UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

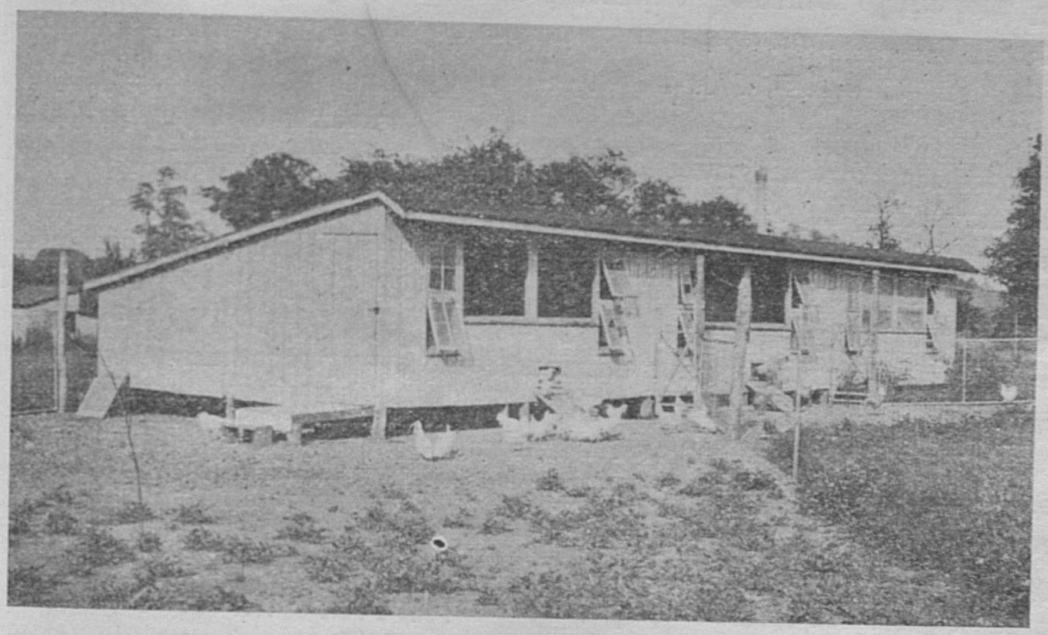
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Extension Division

THOMAS P. COOPER, Dean and Director
LEXINGTON, KY.

CIRCULAR NO. 175

POULTRY CALENDAR



A laying house for 300 hens.

This calendar starts with November because that is the month when all yearly poultry records start. It is furnished to anyone who agrees to co-operate with the College of Agriculture by keeping poultry records. These records involve: (1) A daily record of the egg production. (2) Counting of all females (both hens and pullets) October 31st or November 1st. (3) Recording the number of hens taken from the flock by sales, deaths, etc. (Sick, broody and setting hens must be counted with the laying flock.)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This calendar is furnished you with the hope that you will keep records on the enclosed forms, thruout the coming year, and thus determine for yourself just what the poultry flock is doing in the way of producing revenue on the farm.

2. If there is a county agricultural agent in your county, do not fail to see him and talk with him relative to your poultry flock. In event you have no county agent, write to the Poultry Section, College of Agriculture, Lexington, Kentucky, for help with your poultry problems.

3. If you desire to enter your flock in the Winter Egg Laying Project, which is conducted in most counties where there is a county agent, ask your agent for five "Winter Egg Laying Project Record Cards" on which to report the egg production of your flock from November thru March. He will supply you with these cards which are ruled in suitable form to report the daily production of your flock.

4. In event you enroll in the Winter Egg Laying Project, fill out one of these cards at the end of each month and mail it promptly to the county agent. All monthly reports must be in his hands by the tenth of the succeeding month, to be included in his report for the county.

Published in connection with the agricultural extension work carried on by cooperation of the College of Agriculture, University of Kentucky, with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and distributed in furtherance of the work provided for in the Act of Congress of May 8, 1914.

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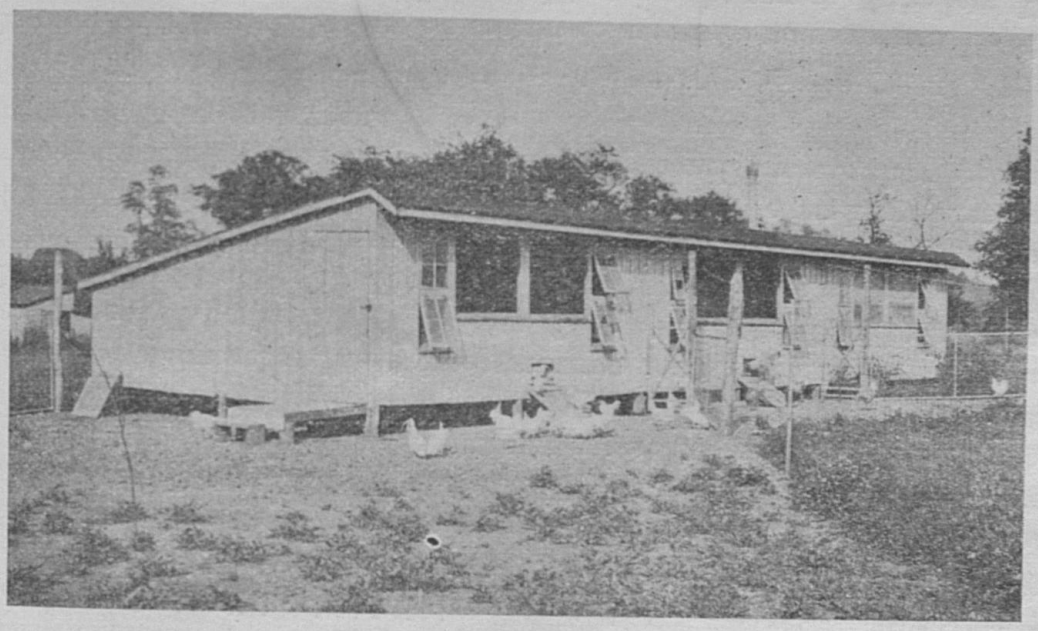

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RECORD KEEPING

Poultry raising is one of the important farm enterprises on many farms in Kentucky. A poultry flock is found on practically every farm, but in numerous cases it is a neglected side line and is given little attention. Whether the flock is kept as one of the chief sources of the farm income and is of good size, or is kept chiefly to supply the farm family with eggs and poultry meat and consequenly small in size, it is important that accurate records be kept, so that the factors influencing the profit of the flock may be studied. Most successful business men keep complete records of their transactions. Such records enable them to figure up at the end of the year, plan their next year's work and eliminate those phases of the business where no profit was made. Accurate records have many times been the real cause of a business house dropping out some line of merchandise or reorganizing some department to make it more efficient. If business men all over the country need to keep records, poultrymen should also. Probably not as complete a set of books need be kept, but at least records from which one can tell whether or not the year's work has netted a profit. Many poultry keepers do not even know how many hens they are feeding and very few know how much income they get from their poultry flocks each year.

Record keeping may show that the poultry flock is not profitable. If this is the case, study carefully the six essential factors in management listed on the last page of this calendar and try to determine the causes of the loss. With this information one can plan in the future to eliminate these leaks.

NOVEMBER, 192.....

Date	No. Eggs	Receipts	Expend-itures
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Hens first day..... Last day.....

SUGGESTIONS FOR NOVEMBER

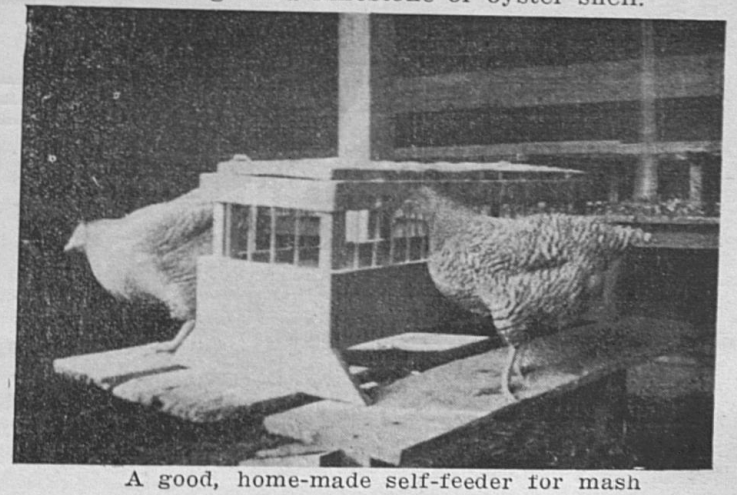
Housing.—Fowls must be well housed, if they are to produce many winter eggs. All hens and pullets should be in the laying house by November first as the cool nights will cause roup if they roost out of doors. A good poultry house is not necessarily an expensive one. It should afford light, ventilation without drafts, ample room and have a clean, dry floor. A dropping board under the roost poles will keep the floor clean and give more scratching space for the hens.

Many poultry houses can be remodeled at a small cost to embrace these essentials by following the suggestions given in Circular No. 107, which may be obtained by writing the Extension Division, College of Agriculture, Lexington, Kentucky.

Extension Circular No. 111 contains a list of blue print plans supplied by the College of Agriculture to the farmers of the State at cost. Blueprints of any plan listed in either Circular No. 107 or No. 111 may be secured at ten cents per copy by writing the Section of Agricultural Engineering of the College of Agriculture.

The poultry house should be the home of the hen. Money invested in a suitable poultry house will pay good dividends, not only in increasing production but in reducing losses from disease. Many outbreaks of poultry diseases are due to insanitary housing conditions. Put the poultry house in good condition before the cold winter nights are here.

Interior Equipment.—A self feeder in the poultry house is one of the most important pieces of equipment. If mash is fed, ample room should be permitted, so that the birds will not crowd around the feeder. Extra troughs are frequently of considerable value in stimulating mash consumption and assuring all birds getting an adequate supply. Either ground limestone or oyster shell should be available at all times to aid in the production of egg shells. Grit should also be supplied. Any material soft enough to be readily soluble in the gizzard of the hen and furnishing a supply of shell forming material would be of little value as grit for the grinding of feed. Some hard gritty material such as small chunks of quartz, granite or pebbles should be supplied in addition to the ground limestone or oyster shell.



A good, home-made self-feeder for mash

DECEMBER, 192.....

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Total		$	$

Hens first day..... Last day.....

SUGGESTIONS FOR DECEMBER

Winter eggs are one of the best sources of profit from the poultry flock. Immature pullets and old hens can not be counted on for high egg production during November, December and January. Only well matured pullets will lay heavily during these months. In order for birds to lay at this time of the year, a well balanced ration is necessary.

Feeding Milk.—If skimmilk or buttermilk is available it may be fed to balance up the grain mixture. A gallon of milk a day is sufficient for twenty-five hens of the general-purpose breed or thirty Leghorns. They should be made to consume this amount in event no other form of animal protein is fed. If they do not consume this much, confine them to the house during the morning with nothing accessible but the milk and a small amount of scratch feed. Omit water when feeding this amount of milk. If only a small supply of milk is available, such as a gallon a day for fifty or more birds, a dry mash containing at least 10 per cent of tankage, or meat scrap, should be given.

In event no milk is available, a dry mash containing some animal protein feed is absolutely necessary to secure high egg production.

Mash Feeding.—In order for the hen to produce a large number of eggs, she must be given feeds containing the materials that make up the egg. These materials are furnished in the proper proportions in the following rations. Use the dry mash and grain mixture that is most economical for you.

Dry Mash Mixtures

	No. 1 Lbs.	No. 2 Lbs.	No. 3 Lbs.
Bran	100	150	100
Shorts	100	150	100
Corn meal	100	100	200
Tankage	100	100	100
Ground oats	100		
Total	500	500	500

Mixtures No. 1 and No. 2 are best adapted for Plymouth Rocks and other general purpose breeds, while mixture No. 3 is advisable for Leghorns.

Grain Mixture (Scratch Feed)

	No. 1 Lbs.	No. 2 Lbs.	No. 3 Lbs.
Corn	200	200	200
Oats	100	100	
Wheat		100	100

Feed 12 to 15 pounds (8½ to 9 quarts) of the grain mixture per 100 hens per day, November thru March; 7 to 10 lbs. (5 to 7 quarts) grain per 100 hens thru spring and summer. Keep the dry mash always available in a self-feeder. Feed ⅓ of the grain mixture in morning, ⅔ in evening, in a deep straw litter. Have plenty of fresh water, grit, green feed and oyster shell or ground limestone available at all times. Ground limestone is usually much cheaper than oyster shell, and if relatively low in magnesium content, quite as efficient as a source of shell forming material.

JANUARY, 192.....

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Total		$	$

Hens first day..... Last day.....

SUGGESTIONS FOR JANUARY

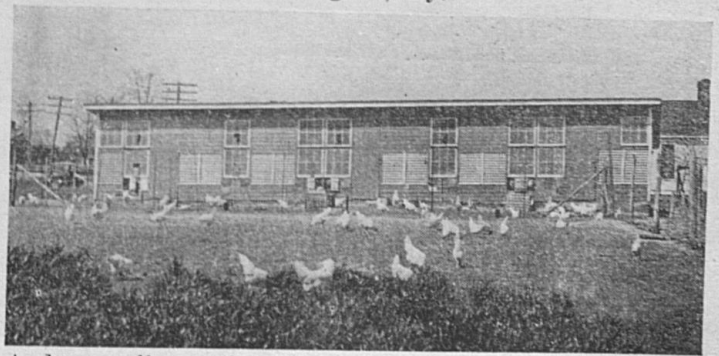
Roup, Chicken-Pox and Canker.—At this time of year, many cases of roup, chicken-pox and canker appear. These three diseases are closely associated and may or may not be caused by the same organism. Chicken-pox may be identified by warty scales on the comb and wattles. Roup starts with a discharge from the nostrils and eyes. It may later develop as a swelling of the eye or face of the bird. Canker is a whitish growth that appears in the mouth and throat of the birds and if it spreads to the windpipe it often is the cause of the bird's death.

These diseases are usually the result of damp, poorly ventilated houses, drafts or overcrowding. Many serious outbreaks have been caused by pullets, that contracted colds while on range, being transferred to the laying house. This trouble can be eliminated by using larger, better ventilated colony houses and by transferring the pullets to the laying house before colds develop. If a few cases have developed, isolate these birds until they are completely cured; or, if they cannot be cured, kill them and bury or burn the carcasses.

These diseases are contagious and spread rapidly by means of the drinking water and feed. As soon as you see the first case in the flock, isolate the sick bird and put copper sulfate (blue vitriol) into the drinking water of the entire flock. It should be used at the rate of one ounce to ten gallons of water. It is best to dissolve the copper sulfate in a quart of hot water and add this solution to water enough to make up ten gallons of the medicated water. It is advisable to continue its use for a week, omit it for a week, and then repeat if the trouble has not been checked.

For individual treatment, clean the nostrils thoroly, and dip the head into the copper sulfate solution made twice the strength recommended for use in the water for drinking as a preventative. Stock dips the same strength as recommended under "Suggestions for May" can also be used as a dip for the bird's head. If chicken-pox scabs are on the comb or the white cankers in the mouth, scrape them off, paint the surface with tincture of iodine, and cover with vaseline.

A vaccine has been used for these diseases with fairly good results. For further information concerning its use write the Veterinary Department, Experiment Station, Lexington, Ky.



A dry, well ventilated house prevents roup and colds.

FEBRUARY, 192.....

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Hens first day..... Last day.....

SUGGESTIONS FOR FEBRUARY

Hatch Early.—Early hatched pullets are the ones that lay most of the early winter eggs. Now is the time to start your plans to raise some early pullets for next winter. For the general-purpose breeds, March is the best month for hatching, while for Leghorns, April is best. If you have an incubator it should be examined carefully and cleaned up and any needed parts ordered. Be sure that the thermometer is registering accurately. Many hatches are spoiled because of poor thermometers. They should be tested by placing two or more thermometers in warm water (between 95° F. and 105° F.) and noting the reading on each. If they all register the same it is almost safe to say that they are correct. If not, a further test should be made. Checking with a clinical thermometer, as used by doctors, is the best way. If you haven't an incubator, plan on getting one right away. Don't wait until you are ready to set the eggs before ordering an incubator. In buying an incubator, get one that is well made, with ample ventilation, and made by a dependable company. It should then be run according to the manufacturer's directions.

The coal-burning colony brooder, when run in a colony house, is the most satisfactory brooder for raising incubator chicks. One brooder stove will brood 250 to 300 chicks and it is no more trouble to take care of than one hen and chicks. If interested in building a colony brooder house, write for Extension Circular 157.

Producing Good Hatching Eggs.—To get early hatched chicks, hatching eggs must be produced early in the season. Many poultrymen have difficulty in getting a reasonable percentage of fertility and hatchability, especially with January and February eggs. Much of this trouble can be avoided if the breeders are supplied with an ample amount of green feed. Of the various green feeds, sprouted oats is probably the best adapted for use in Kentucky. Five pounds of dry oats should be sprouted daily for each 100 birds. Best results are secured when sprouted until the sprout is about one-quarter to one-half inch long. This takes from five to six days. Silage, cabbage, and alfalfa or clover leaves (hay) are satisfactory to use as a green feed. If a field of rye is near the poultry house and the breeding hens are given free range, it may not be necessary to give additional green feed. Be sure to give the breeders plenty of limestone or oyster shell.

Gather hatching eggs often and store in a cool place (50° to 60° F). A little extra attention given the breeding hens and the hatching eggs will greatly increase the number of chicks from the early hatches.

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Hens first day..... Last day.....

SUGGESTIONS FOR MARCH

Brooding.—If a colony brooder is used, care should be taken that the chicks do not become chilled. The room in which the brooder stove is kept should be sufficiently warm to keep the chicks comfortable without their going under the hover. Plenty of ventilation in the brooder house is also necessary. The brooder temperature should be 98° F. to 100° F. at the start and gradually decreased each week, running about 95° F. the second week and 85-90° the third week. However, the behavior of the chicks is a better guide as to the heat requirements than a thermometer. At night, the chicks should hover in a uniform circle just at the outer edge of the metal canopy. During the day they should be comfortable in all parts of the brooder house. Watch the chicks closely and they will tell you if the heat isn't correct. Don't overcrowd chicks under the brooder. The chicks should be turned out in the sunshine as soon as they are about a week old; however, do not let them out in the morning until the dew is off the grass.

If the weather is such that the chicks cannot be let out, it is advisable to use cod-liver oil or raw eggs in the ration (infertile eggs from the incubator are satisfactory). If cod-liver oil is used, add two pounds of the oil to a small portion of mash and then mix this mash with the remainder of the hundred pounds. If raw eggs are fed, mix three per day with the mash for each one hundred chicks. This is recommended as a preventive of leg weakness which very often occurs with early chicks that are confined to the brooder house. Plenty of milk and green feed will also help to prevent this trouble.

Free range and fresh water are essential for good growth.

APRIL, 192.....

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Hens first day..... Last day.....

SUGGESTIONS FOR APRIL

Feeding Chicks.—There are many successful methods of feeding chicks. If your method has been satisfactory, it is the one for you to use; if not, the following suggestions may help you.

There are two generally recommended methods of chick feeding and there are many who use each successfully. These methods differ only in the first week, one method recommending mash and milk the first week and the other grain and milk. Both methods start the second week using both grain and mash and continuing to give all the milk the chicks will consume. Either of these methods will prove satisfactory if the following feeding principles are followed:

1. Don't feed chicks until they are 48 to 72 hours old.
2. Don't overfeed chicks the first two weeks.
3. Feed some form of milk at all times if possible.
4. Don't feed a wet mash.
5. If the chicks must be confined to the house, supply cod-liver oil or raw eggs and green feed.

A Feeding Schedule:

First Week.—The first feed should consist of sour skimmilk or buttermilk. Dip the beaks of a few chicks into the milk to insure this being the first feed they get. After the first feed, chick grain or mash should be given in addition to the milk. If the chicks are to be started on grain, feed the grain mixture five times each day but give only the amount that the chicks will eat in fifteen minutes. A good plan is to feed the grain on paper plates or pieces of cardboard. Remove these after the chicks have eaten for fifteen minutes. Any good commercial chick grain may be used or a homemade mixture of equal parts of cracked corn and cracked wheat. Steel-cut oats may also be added to this mixture if available. If mash is used, it can be kept before the chicks in hoppers or pans. A good commercial mash or one of the following homemade mixtures may be used:

Chick Mashes

	No. 1 Lbs.	No. 2 Lbs.	No. 3 Lbs.
Bran	20	25	25
Shorts	20	25	
Corn meal	20	25	25
*Meat scraps	10	10	10
Bone meal	4	5	4
Charcoal	1½	2	1
Dried buttermilk		10	

*Sifted or reground.

Second Week.—Continue keeping the mash and milk before the chicks and give chick grain. Feed the grain mixture three times per day.

Third to Twelfth Week.—Continue grain as in second week and change to coarser mixture about seventh week. Keep the mash before them at all times in a self-feeder and continue to give milk. From this time on, ground limestone or oyster shell should always be available.

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MAY, 192.....

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Total		$	$

Hens first day..... Last day.....

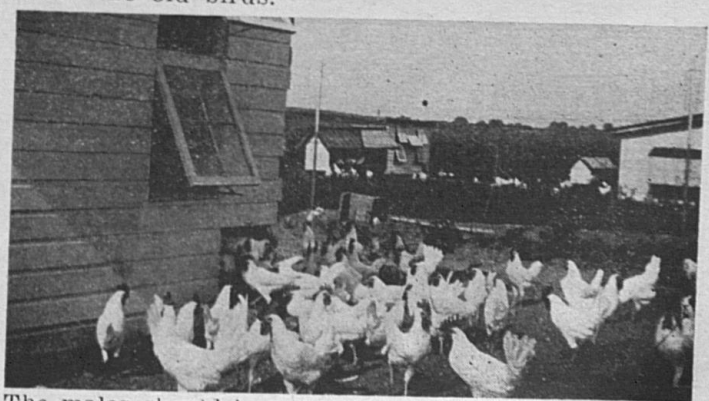
SUGGESTIONS FOR MAY

Sell or Confine Roosters Now.—All hatching eggs should be set by May 1st, since late hatched pullets are poor winter layers and more difficult to raise. Fertile eggs become unfit for food much more quickly in warm weather than infertile eggs. If you do not intend keeping your roosters for another, year, sell them now. If they are to be kept for another breeding season, confine them away from the hens.

Preserve Eggs.—Eggs should be put down in water-glass during May and June, while the prices are low, and used this winter when fresh eggs are selling at a high price. One quart of water-glass to nine quarts of water that has been boiled and cooled will be sufficient to cover 20 dozen eggs. A stone jar should be used and the eggs kept covered with the liquid at all times. Eggs may be added to the solution each day until the jar is full. Freshly gathered infertile eggs keep best. It is advisable to chill the eggs overnight in the refrigerator or milk house before putting them into the solution. A ten-gallon crock will hold about 30 dozen eggs.

Sanitation.—During warm weather lice and mites and disease germs breed rapidly. Keep the houses and fixtures clean and don't forget to spray. A solution made of one pint of some good stock dip to three gallons of water is an effective spray for all disease germs and mites. After the house is cleaned and sprayed the roost poles should be painted with a full strength solution of this same material or crude oil or creosote. The drainings from the crankcase of the automobile or gas engine are very satisfactory for painting the roosts and nests and may be diluted with kerosene to make an effective spray.

Rid the Flock of Lice.—Use sodium fluoride as a powder or dip. To use as a dip, dissolve one pound of the powder in ten gallons of lukewarm water. Dip in the morning on a warm, sunny day. Hold the bird by the wings in the left hand and ruffle up the feathers with the right hand while she is immersed. Add additional warm water containing the dissolved sodium fluoride if the supply runs low. Do not dip young chicks until they are completely feathered out and weigh 2½ to 3 or more pounds. To control lice on baby chicks, dust the sitting hen a couple of times with the fluoride. Brooder chicks should never become infested with lice if kept away from the old birds.



The males should be penned away from the rest of the flock thru the summer.

JUNE, 192.....

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Hens first day..... Last day.....

SUGGESTIONS FOR JUNE

Summer Care of Growing Stock.—If pullets are cared for properly during the summer they will start laying two to three months earlier than if they are given no attention and allowed to hunt for all their feed. The cockerels should be separated from the pullets and those that are not wanted for fryers or for breeders sold. The pullets should be given free range and fed the same ration that is recommended for the laying flock. Next winter's egg supply will depend on how the pullets are developed.

Feed fed to the growing stock will bring them to maturity and production at an earlier age than if they are expected to hunt on free range for all that they get. Recent experiments have proven that when the growing stock is fed a balanced ration, the increase in egg production pays one many times in return for the feed supplied the growing pullets. Improperly fed growing stock never attains its maximum weight and such pullets never lay as well as they would if they had been properly fed.

Keep Up Summer Egg Production.—Summer eggs are profitable. Continue feeding the dry mash and cut down on amount of grain given and be sure that plenty of fresh, clean water is always available unless milk is fed.

Any of the rations recommended on the December calendar would be satisfactory to hold up summer egg production. However, instead of feeding about 15 pounds of grain daily to 100 hens, this should be reduced to about half that amount thru the summer. This will force the birds to consume more mash which is cooling in effect and will hold up the summer egg production. If the flock is culled closely during July and August, it should lay sufficiently well to make a profit by feeding mash even when eggs are at the present low price. If August, September, and October eggs are desired from the flock, the birds must be kept in laying condition thru June and July by proper feeding. Without proper feeding, accurate culling will be impossible next month.

Dry mash in a self-feeder should be available to the growing stock at all times.

JULY, 192.....

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Hens first day..... Last day.....

SUGGESTIONS FOR JULY

Rid the Flock of Poor Producers.—Most hens are laying during spring and early summer and for that reason it is not advisable to try to cull during that time. However, during July and August there are certain characteristics that will act as a guide in telling the poor producers in the flock. These characteristics are as follows:

(1) A hen that molts early does so because she has stopped laying. These hens take a longer time to grow their new set of feathers and have produced poorly.

(2) The yellow color in the beak and shanks fades as the hen lays. Hence yellow color at this time of year is an indication that the hen has not laid many eggs recently. If the color has faded out the hen has been laying heavily. (Making allowance for hens that have hatched and brooded chicks.)

(3) A laying hen has a large, moist vent, pelvic bones wide apart. The abdomen and pelvic bones are soft and pliable. (See cut below.)

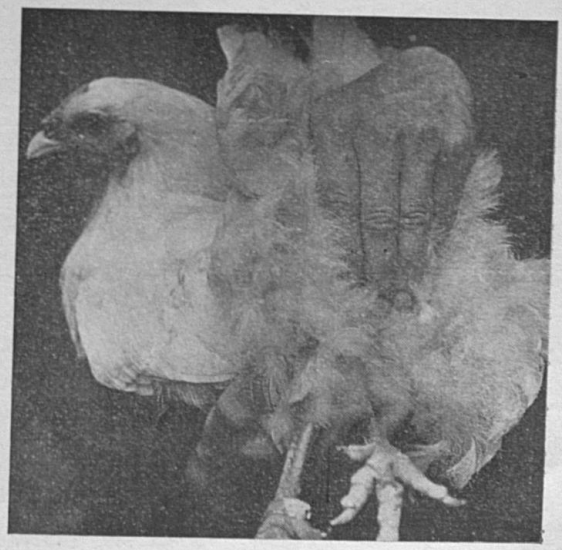
(4) A high producer has a wide back, carrying this width beyond the hips to the tail head, extreme width between pelvic bones and end of breast bone and a bright, clear, prominent eye, with eyelid free from fat.

For more complete instructions on culling send for Extension Circular 167, "When and How to Cull." The following record from a poultry flock of 200 hens at the University of Missouri shows beyond a doubt the value of culling the flock.

Early Quitters Take Long Vacations

Quit Laying and Started Molting	No. Eggs Per Hen	Days Off*	Started Laying Again in
July	109	182	January
August	134	151	January
September	137	143	January
October	153	94	January
November	171	69	January
December	174	45	February

*From laying of last egg before molting to laying of first egg that fall or winter.



A hen in laying condition.

AUGUST, 192.....

Date	No. Eggs	Receipts	Expend-itures
1		$	$
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
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26			
27			
28			
29			
30			
31			
Total		$	$

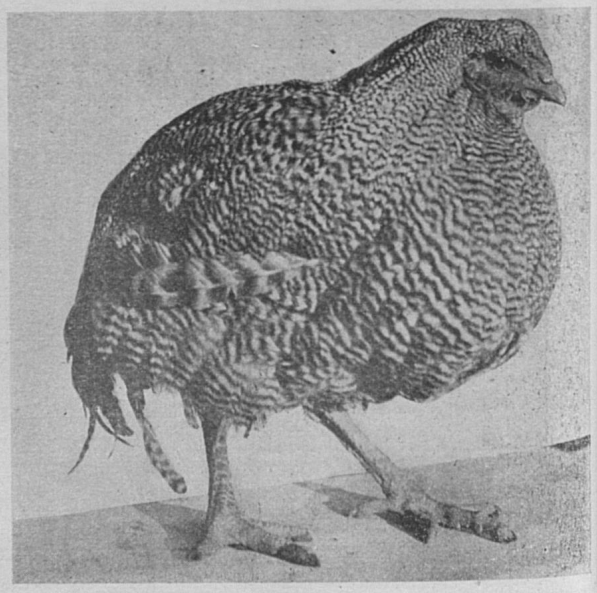
Hens first day..... Last day.....

SUGGESTIONS FOR AUGUST

Diseases of Growing Stock.—One of the most common diseases that affect the growing stock is coccidiosis. The first symptom is a droopy appearance. The chicks often show signs of diarrhea with blood in the droppings. Use one 7.3 grain bichloride of mercury tablet to each gallon of drinking water. Continue treatment for about a week. Omit for twelve days and repeat treatment if necessary. Put into a crock or wooden trough as the mercury will eat holes in a metal container.

Limber Neck.—Caused by eating decayed flesh or vegetables or poison of any kind. The first symptom is paralysis of the neck muscles. As a preventative, burn and bury all dead birds and animals. If necessary keep the flock in the house where sick ones can be detected so that they will not die in the weeds. Four or five drops of turpentine given each of the affected birds will cure mild cases if treated in time.

Fatten the Culls.—Farm hens which have been ranging about all spring and summer are not very fat but have a good frame work. The quality and quantity of meat on the birds which are culled can be greatly improved by fattening. These birds should be confined so that they will have little opportunity for exercise and fattened for at least a week or ten days. Birds which are being fattened, should be fed shelled or cracked corn in the evening and a corn meal mash in the morning and at noon. Ground barley or middlings and also ground oats may be added to this mash. If sour skim-milk or buttermilk is available, it should be mixed with the mash to a sloppy consistency.



A low vitality Barred Plymouth Rock cockerel. (Note knock-knees, drooping tail, and long "crow head.")

SEP

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23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	
Total	

Hens first day

SEPTEMBER, 192.....

Date	No. Eggs	Receipts	Expend-itures
1		$	$
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
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21			
22			
23			
24			
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			
Total		$	$

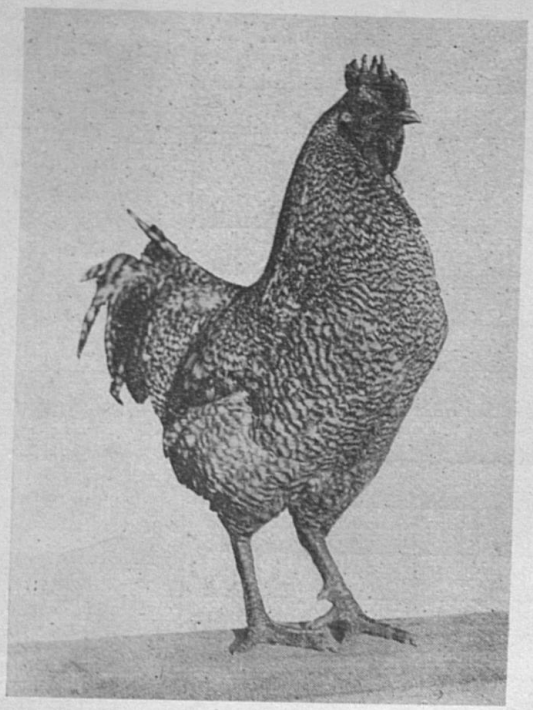
Hens first day..... Last day.....

SUGGESTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

Select Breeders for Next Year.—The flock should have been culled several times by now and only good layers kept. However, now is the time to go over the remaining hens carefully and band those that show exceptional laying qualities. Next spring from these good layers select those that are the best representatives of the breed and use them in the breeding pen. A breeding pen selected in this way will eliminate guesswork and assure you of a pen of good layers that are good representatives of the breed. Care should be taken in selecting the male bird to mate with these hens. A male bird from a hen with a trap-nest record is recommended, especially if high egg production is desired. At least, be sure that the male bird used is from a good laying flock. The improvement both in appearance and egg laying ability of the flock secured in one year will be surprising.

Mate 10 to 15 hens of the general-purpose breeds or 12 to 18 Leghorns to one male bird. If the hens have been running with male birds of a different breed they should be separated at least two weeks before saving hatching eggs. Eggs should not be saved for hatching until four days after the male bird, to which the hens are to be mated, has been added to the pen.

Buy Breeding Males Soon.—It is a common practice to buy breeding cockerels in the spring just before the hatching season begins. It very often happens that the breeders' supply is exhausted or the best individuals have been sold by this time and then it is necessary to take what is left or do without. For these reasons it is advisable to buy cockerels for next year during the fall.



A high vitality Barred Plymouth Rock cockerel. (Note width between legs, upright tail, and deep head.")

OCTOBER, 192.....

Date	No. Eggs	Receipts	Expend-itures
1		$	$
2			
3			
4			
5			
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9			
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24			
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			
31			
Total		$	$

Hens first day..... Last day.....

SUGGESTIONS FOR OCTOBER

Putting Pullets Into the Laying House.—Some time during this month, the pullets should be transferred from the range to the laying house. It is much better to make this change before the weather gets too cool and if the pullets are ready to start laying, now is the time to make the change. See "November" for housing suggestions.

As the pullets are caught up from the range they should be carefully culled and all the undesirable ones sent to market. All slow maturing pullets, those with long, slim heads (crow heads), dull, sunken eyes, or lacking in health and vigor should be culled. Experiments conducted at various Experiment Stations show that the early maturing pullets are the best layers and that the slow mautring ones most always are kept at a loss. The measure of success with a flock of layers lies with the ability of the owner to cull often and closely and now is the time to begin. It will save culling them out next summer and will make a big saving in the feed bill.

When the pullets are put into the laying house, see that they are not lousy and that they do not have colds. The treatments for both these troubles are discussed in "Suggestions for May and January" respectively.

Feed Supply for the Year.—It takes about 75 pounds of feed for a Leghorn and 85 to 90 pounds to feed a general-purpose hen for a year. Considering this as half grain and half mash and from the formula selected the amount of each feed that will be consumed in a year can be estimated. It is sometimes advisable to buy feeds in large quantities, especially grains at harvest time. Tankage or meat scrap can be bought more cheaply in large quantities. When the feed is purchased as needed, oftentimes the supply runs out and the hens have to do without some necessary part of their ration. This will lower the egg production and in the end prove more expensive.

Farmers inspecting Experiment Station Poultry Farm. (Each year a Poultry Field Day is held at Lexington during October.

SUMMARY

Month	Average* No. Hens	Total No. Eggs	Income**	Expense**
November				
December				
January				
February				
March				
April				
May				
June				
July				
August				
September				
October				
Total				

*Computed by adding the number on first day of the month to the number on the last day and dividing by two.

**Keep record of expense by recording in months during which money is spent. If a year's feed supply is purchased at one time, charge it during that month. Record the income in the month in which the money is received.

To find what was received for the labor in caring for the flock (labor income) subtract the expenses from the income and add the increase in stock; then subtract 5% depreciation on equipment and 6% interest on capital invested.

The above figures and the following essential factors may help in locating some of the weak points in the management of the flock.

Essential factors in flock management:

1. A flock bred for egg production.
2. Proper housing conditions.
3. A balanced ration fed thruout the year.
4. Early hatched chicks.
5. Properly matured pullets.
6. Sanitary conditions.

The material in this calendar was prepared by J. R. Smyth and J. Holmes Martin.

If any trouble is being experienced with the poultry flock, write the Poultry Section, College of Agriculture, Lexington, Kentucky, for advice. When an unknown disease breaks out in the flock, send by prepaid express one sick or dead fowl or several baby chicks, to the Veterinary Department, College of Agriculture, Lexington, Kentucky. Also, write a letter telling of the general symptoms of the flock, the duration of the disease, etc.

Visitors are always welcome at the Experiment Station Poultry Farm, Lexington, Ky.