

PROFITABLE POULTRY FARMING

(REVISED EDITION.)

BY F. C. HARE.

POULTRY HOUSE CONSTRUCTION.

I LOCATION OF THE HOUSE

1. **Concerning the Location in General.**—The poultry house should be a separate house and somewhat apart from the main farm buildings. It should be situated where the sun can shine on it all day; it should face the south; it should be convenient of access during the winter. If the breeding fowls are to be kept in confined yards, the yards should extend 75 feet in front of the house.

2. **Site**—A well-drained site is essential for the house and yards; dampness and filth around the poultry house are the causes of the most of the poultry diseases.

3. **Shade in Summer.**—Shade is required during the summer months. Poultry at liberty can secure this around the farm buildings. Trees are most satisfactory for shade purposes; the poultry house should be located 20 or 25 feet north of the trees.

4. **Movable Houses**—Movable houses are poultry houses that can be drawn by a horse to any portion of the farm. A small, easily-constructed movable house, capable of housing 15 hens is described in another paragraph (76) of this bulletin. By adopting movable houses the poultry can be housed in the fields from May until October; they will secure animal and vegetable food from the new ground; they will render the soil more fertile.

II. PLANS OF POULTRY HOUSES

5. **General Requirements.**—The poultry house should provide a well-lighted and well-ventilated pen for the fowls to exercise in, and a warm roosting pen. This necessitates that the roosting quarters (1) should be in a warm pen which is separate from the exercising pen, or (2) arranged so that the fowls can be closed in at night. There are two plans of houses: (1) the double house, (2) the single house.

6. **Double House.**—The double house is built 16 feet wide and contains separate exercising and roosting pens. Each 8 feet in length of the double house will house 20 hens producing market eggs, or a breeding pen of a male and 10 females. For example, a double house 16 feet wide and 16 feet long will house 40 laying hens or two breeding pens; a double house 24 feet long will house 60 laying hens or three breeding pens.

Advantages of the Double House.—The floor of the exercising pen is well-lighted by windows in the roof; these windows are storm proof when closed; they can be raised for ventilation. When the doors of the roosting pens are closed at night, the fowls are comfortable on the roost.