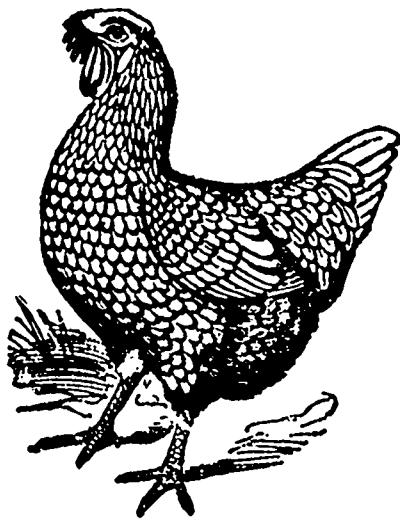


The Poultry Yard.

BLUE ANDALUSIANS.

The Andalusian is one of the prettiest of the feathered race, having beautiful shingled light and dark plumage. It is called the Blue Andalusian, and



ANDALUSIAN HEN.

is the only variety of its class. They are non layers and splendid layers of large white eggs, averaging in size with those of the Minorca.

Hackle and saddle feathers are dark blue, approaching black; breast, a lighter shade of blue, each feather having a well-defined lacing of a darker shade; body and fluff, similar in color to breast, but somewhat darker, primaries, light blue; secondaries and wing coverts, dark blue; wingbows, dark blue, approaching black; tail and sickle feathers dark blue, approaching black.—[Fancier, California.]

LICE ON YOUNG CHICKENS.

W. L. B. writes: When my chicks are first hatched they seem all right. Then they begin to droop and in a day or two have a diarrhea, grow light and a few days later die. I feed corn meal and bread seasoned with a little black pepper. Those that live to be a month old are all right. Judging from the symptoms given, lice are killing your chicks. Doubtless you will declare that there are no lice on them, but if you will look closely under the wings, legs and about the neck you will see dozens, probably hundreds of the pests.

Dust the chickens and their mothers thoroughly with insect powder and put them in new coops made from barrels or store boxes. Place the coops where you have had no chickens before, at a good distance from the old buildings and on grass land if possible. Repeat the dusting in three days and again in a week. Hold the birds up by one leg and blow the powder well in among the feathers and down, so as to be sure it reaches the pests and destroys them. Feed bread made of three parts corn meal and one part middlings. A teaspoonful of bone meal stirred into each quart of this mixture is very beneficial. Mix and bake it as well as though you expected to eat it yourself, using sour milk, soda and a little salt. Bake so it crumbles well. Give three times daily only what they will eat up clean. Feed on clean boards and provide plenty of grit.

KEEP YOUNG DUCKS DRY.

It may seem hardly sensible to say that ducks must be kept dry. In the face of the oft-repeated saying when it rains, "It's good weather for ducks," but at the expense of about 60 pure bred young Pekins last summer I know whereof I speak.

It was a rainy season and although my ducks were under coops every night, and shut in when it actually rained, the ground was wet and I lost them right along. I put the blame on a dozen common young puddle ducks who enticed them long distances from home every day, but since I have learned it was the wet, damp ground where they were housed at night which caused so many of them to be found in the coops every morning dead. I tried shutting them in the yards, but it made

no difference, they died just the same. After they were feathered out it did not affect them, but until that stage I believe it is absolutely necessary to keep them in a dry place, especially at night. [Magdalene Merritt, N. Y.]

FARM TURKEY RAISING.

When the turkey hen is in a good sitting mood, give her 17 eggs; at same time set two chickens on 11 eggs each. When the hatch is off, give all turkeys to the turkey hen.

Feed the young turkeys on curd, often mixing black pepper in it. Feed three times a day all they will eat. Do not give raw corn meal; if fed at all, bake into corn bread. Screenings is a poor food, as it contains many wild seeds, causing diarrhea, killing them in 24 hours. That is the one thing to guard against and the greatest difficulty in raising turkeys. When feeding only curd as the principal food, you overcome that trouble.

I find by keeping the young turkeys in a pen 10x10 ft and 12 in high for a few days it gives them strength and they can follow the hen. You cannot shut turkeys up in a coop or yard, as they will die if confined. After 4 or 5 days old, let them go, see that they come home every night, which they will do if fed morning and evening. For breeding purposes, select hens not less than 3 yrs old, toms from two to three, of the Ky Bronze variety.—[May C. Suydam, Henry Co., O.]

At Hatching Time, chickens should never be set free from their shells in a hurry, because it is necessary for their well-being that they should have taken in all the yolk, which serves them as food for 24 hours after they see the light. No apprehension need be felt if they do not eat during that period, if they seem quite strong upon their feet and their down spreads out and dries properly.—[Thomas F. Sullivan, Stratford Co., N. H.]

Safe Trough for Chicks—The cut shows a drinking trough for chickens I have found to be just the thing needed. There is a wooden box 18 in long and 4 in wide. It should be about 2 in deep on the inside. The cover is a board 1 in thick, with 4 or 5 1/4-in holes bored through it. Make the cover a little smaller than the box, so it will go easily inside. Fill box half full of water and allow board to float on top. The board will support the weight of the chick and the water will rise about half way through the holes. Using this, the chicks will not get wet.—[M. T. Haxton, Bradford Co., Pa.]

To Break Up Sitters, I keep them in close confinement a few days, giving them all they can eat and drink. It is the most humane method.—[C. H. Everett, Steuben Co., N. Y.]

Plant Mangels for Chickens—The yield of this beet, according to the amount of ground taken up by it and the time and expense of cultivating is immense. It is little trouble to harvest and easy to keep in the winter, either in pits or in the cellar. If it is desirable to feed raw, the chickens will enjoy picking out the inside. If the beet is split from crown to root. If cooked, it can be cut or chopped and mixed with the other steamed or cooked food. [J. L. Irwin, Nemaha Co., Kan.]

The Effect of Meat Rations was tested at W Va exper sta, where one pen of fowls received a ration largely of corn and other starchy grains, while another pen was fed partly on meat and fresh bone. The meat-fed fowls laid 7555 eggs, while the grain-fed birds laid 3431, or less than one-half as many as those receiving the nitrogenous ration. The eggs from the meat-fed fowls were larger, much firmer, rather better and produced far more vigorous chickens than those of the others. Both lots of fowls remained in a healthy, vigorous condition.

Sick Fowls—R. C. J.: The white and greenish droppings are a symptom of bowel disease. Give 2 dr homeopathic iodide arsenic, with 2 lbs of meal or soft feed.—H. R. M.: Your fowls have probably been fed too much green bone

or animal food, which has been kept too long, causing bowel disease.—Mrs R. G.: For the disease of plp, causing clogged nostrils and a slight cough, give six pellets spongia daily.—N. K. G.: Your drooping and stunted chicks are probably troubled with lice. Dust with fresh insect powder.—J. B. S.: The watery eggs are caused by too much animal food or too close confinement.—Mrs G. R.: Bark nests and plenty of china nest eggs are the best cure for egg eating. If only one or two have the habit, better kill them.—Subscriber: The fowls with bowel disorder should have granulated charcoal and be fed on boiled rice for a few days.

In Summer when the thermometer goes up, the egg record is likely to go down. Many breeders have devoted too much attention to providing against winter cold and have houses which are almost worthless in summer. Some such houses can be made suitable by removing all the glass, taking off the doors, etc. For the growing chicks it will pay to make houses with slat fronts as light and airy as possible.

Scratching Sheds can be adapted to the summer by changing roosts from house to shed, thus providing a nice airy place at night. Fowls require more air in proportion to their size than human beings.

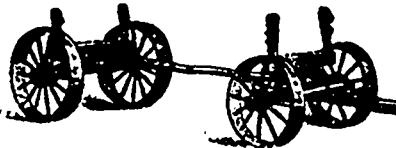
A Vigorous Old Hen—The common plan of disposing of all hens after they have passed their second season because of that theoretical nonsense that claims that hens have but a limited number of eggs to lay during their lifetime, is partially disproved by the fact that a Black Spanish hen 4 yrs old laid more eggs from Feb to Dec last year than any other hen in the yard.—[O. D. Shock, Berks Co., Pa.]

Bug Death is the name of an insecticide giving general satisfaction for the destruction of many kinds of garden, fruit and house plant pests. It is thoroughly safe to use, containing no arsenic, is applied dry and no water carrying is necessary for its application. It is economical, low in price, and preferred by many to paris green. For particulars by circular or sample, write to the Danforth Chemical Co., 41 Spruce street, Leominster, Mass., and please mention F & H when doing so.

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