

down. The capacity of hens varies somewhat. In a general way, a good practice is to feed one handful to two hens twice a day. With the dry mash available all the time, this amount will likely be plenty. The dry mash should always be fed in a self-feeding hopper.

If the hens are fed properly, they are not likely to fatten on this system of feeding. Care must be taken, however, with some breeds, or they will become fat and lazy.

The **crushed oats** make the best dry mash of any single grain or by-product of grain. **Bran** can be added to the oats, feeding half and half of each, but the quality of bran has been so poor that the hens are inclined to waste too much of it. The same may be said of **shorts**. A small quantity of granulated charcoal should be added, say one pound to one hundred pounds of dry mash.

If the animal food is to be fed in the form of **beef scrap**, it would be best to add about five to ten pounds of it to every hundred pounds of the dry mash.

Where hens are fed the hard grain in the litter and the dry mash in a hopper, they will eat about two pounds of the former to every pound of the latter. One hundred hens will eat about six to eight pounds of dry mash a day and from twelve to fifteen pounds of hard grain daily.

GREEN FOOD.

In the way of green food, there is nothing to equal green **cabbage** for cheapness and also as a food that hens like. **Mangels** take second place. **Turnips, carrots, or beets** can also be used. **Sprouted oats** make an ideal green food, but it costs almost too much to produce them. At best, the sprouting of oats, so as to have a constant supply, involves an endless amount of work. Green food of any kind must be supplied in liberal quantities, but what kind should be depends very largely on what is available. Cabbage heads may be suspended from the ceiling by wire or cord high enough to make the hens jump to peck them. Mangels may be cut lengthwise and stuck on a nail or spike in the wall. **Alfalfa hay, clover leaves or shredded alfalfa** may partly take the place of green food, but they have not the succulence that the fresh green foods have. Steeping or scalding with hot water first and then mixing them in a bran mash makes an excellent soft or wet mash for laying hens. **Table scraps, boiled potato peelings, etc.**, can be mixed with this mash. It is, however, best not to feed too heavily on **boiled potatoes**. A soft mash should have only enough water to make the mash crumbly, and not sloppy. For winter feeding the soft mash is especially valuable as it always helps to stimulate laying. It can be fed morning, noon or night, but should be fed only once a day in a trough attached to the side of the pen. On the College poultry plant we fed it at noon for three reasons:

First,—It fits in best with the **other work** to do it then;

Second,—It does away with the difficulty of the hens filling up on it early in the day, and then not working for any other feed the rest of the day; and