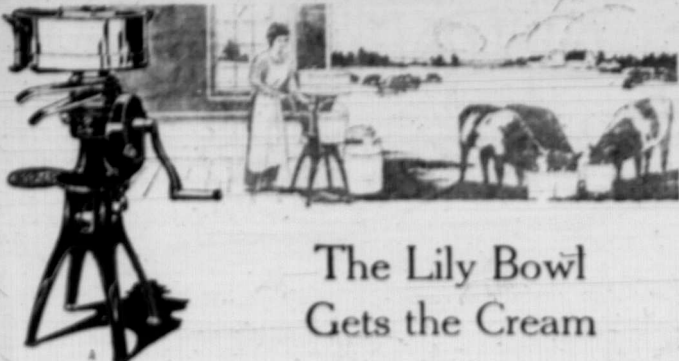


McCormick



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CREAM is worth too much to waste, yet it is being wasted by the ton every day by old-fashioned methods of skimming. Today there is no excuse for such waste. The Lily bowl gets all the cream it is possible to get, leaving only a drop or so to the gallon of skimmed milk.

Let's take a close look at this wonderful bowl. It is compact and convenient to handle. It lifts off the spindle, leaving the spindle in the separator where it belongs. It comes apart easily, but it can't leak. The disks provide a greater skimming surface than is found in other bowls. Combined with them are six cream gatherers—just twice the number other separators have. Separation begins the instant the milk enters the bowl, and there is always a clear passageway for the cream.

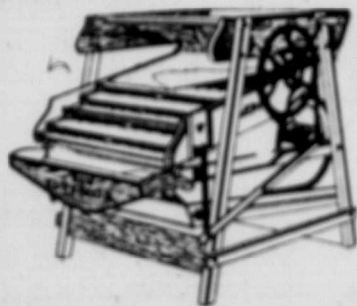
There is not even a cream regulating screw in the cream passageway. You make your cream thicker or thinner by regulating the amount of milk mixed with it, but thick or thin, you get all the cream when you use a Lily cream separator.

The bowl is not the only good Lily feature. The McCormick local agent, who sells Lily cream separators, will show you how every other feature is worked out just as carefully. See him or write us at the nearest branch house.

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WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS PLEASE MENTION THE GUIDE

Raising Ducks and Geese

Given proper conditions and care, ducks and geese can be profitably raised

By M. C. Herner

Professor of Poultry Husbandry, Manitoba Agricultural College

While this Western country is admirably adapted for raising ducks and geese, still it is questionable whether we should urge very much heavier production than we have at the present time. If we have seasons like the one just past, when other poultry was scarce, then there will be a heavy demand for this class of poultry. In ordinary seasons the demand for ducks at least is very moderate. With geese it is somewhat different in that we have a very good demand for them almost every year. The past season, especially, the demand for geese was very good indeed. The Jewish trade requires annually an enormous amount of geese and good prices can always be obtained for them just prior to the Jewish holidays. This trade is more or less permanent and does not fluctuate from year to year so much as the demand for ducks.



PROFESSOR HERNER

Any farmer or poultryman who goes in for this class of poultry on a large scale must depend largely on creating a demand for his dressed products. The general consuming public have to be educated to eating these products. Everybody eats chicken, but this is not the case with ducks or geese. What is probably the largest duck plant in the world today started on a small scale about thirty-five years ago with two settings of eggs. In working up a trade for their dressed product this firm always received trial orders first. Usually this order was doubled the following week and in this way this immense duck plant worked up from its small start to its present enormous proportions. To-day this plant represents an annual output of over 50,000 ducks alone not to mention the thousands of baby ducks sold every season. Eight years ago, while the writer was working on this plant, the baby duck business was just commencing and to-day it is one of the big ends of the business. The soil conditions on this plant, both as to drainage and character of soil, are almost identical to those of the average Western prairie farm. The land was low, poorly drained. There was an abundance of green food available at all times.

In going in for this class of poultry our farmers must guard against overdoing it the first few years. A small output the first season followed by increasing this each year, providing it pays, is the right basis on which to work. The majority of people who now keep ducks claim they

are eating their heads off or eat more than they are worth, which may be quite true under their system of handling them. Either ducks or geese should not require more grain to make a pound of increase than do chickens, and if they do the system is wrong. The secret of rearing ducks or geese at a profit lies in feeding them feeds that make them grow fast so as to get them off your hands as quickly as possible. Ducks should be sold at 8 to 12 weeks of age and should weigh at that time 8 to 12 pounds per pair. If allowed free range and water to swim in this class of poultry will make poor gains.

In rearing ducks under farm conditions they should be separated from the rest of the poultry. Their habits are different, and feed and water is soon soiled and contaminated. If sufficient ducks are kept the eggs can be hatched with an incubator quite as well as hens' eggs. They require more moisture and less cooling than hens' eggs. The same is true with goose eggs. A good plan is to swab the eggs once a day with warm water. Take an ordinary whitewash brush and dip it into the warm water and then swab the eggs with the dripping brush. Doing this once a day seems to supply the proper amount of moisture required to hatch the eggs to best advantage. This practice is followed with both moisture and non-moisture incubators. The temperature of the incubator should be the same as for hens' eggs. In hatching with hens set only as many eggs

under a hen as she can comfortably cover. Personally, I prefer to let the goose hatch her own eggs, although a hen will also hatch them. To get fertile eggs, mate one drake to from five to seven ducks. If there are too many drakes they will be continually fighting. In such cases remove some of them until there is no more fighting. Geese usually mate in pairs or one male to two or some times even three or four females.

The first feed should consist of a soft mash made out of equal parts of bran, shorts and fine oat chop with the hulls sifted out. Mix this with milk, sweet or sour, to make a nice crumbly mash. Avoid wet or sloppy mashes. If corn meal is available, one part of this should be added. Five per cent. of beef scrap may be added if milk is not available. Boiled meat finely chopped and mixed with the mash is also good. Little ducks must have meal food of some kind. Lettuce leaves, sprouted oats or some other green food cut up fine should also be fed. This mash should be fed four or five times a day for a week or ten days and after that three times a day. Good clean water or milk should be given to drink, but allow no water to swim in. It is best to yard little ducks or make some fair sized enclosure, large enough to give them plenty of exercise. As they grow bigger increase the size of it, but never allow them free range. At about three weeks of age the mash should be changed a little, and if corn chop and beef scrap are used, increase these two to



A farm flock of geese quite close the average.

double the quantity. If the oat chop is used increase this to two parts. Also add fine cut soft green clover, alfalfa, oats, wheat or corn to make about half the bulk of the mash.

Fill Up on Soft Green Foods

This is the secret of successful duck fattening, to fill them up with soft green bulky food with sufficient of the fattening foods added to make good gains. Get a duck to sit down and keep quiet and it will make good gains, but allow it to go where it likes, to eat what it likes and then give two feeds a day besides and you will find that it does eat more