thus the Rhode Island Reds were originated by outcrossing and the resulting progeny had an abundance of strength and vigor and possessed marked utility qualities. They are remarkable qualities. They are remarkable layers of brown-shelled eggs, and are also excellent market poultry.

About 1900, poultry fanciers becam About 1900, pointry tanciers became interested in this remarkable breed of fowls and the Rhode Island Reds were first introduced to the world as a distinct American breed. A Rhode Island Red boom was launched and they were introduced all over the United States and Canada. Purchasers were disappointed in the color of these early birds as the flocks were not uniform in color. Breeders of old and blinds have a company to the color of the color. not uniform in colon. Breeders of old established breeds of poultry dubbed the Reds as "The Great American Mongrel." However, they possessed such remarkable utility qualities and laid so many eggs in winter, that they beat down all opposition and became more popular than ever. The funcier-breeders have now 'grovend the second th breeders have now improved them, until they breed true in color and both the males and females are now a rich



Single Comb R. I. Red. Color—Rich, brilliant red, with black on wings and tail. Standard weights are: Cock 8½ ibs.; hen 6½ ibs.; cockerels 7½ ibs.; pullet 5 ibs. medium-dark brilliant red with black

The Breed in Canada.

The Canadian Rhode Island Red Club was organized in Canada in 1912 and now includes practically all the prominent Red breeders of Canada, numbering nearly 500. Silver cupa numbering nearly 500. Silver cups are given for the best collection of Rhode Island Reds at the largest show in each province of Canada, and hand-some Club ribbons worth fifteen cents each are given for best cock, hen, cockerel, pullet, and collection in both single and rose combs at all local poultry shows in Canada. Red breeders cannot supply the demand from farmers and commercial poultrymen for first class utility stock or utility eggs for hatching. The Rhode Island Red is a breed that has retained all its original utility qualities than fifteen years made it the leading fowl of America, while its ex-hibition qualities have been improved so remarkably that to-day the cockerel is the most beautiful bird of all breeds of poultry. On the farm the red cockerels early develop the rich glossy coat of feathers that ripple and glisten in the sun, and are a delight to the eye.

Farmers who wish the best round breed of poultry for their farms, a breed that will lay eggs in winter, hatch and rear the chickens early in the spring, and a breed of which the cockerels will develop into which the cockerels will develop into birds dressing six to eight pounds at six months of age, are recommended to adopt the Rhode Island Red. The eggs are larger than those of any other breed of poultry laying brown shelled eggs. They are the greatest all-round utility breed on earth.



Rose Comb R. I. Red.

The White Leghorn---the Perfect Egg Machine

Lewis N. Clark, Oldham Farm, Durham Co., Ont.

A S a breeder of both S, C. White Leghorns, and Barred Plymouth Rocks, I am asked the question ten times a day, "Which breed do you find most profitable the year through." My roply is always the same, "the White Leghorn." With the price of feed at its present high level, there is no comparison in the receivant made by the two breeds, net profits made by the two breeds, net Leghorns couring so much less to return the Rocks for the number of each produced by each. What often amazen with the work of the produced by the control of the same only the same of the produced by the control of the same on the same of the S a breeder of both S. C. White the Rocks always leading during the very cold spells, and the Leghorns always leading as soon as the cold lets up a little. When summer comes and more of the heavier breed are broody, the Leghorrs run away ahead, as is to be expected, and for the year 1916 the Leghorns on my farm averaged a production of 176 eggs each, and the Rocks averaged for the same year 169 Rocks averaged for the same year 169 eggs, both breeds being a very profitable investment. It cost to produce a dozen eggs from the Leghorns, about 14 cents, and from the Rocks, about 14 cents, and from the Rocks, about 17 miles. These costs include everything. With the present feed prices, the difference will be a little greater.

The Utility Leghorn.

The size of the eggs from a strain of Leghorns that has been bred care-fully for a number of years, not only with the object of getting the greatest number of eggs, but also the size, is as large, I believe, as those laid by any as large, I believe, as those laid by any fowl, excepting perhaps the Minorca. The size of the birds themselves can be increased by the same method, and the average weight of the best strains of bred-to-lay Leghorns is nearly one and-a-half times the standard weight for "show" Leghorns, and they are a very different looking fowl from the small delicate looking show-bird. The greatest thing of all in favor of the Reactest thing of all in layor of the Leghorn is the way their eggs hatch. You simply can't keep the Leghorn eggs from hatching—to watch a tray eggs hatching in an incubator, like watching corn pop; it doesn't matter much what you do with them, they hatch anyway, and what's more they live after they are hatched. We have bad some sad experience that this is not always the case with

The great argument used against The great argument used against the Leghorn, and in favor of the heav-ier breeds is that when you want to dispose of the hens, you have some-thing to sell, whereas with the Leghorns you haven't. I will not agree to this, for with large bred-to-lay Leghorns you have a four or five pound bird, after it is dressed; but supposing, for the sake of argument, that you hadn't a pound of dressed poultry to sell—if you have made a net profit of 52 cents per year, per hen, more from the Leghorns than from the heavy why worry?

breeds—why worry?

I really believe that if the farmers
of Ontario would give the Leghorns
as fair a trial as—the heavy breeds
have had, you would see very little of any o'her kind of poultry on Ontario

All poultry enjoy a shady nook.

Look for lice in the new house as