

Government of the Province of Saskatchewan

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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# Suggestions for Poultry Keepers

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## FATTENING CHICKENS

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There is unlimited scope for the furtherance of the poultry industry in Saskatchewan.

It is an undoubted fact if we are to expect a reasonable margin of profit in poultry keeping, the safest course is to combine the fattening or fleshing of the chickens with the business of egg producing, in other words, the "utility purpose fowl" can be made a paying proposition.

As a rule, the farmer who appreciates a well cooked, well served and tender chicken on his own table is also the man who knows just exactly what kind of bird is required for the public and it will pay him to exercise that same care in preparing the birds for market.

### *Fattening the Chickens.*

The simplest way to fatten chickens is to place them in a crate made for the purpose. A crate 6 feet long, 14 inches wide and 20 inches high is divided into three compartments and four birds are confined in each. All slats are placed lengthwise of the frame except those on the front which are placed upright and two inches apart to enable the chickens to feed from a trough placed in front of the crate. When the cockerels are placed in the crate they should be thoroughly dusted with a good insect powder.

(Plan and detailed description of a fattening crate can be had on application to the department.)

### *The Feeding Rations.*

To be confined to the limited area of a crate is quite a change from having the run of a farm. For the first week therefore the birds must not be overfed, and it is advisable to administer half rations at the outset, increasing the quantity till the birds consume all that is placed in front of them without showing signs of sickness.