

When the chicks are 60 to 70 hours old I let them out in the grass and sprinkle dry bread crumbs amongst them; in about an hour I give them a little dry oatflake; I give them just a little of that and they will run around over the grass looking for insect life. They seem to find food material of this kind which is not visible to us. About two hours later I give them a little millet seed and grass seed mixed, then in about three hours, or at night, I give them fine cracked corn, not corn meal, but cracked corn and milk that has been boiled; boiled milk and milk curds are the best preventive of bowel trouble. I give them milk until they are ten days old; some prefer milk in water, but if water is given it should be warm. The next day at 6 a.m. I give them johnny cake, about twelve hours later I feed them cracked wheat. At each meal except at night they are given about a half crop full, and at night a full crop; never give them a crop full of feed at any other meal, and never feed the same food twice the same day; change at each meal and give a little at each meal; then you are following nature. One-third crop full is a great deal better than a full crop. A hungry chicken is always a healthy one.

When a chick is weakly, hangs its wings, stands listless and is slow in walking and in fact seemingly blind to the world, it is suffering from indigestion, and the cause can be put down to overfeeding and too early feeding after having been taken out of the incubator. The chick in some respect resembles a baby. If an infant is fed for the first meal meat, potatoes and pastry of all kinds, it will not live long, because it is not nature's food, and this same rule applies to the chicks; they should have a little of everything and very little of anything. This method we believe is a successful one without any doubt.

Allow them to run out on the grass as soon as they possibly can, and when six days old give them free range.

Keep the heat in the brooder at 98 degrees two inches from the floor and keep it at about that point until the chicks are full feathered. Most breeders reduce that heat one or two degrees each day until it is about 70 degrees, but I fail to see any good reason why this plan should be followed.

A hen when she broods her chickens has a temperature of 98 degrees, or blood heat. We believe it is not more necessary to reduce the heat in a brooder than it would be in the case of the hen, as she broods the chickens when they are six weeks old. If your brooder is arranged like mine the chicks can go where they like, as regards the temperature. They will find it from 70 to 100.

We advise against mixing grit in food and against feeding mash. A fowl has a gizzard and grinds its own food and when the gizzard is idle the engine of the chick stops and finally the stomach gets out of order. Mash food has caused more diseases than any other one thing. In the first place it is not natural; the gizzard must keep grinding food, and if mash is fed the food passes through without being ground. The chick also overeats and suffers from indigestion.

There is much in the kind of heat in a brooder as well as the amount. A brooder should have a natural heat and not a hot dry one; there should also be fresh air coming and going at all times in the hover. If you will examine the chicks found dead in the brooder you will find their legs are all dried up. The hot dry heat has this effect on the blood and lungs, as a hot air furnace does upon furniture, &c. This kind of heat is not healthy for man or fowl.

On rainy days the brooder should be inside for chicks that are only two weeks old so as to keep them dry. They should be given the run of a large room, for keeping them locked up in a brooder will play havoc with them. There should be an in-door brooder for this purpose until chicks are 18 days old, and they should then be put in an out-door brooder, as they are old enough to help themselves.

**Other Chick Troubles.**—If a chick appears weak, or has weak legs, from rapid growth, put a teaspoonful of citrate of iron and ammonia in each quart of the drinking water. Sometimes two drops of tincture of nux vomica in a quart of water is excellent.