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## Common Poultry Diseases

Continued from Page 17

cleanliness in all your poultry work if you wish to overcome the disease. Turkeys are subject to this disease as well as hens.

### Black Head in Turkeys

Blackhead in turkeys and little chickens is another disease which is annually killing off a goodly number. Some people confuse ordinary roup with blackhead, thinking because the head is affected it must be blackhead. The symptoms of blackhead are entirely different. The first indications are dullness, inaction, drooping wings, head drawn back into the shoulders, later, looseness of the bowels will be noticed. At a first glance the diseased turkey would appear to be lousy, but a closer examination with no lice being found is a good indication that blackhead is present. Usually the disease may linger on from a few days in young stock to a month or two in old stock. After death the head turns a bluish color, from whence the disease derives its name. On cutting open the carcass there will be large ulcerated areas over the entire liver, and the appendix will also be badly swollen and full of gas.

The prevention consists of removing all diseased birds, and, if possible, move all the turkeys to new ground, which never had any turkeys on it before. Feed no food on the ground for the germs live in the soil from year to year, and food taken off the ground may have these germs adhering to it, and being taken in this way into the system the disease may soon develop. Also arrange the feed troughs so that the birds cannot get on the food with their feet and soil it and carry the germ in this way. Sprinkle air slaked lime on the ground and cultivate and crop it for a few years, raising the turkeys as far away from the affected area as possible. In wet seasons the disease is always more common than in dry, as the conditions for its growth are more favorable. Lack of sunshine and plenty of moisture favor the rapid growth and virulence of this germ. As an additional prevention put a few drops of muriatic acid in the drinking water. Apart from this but little can be done in the way of preventing the disease. In the eastern provinces a good many farmers had to stop raising turkeys altogether on account of it. But proper precautions from the day the poults are put out until they are able to look after themselves will go a long way towards preventing the disease. Inbreeding closely, helps to provide suitable specimens for the subsequent invasion of these disease germs. Strong, healthy and vigorous stock is generally able to throw off these germs. The weaklings are usually the ones first attacked. By following the proper method of selection and breeding year after year a flock of almost black-head-proof quality can be built up.

### Scaly Leg

Scaly leg is another common affection of the farm flock. This is due to a small insect burrowing underneath the scales on the legs. This causes the scales to heave up and the exudate causes the roughness. It occurs most frequently in stock running in rubbish. Apply hot or warm water to soften the scales, then apply a salve made with lard and coal oil. Powdered sulphur may also be added to this. Repeat the application once a week until the legs become normal.

Cholera, altho not very common, when once it breaks out in a flock will cause greater havoc in a short time than any other poultry disease. It seldom occurs unless the conditions under which the poultry is kept are absolutely filthy. Barnyard seepage is one of the common causes of it. The affected birds become dull, inactive, crops distended, thirsty, are affected with diarrhoea, the excrement being of a yellowish nature. Death ensues in the course of a few days. On making a post mortem examination the liver will be found to be greatly enlarged and filled with dark blood, the intestines are inflamed and discolored and the ducts leading away from the kidneys are filled with greenish yellow matter. Any fowls dying from this disease should be

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