

How to Select the Best Layers

C. Calbeck, Cumberland Co., N.S. A hen is a hen. Well, yes, and no.
If one means that a hen has two legs, If one means that a hen has two rege, two wings, feathers, etc., just like all other hens, a hen is a hen. If one means, however, that one hen is as good as another when it comes to fil-ing the egg basket then we must dis-I was reading some time ago I think it was in Farm and Dairy, of a pullet at the Ontario Agricultural College that laid 68 eggs in 68 con-College that half to eggs in to consecutive days. No one can tell me that any hen can lay as many eggs as that hen did. That hen was bred to lay, and breeding counts for just as much with hens as it does with dairy

It is comparatively easy to find out It is comparatively easy to find out the individual production of the cows in a dairy herd. It is more difficult for us farmers to decide as to just which of our hems are laying the most eggs. It may be all right for the poultry man who has nothing else to do to go through the hen houses and inspect trap nests every 30 or 40 minutes. We cannot do this but we have a plan which has worked out have a plan which has worked out splendidly.

splendidly. We usually keep about 100 laying hens in four pens of 25 each. On the door of each of these pens is a card and every egg that is taken from this pen is jotted down on this card. As

WHITE ROCKS, ANCONAS, BLUE ANDALUSIANS.

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POULTRY YARD the breeding season approaches we take the eggs for hatching from the pen that has produced the greatest pen that has produced the greatest number of eggs per aen during the preceding season first, being careful to cull out all the pullets that do not show signs of vigorous constitution.

This system is easily worked, and we find that the laying qualities of our flock is improving every year.

Successful Chick Management Maritime Poultry Supply Co., Monc-ton, N. B.

We use incubators for hatching our chicks, but when hatched all are placed in the fireless brooders and kept there until ready for roosting. To make a success of raising chickens we find that they must be given the greatest of care and be fed on the very best of food. We can raise more and better ones by doing the work right. Our chicken have a large house with a cinded foor to take care of themselves; then they are allowed the run of a large field which has been sowed to clover, letwhich has been sowed to clover, let-tuce, oats and so forth.

We feed our chicks on Purity chick

feed, a mixture put up by ourselves, and we have never lost a chicken by and we have never lost a chicken by disease during the five years we have been using it. When the chicks are five weeks dive weeks them off this feed on to a feed of various grains ground up small and when about two months old we keep a foreing mash before them in hoppers for about two months and then feed our regular laying mash also in hoppers.

KEEP DOWN VERMIN.

It is necessary to keep the lice down. More chickens are killed by these peats than all diseases combined and people think it is not lice because they do not see them running around. We do not favor using lice particles of the lice of

f good clean water.
We separate the cockerels from the beparate the cockeres from the pullets when they are 10 or 12 weeks old and keep them separated until we mate our breeding pens. A little extra care to the little chicks means dollars and cents later on

Strain or Breed?

When it comes to egg production When it comes to egg production strain is vastly more important than is breed. This is being proved on a large scale at the North American Egg Laying Competition that is now being conducted at Storrs, Come II, this competition 23 breeds and several hundred noan of fewis are convention. hundred pens of fowls are competing, and the variations between pens in the same breed are wide. For inthe same breed are wide. For instance, in the Barred Plymouth Rock pens, one lot has 240 eggs to its credit and another year. In the White Wyandottes, the eggs laid per pen run from 89 to 279. The Rhode Island Reds vary all the way from 175 to 284, and the White Leghorns from 79 to 384. from 79 to 344.

from 79 to 344.

It may be true that certain breeds will produce more eggs on the average than certain other breeds but one of the lessons to be derived from this great egg laying competition in that in every breed there are one of poor layers. We poultry men should plan to get into the egg laying strain rather than the egg laying breed.

The eggs should be kept in the cel-lar where it is cool. Hot weather quickly stales them,

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