

XVI.—GEESE.

The breeding of geese calls for different treatment from that of ducks. Geese require more liberal range and very little grain for food. In winter they may be housed in a shed or outbuilding that shelters them from wind and severe storms. At this time they may be fed largely on cabbage, pulped mangels, turnips, sugar beets or other succulent foods, with a little bran and whole grain.

During the summer months little or no grain is necessary, provided the geese have ample range in green pasture, as they will thrive and do well on ordinary green grass pasture.

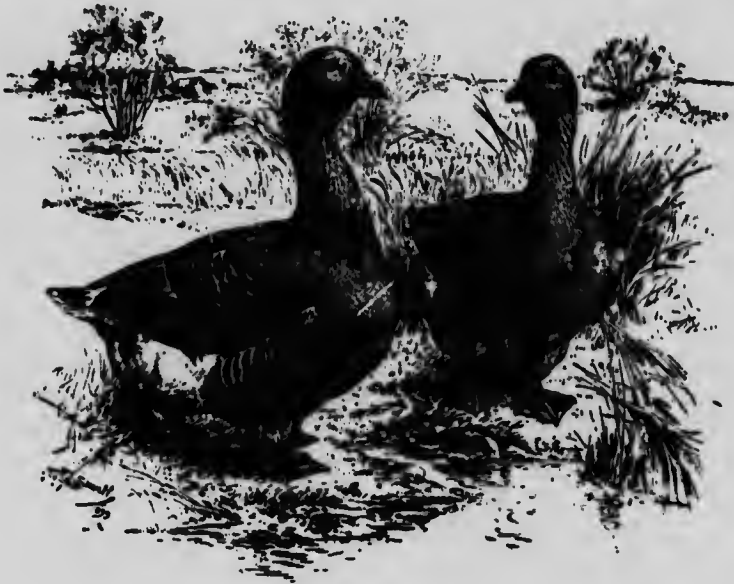


FIG. 54.

Standard Breeds of Geese.—The following are standard breeds: Toulouse, Embden, African Chinese, Egyptian, and Wild or Canadian.

Popular Breeds.—Of these breeds the Toulouse, Embden and African are considered the best for commercial purposes owing to their being large with early maturing qualities.

Mating and Breeding.—For breeding purposes there should be one male to not more than two or three females. Geese are considered best for breeding purposes ranging in age from two to ten years.

Rearing the Goslings.—While the goslings grow and do well on green grass it is advisable to feed them a mash ration twice a day similar to that fed to young ducks.