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WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS PLEASE MENTION THE GUIDE

Brooding and Rearing Chicks

Continued from Page 11

will keep a better heat. At the end of a week this temperature can gradually be lowered, but under all conditions it is always best to have plenty of heat rather than not enough. Nothing is so injurious the first few days as chilling, and there is practically no danger of overheating, as the chicks can always come out from under the hover if it gets too warm. At night time they should be peeping out between the curtains, which is always an indication that they are comfortable. As the days get warmer the lamp can be turned lower in the morning and full again at night time, thus guarding against chilling during the night.

In the way of feeding no hard and fast rules can be laid down, as each successful poultry man or woman has his or her own methods. There are, however, quite a number who are not successful, or there may be some who think they are successful, and yet their methods can be improved upon considerably. The object of feeding should be to get good growth at the lowest price possible. Under all conditions nobody will go far wrong to give hard boiled eggs and stale bread as a first feed. This is simply following up nature which has provided the chick with sufficient food in the form of yolk, for 36 to 48 hours after hatching. Just before hatching time the yolk of the egg is taken into the body of the chick and this furnishes all the food required for the time. Three parts of stale bread dipped in milk and pressed out, and mixed with one part of hard boiled eggs crushed fine, makes almost an ideal first feed. If the non-fertile eggs are taken away from the hens the ninth day or out of the incubator, they can be used for this. Chick feed is another valuable food. This consists of the firm grains finely cracked and usually runs about a quarter of each of cracked corn, wheat and oats, and the rest millet seed, cracked barley, peas, rye, rice and kaffir corn. For farm conditions pinhead oatmeal and cracked wheat would be all right, altho the variety in chick feed gives better results. The chick feed should be scattered on boards at the side of the hover, at the start, so the little chicks will get this first when they come out from under the hover. A little chick, incubator hatched and put in a brooder, will eat sand or saw dust, so the right food should be where they will come across it first. This feed can be followed up with the eggs and bread, feeding that about three times a day, and the chick food about the same number of times.

Feed Small Quantities But Often

Little chicks cannot be fed too often, providing they are fed small quantities each time. Buttermilk, sour milk or sweet milk should also be placed near the hover so they will soon learn to drink. If you start with sour milk or buttermilk, do not change over to sweet or from sweet to sour. The sour milk or butter milk is the better of the two. A dry mash should also be placed near the hover in a small dish. This can be made out of equal parts bran, middlings, corn chop and oat chop, with the hulls sifted out. Add crushed charcoal to it also. This mash should be in front of the chicks all the time. Little chicks will eat as much dry mash as anything else they might be fed. The eggs and bread may be omitted at about a week or ten days old. If chick feed is fed it should gradually be changed to equal parts of cracked corn and wheat. After six weeks both the grain and dry mash should be hopped fed and in front of the chickens all the time. By feeding the dry mash as a soft mash once a day faster growth will result, but this is hardly necessary with the other feeds fed unless the chickens are to be forced.

These are the methods followed on a good many poultry plants where large numbers of chickens are reared. On the college plant we feed chicken feed, and gradually change to equal parts of cracked corn and wheat. The dry mash is made of equal parts of bran, shorts, Victor oat feed and corn chop, 5 per cent. of beef scrap, 1 per cent. bone meal, 1 per cent. fine grit, 1 per cent. fine charcoal, and 1 per cent. fine

oyster shell. Buttermilk is given to drink and for broiler production the dry mash is moistened with milk and fed as a soft, crumbly mash once a day. Later on the corn meal in this is increased to two parts and the beef scrap to 10 per cent. for finishing off. The first ten days stale bread and eggs are given along with the other foods mentioned.

Where the chickens are reared with hens the same method of feeding can be followed, only the hens must be kept away from the small dry mash dishes. Where chick feed is used whole wheat should be added for the hen. More of the bulky cheaper food should be fed to the hens, and all dishes for dry mash should be so arranged that the hens cannot get at them and upset them. Bread and eggs may be fed to the mother hens the first day or so, but after that it should be scattered on boards where the hens cannot reach it. Cheaper food can be fed to the mother hens. Where milk is given as a drink the fountains should be cleaned out thoroughly once a week. The hens should be dusted once before hatching time and again when put out in the coops, to guard against lice. The colony houses should be cleaned once a week and after the chicks are four weeks old dry earth can be used instead of litter. Sprinkle a little air slaked lime on the floor at every cleaning. If red mites appear spray the roosts and roost supports well with two parts of coal oil to one of carbolic acid, applying it with a potato bug sprayer. By closing the colony houses or coops every night losses by skunks, weasels and rats will be prevented.

The successful brooding and rearing of chickens depends probably more on the faithful performance of all the small details than any other branch of poultry work. Neglect during the first few days of a chick's life will affect it all thru. Nothing responds so well to good feeding and proper care as a flock of little chickens.

WESTERN GRAIN SITUATION

Frank O. Fowler, secretary of the Northwest Grain Dealers' Association, sends The Monetary Times the following figures relative to the Western grain situation as at March 8:

Wheat inspected to date	179,485 cars at 1,200 bus.	215,382,000
Wheat in transit not inspected		5,300,000
Wheat in store, country points		44,700,000
Wheat required for seed, feed and country mills		35,000,000
Wheat in farmers' hands to market		50,000,000
		350,382,000
Less amount allowed or dual inspection		2,000,000
Total wheat crop		348,382,000
Oats inspected to date		55,200,000
Oats in store at country points		9,500,000
Oats in transit not inspected		2,130,000
Oats in farmers' hands to market		30,000,000
Barley inspected to date		8,225,000
Barley in store at country points		1,500,000
Barley in transit not inspected		200,000
Barley in farmers' hands to market		3,500,000
Flax inspected to date		2,050,000
Flax in store at country points		300,000
Flax in transit not inspected		80,000
Flax in farmers' hands to market		2,500,000

Very proud in his new khaki uniform, he was walking around camp, and went to the latrine, where some soldier lads were trying to hit a bull's-eye, but repeatedly missed.

"Here, boys," called out the officer, "I'll show you how to shoot." And he took a rifle, and missed. Having a good strain of Irish blood in him, his wife quickly came to his aid, and he smilingly remarked—

"That's how you shoot."

* Taking a steadier aim, he fired again and this time exactly pierced the bull's-eye.

"That," said he, triumphantly, "is the way I shoot."

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