

# Produce Much More Poultry Products

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There never was a time when egg production and increased egg production was as necessary as at present. The demand was never as good, and prospects indicate that this demand will continue for some time to come. With the scarcity of meat, Canadians are eating more eggs and Great Britain needs all the eggs that we can supply. Therefore, as a business proposition, increased production of poultry products should appeal to more than usual.

For two years Canada has been producing a surplus. During the calendar year 1915, 7,151,031 dozens of eggs, valued at \$2,037,294, were shipped to Great Britain. In 1916 the amount exported was 5,491,958 dozens with a value of \$1,892,843, and there is no reason why the surplus for 1917 should not be from five to ten times what it was in 1916. In normal times Great Britain eats a million eggs a day; she would probably eat more now if she could get them. Canadian eggs are at a premium in England; the prices paid for them have been several cents a dozen higher than that paid for eggs from some other countries.

Canada should be able to supply a great many more than she has done. Canadian eggs are good eggs, but we want more of them. We have the climate, we have the feed, and though labour for other lines of work is scarce there is plenty of labour suitable for poultry-keeping

for those who are comparatively old or the younger members of the family are quite satisfactory for this line of production.

## Mating and Breeding

It is the early hatched pullets that make the best winter layers, and it is the winter layers that give the best returns; therefore, the breeding pen should be mated as soon after the first of February as circumstances will permit.

Hatch as many chicks in March and April as possible, so that you will not have to depend on late pullets for your next winter layers.

**Breeding females.**—Yearling hens make the best breeders. These should not be forced for heavy production through the winter, but should be kept active. If possible, allow them the run of a sheltered barnyard. Keep them not too fat, but in good vigorous condition. If there are not enough yearlings, early-hatched well-matured pullets may be used.

**Selecting the breeding females.**—Breed from those that were the best layers as pullets. When the pullets are put into their winter quarters in the fall they should all be carefully banded, trap-nested, and records kept of their laying for the four winter months, that is, November, December, January, and February. It is from the pullets that lay best during that period that the breeders should be selected, as experience has shown that

these are the birds that will make the best yearly records and will return the greatest profits. If it is not possible to trap-nest, note should be made of the time of starting to lay of each pullet, and those that show early maturity used.

The birds that pass the test of early maturity and the trap-nest should be carefully examined for vigour, and only those that are in perfect health and of fair size for the breed of which they are representatives should be reserved for breeders.

**The breeding males.**—The first requisite in a breeding male is that he should have the proper breeding back of him. He should be the son of a heavy winter-laying hen and his sisters should also have shown their ability to lay well in winter.

Besides this he should be carefully selected for vigor. He should be of good size, with a head broad between the eyes and well filled in in front, ending in a stout well-curved beak. He should have a bright, piercing eye, and should stand on legs that are straight, not too long, and that are set wide apart, with no inclination to knock knees. If there is a line of red pigment down the outside of the shanks all the better. With males and females such as described, the results should be satisfactory provided they are housed and fed properly.

**Age of males.**—A well-matured vigor-

ous cockerel is usually best. He gives better fertility than an older bird. More hens can be mated to a cockerel than to a cock bird. He should be well grown and matured.

**Number of females.**—From ten to twenty-five females, depending on breed and condition. Heavy breeds, fewer; lighter breeds, more. The more free range and exercise the more females.

**Time of mating.**—An egg laid two days after actual mating takes place will be fertile, but to be on the safe side it is advisable to put the male in the breeding pen about ten days before eggs are wanted for incubation. Use some selection, trap-nest if possible, and hatch early.

## INCUBATING AND BROODING

### INCUBATION

**Incubator or hens, which?**—It all depends how many chicks you want and whether they are wanted at the one time or not. One hundred chicks or less scattered through the season will be just as well hatched under hens. If more than one hundred, the incubator is the better proposition.

**How to buy an incubator.**—In buying an incubator buy a good standard make and pay a fair price. The first price of a good incubator is nothing compared with the cost of keeping a poor one supplied with eggs.

**Get the incubator ready.**—Don't wait until you are ready to set the eggs before you think of looking at the incubator. See that it is perfectly cleaned, disinfected, have all repairs ready and get a new burner. Run it several days before you put any eggs inside.

**Where to place the incubator.**—A moist, well-ventilated basement is best. Earth or cement floor is better than board. A room in the house may do, but more moisture will be required.

**Prepare proper sitting nests.**—Trouble and annoyance with broody hens will be overcome by providing suitable nests. These nests may be built in sections large enough to hold three sitting hens. Set that many hens at once.

**Put sitting hens by themselves.**—Don't allow the sitters in the same compartment as the other hens. Put the sitting boxes in a place by themselves, if it is only a box stall in the stable. On the floor keep water, feed, and a dust bath, allowing the hens out once a day for a few minutes.

**Select good eggs.**—Use no eggs that are abnormal in shape or size. Discard eggs that have rough shells or that have wrinkles in the shell; also those that are long and thin, or extremely round.

**Don't chill the eggs.**—The fertility of many eggs is spoiled because of being chilled. The strongest will be spoiled if eggs are left in freezing temperature for many minutes. Don't leave them in the nests to chill or standing around in a cold room after you have gathered them.

**Test all eggs.**—Whether eggs are under hens or in an incubator, test the eggs for fertility on the seventh or eighth day. White-shelled eggs can be tested on the fourth or fifth day.

### BROODING

**Artificial or natural.**—As a rule the kind of incubation determines the nature of the brooding. No matter what kind of brooding is adopted, bear in mind that the brooding is even more important than the incubation in that in the brooding so many losses occur.

**Artificial brooding.**—Have plenty of brooding space. Do not crowd the brooders. Fifty chicks is plenty in the small brooders on the market. Indoor brooders give better results than outdoor brooders. Make sure brooders are clean. Clean and disinfect after every brood. Keep the heat at 95 to 100 degrees. Heat, cleanliness and fresh air are three important factors in artificial brooding.

**Natural Brooding.**—Provide broody coops for the hens with the chicks. Put them in a sheltered and convenient place. Change the coop to new ground every day. Have the coop large enough so that when the chicks are weaned, they can make the coop their own during the rearing period.

### Feeding

No set rule can be laid down for feeding, feeds and conditions vary so. The following suggestions are given and may be adopted or altered to suit:—

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## We Want All the Cream

## You Can Produce

We have more than doubled the capacity of our plant for handling cream and cream products, and while we have a great many more farmers supplying us with cream and milk, our customers are increasing far more rapidly than the supply. It does not pay you to churn at home when you can get an all-the year-round market for your cream at such prices as we are paying.

We have made it our aim since entering the milk business to deal fairly and honestly with our producers in the country, and our customers in the city and in outlying towns. We have at all times paid the farmers the highest price compatible with a living profit, and have kept up the standard of the ice cream, milk, cream, and butter sold by us, by a rigid adherence to absolute purity in our products, and the utmost cleanliness in handling them, and we are more than satisfied by the manner in which both producers and consumers have supported us, but our increasing business makes it imperative that we should have more cream.

We are paying the following prices for Cream until further notice:

**40 to 45 Cents Per Pound Butter Fat**

ACCORDING TO QUALITY

# THE SCOTT DAIRY

CORNER SIXTEENTH ST. AND AVENUE I.