

# The American Farm Page

DAIRY POULTRY STOCK RAISING FARMING

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## POULTRY

### CHICKS HAVE RIGHT TO PROPER START

#### Therefore, Give Attention to "Hatching" Eggs.

Successful Colorado poultrymen who produce eggs for hatching find that it pays to give close attention to (1) the condition and care of the breeding flock, and (2) proper care of hatching eggs before they are set.

More farmers and poultrymen than usual are hatching their own chicks with setting hens—the good old fashioned method—reports O. C. Ufford, extension poultryman at the Colorado Agricultural College.

"The breeding flock from which hatching eggs are being produced," says Ufford, "should be carefully culled to eliminate hens that are too fat, lack vigor or health, or have serious defects of type and color. "Bacillary white diarrhea, a serious disease of young chicks, comes from hens in the breeding flock that are affected," he adds. "It is not possible to recognize such hens except by blood testing the individual birds."

Green feed and sunshine supply vitamins that are needed for normal health and growth of chicks, it is pointed out. The baby chick first makes use of vitamins when it is developing in the egg, but the egg will not contain these important elements unless the breeding flock is fed a ration that supplies them. Therefore the flock should have plenty of sunshine and a well-balanced ration that includes green feeds, minerals and water.

### Losses Sure When the

#### Chicks Are Overcrowded

Crowding always results in enormous losses and occurs just prior to the chicks taking to the roost. It may be discouraged by maintaining heat but eventually the chicks will take to the corners. It might be ideal but impractical to construct a round brooder house, but one can eliminate the corners in a house with square corners. A scheme of this kind consists of inclined wire netting frames about 2 feet wide placed in the back and sides of the house. The inner edge is next to the floor while the outer is elevated about a foot from the floor. It is, of course, necessary that these frames fit tight so that it is impossible for chicks to get underneath. With this arrangement as the chicks crowd out they are elevated and there is no danger of the chicks being suffocated. Usually small roosts are nailed on the upper side of the frame and it is only a short time until the chicks are roosting. The old idea was that too early roosting caused crooked breast bones, but that idea has been exploded so that now the advice is to get the chicks roosting as soon as possible.—Missouri Farmer.

### Estimating Oil Need

Five hundred chicks kept in confinement for the first four weeks will eat about 200 pounds of mash and will need four pounds or two quarts of cod-liver oil. The same number of chicks will consume close to 850 pounds of mash the first eight weeks and, if confined, will need two and one-eighth gallons of cod-liver oil. From this, one can estimate the amount of oil that will be needed and can make the purchase and have it ready when the chicks are hatched. Cod-liver oil may be secured from the local druggist, or the county agent or farm demonstration flock co-operators in the county can supply the names of companies that sell the cod-liver oil.

### Brooder-House Litter

Ground corn cobs make satisfactory litter for brooder houses, says the Nebraska College of Agriculture. The coarsely ground cobs make as good a litter as chopped hay or straw. Some poultrymen prefer to use commercial litters. Sand does not make a good floor covering unless the chicks are well fed all of the time. Chicks placed on sand sometimes fill up on it producing indigestion and other unsatisfactory results.

### Graded Eggs Sell Best

The average per capita consumption of eggs in Canada is 261, nearly an egg a day for every person, and the highest consumption of any country. Canadian officials credit this to the fact that eggs are carefully graded, and that the Canadian housewife goes to market and buys eggs with confidence. She knows that eggs graded as extras are of the highest quality and can be used for any purpose in the home. Every egg passing into trade in that country is graded.—Prairie Farmer.

### Orchard Pests Can Be Done Away With

#### Good Fruit Is Produced by Healthy Trees.

(By H. R. Niswonger, Field Horticulturist, Colorado State College.)

One of the best ways to control insect and disease pests in the orchard and to improve the quality of fruit this season is to give the orchard a thorough cleaning. This applies especially to apple orchards.

Apple scab, for instance, spreads from dead leaves which have dropped from trees that were infected with the disease last season. The leaves should be raked up and burned or plowed under as early as possible.

The codling moth winters over under the loose bark and among the refuse where cull apples were piled or boxes and other containers were stored. This bark might be scraped from the trees, raked up and burned.

Make a general cleaning of such places as the codling moth is likely to hibernate. This clean-up practice will reduce the number of worms in the fruit this season.

San Jose scale and other insects multiplied greatly during the latter part of the 1931 crop year because of favorable weather conditions. Spraying the trees with lime sulphur will keep this scale under control, and the use of one of the commercial oil sprays will give control of the scurfy and oyster-shell scale insects.

Some trees which are weak and are giving no good returns might be removed from the orchard or top-worked by grafting in from a better tree or variety.

### Soil Zone Cuts Figure in Corn Fertilization

Studies at the Ohio experiment station show that results from fertilizing corn vary with the soil zone into which the fertilizer is introduced. Placing fertilizer in direct contact with, or immediately above, the seed has proved most damaging. Damage varies with the amount of fertilizer and rainfall.

An application of 400 pounds an acre of 4-12-4 in rectangular areas 4 by 8 inches and 1 1/2 inches deep reduced the stand of corn 33 per cent in 1930 and 45 per cent in 1931. The same amount placed in a 4 by 8-inch band 3/4 inch above the seed gave a stand of 62 per cent in 1930 and 70 per cent in 1931. The same quantity applied 3/4 inch above the seed but divided into two lateral 2 by 8-inch bands 3 inches apart gave a 90 per cent stand in 1930 and a perfect stand in 1931.—Capper's Farmer.

### Care of Ewes

In order to give birth to strong thrifty lambs the ewes need plenty of nutritious feeds and sufficient exercise. The ration of the pregnant and nursing ewe should consist of feeds rich in minerals and protein and the cheapest source of these nutrients is in clover or alfalfa hay. Turnips are also a valuable feed for breeding ewes, due largely to their tonic and regulating effect, and are fed at the rate of three pounds per head per day along with a liberal supply of hay.

Salt should be available at all times and where well-balanced rations are fed, especially those including good legume hay, sheep will ordinarily receive enough calcium and phosphorus which are the other mineral nutrients most apt to be lacking.

### Farmers Favor Silage

Ninety-nine of one hundred Nebraska farmers who built and used trench silos last year believe that they have been worthwhile, according to a survey by the Nebraska College of Agriculture. Ninety-five of one hundred men will use their trench silos again if crops are poor and eighty-two of them will use the silos even if crops are good this year.

Ninety-eight per cent of the men said that silage was a much better feed than dry corn fodder. Sixty-two of them fed it with alfalfa, twenty supplemented it with cottonseed cake and twenty fed it with oats straw or some other straw.—Exchange.

### Agricultural Squibs

Argentina's corn area is 5 per cent greater than a year ago.

Twenty-eight Edgecombe county (N. C.) farmers sold \$9,210 pounds of fat hogs for \$3,485.46 in a co-operative shipment.

Wisconsin valuation of farm equipments is \$16.65 per acre of crop land. Only two states, New York and Pennsylvania, exceed this valuation.

County agents in Vermont made 8,856 visits to 4,748 farms in the United States last year, and answered 13,146 telephone inquiries from farmers.

## DAIRY FACTS

### COWS NEED FREE ACCESS TO WATER

#### Should at All Times Have All They Will Drink.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.—WNU Service.)

Dairymen who want the most milk and butterfat from their cows should arrange to let them drink as much water as they want when they want it, says T. E. Woodward, of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Woodward, who is senior dairy husbandman in the bureau of dairy industry, has completed experiments to determine the relation of methods of watering dairy cows to their water consumption and production. The tests were run both in warm and cold weather and included both high-producing and low-producing cows. The results of watering twice a day and once a day were compared with results obtained when the cows had free access to water.

In these tests, according to Mr. Woodward, the cows drank more water when watered only twice a day than when they had water at will or when watered only once a day, but their production was highest when they had water at will. The production of the cows in this experiment averaged 2.8 per cent more milk and 2.1 per cent more butterfat when given free access to water than when watered only twice a day; and when watered twice a day they produced 1 per cent more milk and 1.4 per cent more butterfat than when watered only once a day.

Mr. Woodward also reports that the increase in milk production as a result of more frequent watering was more marked in the case of the good producers than in the case of the low producers.

### Inferior Bull Never

#### Worth Keeping in Herd

Many inferior bulls are finding themselves installed as herd sires these days, probably much to their surprise, because they are the kind that usually go to the stock yards at a fairly early age. In fact, a considerable number of these have been to the stock yards, only to be rescued by some kind-hearted truck driver and taken back out in the country as a herd sire. Of course, the fact that the truck driver is able to make a few dollars by saving him for a while may also be a contributing cause.

It's a good deal for the live stock trucker, but it's a tough deal on the dairyman. The bull in service now will determine largely the ability of the herd four and five years from now. It will mean the placing in the dairy barn of milk-manufacturing machines that lack the capacity to turn out large quantities of product or profit.

### Spray for Flies

According to J. J. Davis, entomologist at Purdue university, a good home-made spray for keeping flies off cows can be prepared by mixing one pint of oil of tar with one gallon of used crank case oil.

Another recommended spray may be made by mixing one gallon of fish oil, two ounces of oil of tar, two ounces of oil of pennyroyal and one-half pint of kerosene.

The most satisfactory way to apply these is with a small compressed air sprayer that can be obtained at most stores handling spray materials.

There are several other reliable commercial fly sprays on the market.

### Grain Sheaf Hay

Oat sheaves are very nearly equivalent in feeding value to a combination of equal parts by weight of threshed oats and oat straw. Oat sheaves alone are hardly a satisfactory dairy cow ration. The wheat sheaves will perhaps be a little more nutritious than the oats. Horses can be carried quite satisfactorily on either oat sheaves or wheat sheaves provided they are not at hard work.

Some extra grain for cows is needed while they are milking. A mixture of equal parts of barley, oats, wheat, wheat bran and oilmeal will prove very satisfactory.

### Intestinal Trouble

Scours or diarrhea is merely the visible symptom of an intestinal irritation, either caused by food or parasites. Cows may contract a disease known as Johne's disease, or the trouble may be caused by faulty food. If you have much trouble, we suggest you see your veterinarian or write your state veterinarian. In the meantime, feed the cows one teaspoonful slaked lime, one tablespoonful whole flaxseed and a tablespoonful charcoal in ground oats once daily. A little sugar added will help also. Examine the hay for mold, or the pasture for fern, etc.—Idaho Farmer.

### Best Ration One That Has Variety

#### Quality of Protein Found to Be as Essential as Quantity.

(By Prof. F. B. Morrison, Department of Animal Industry, Cornell University.)

Variety may be more than the spice of life; it may even be necessary to the importance of protein for sixty years, but more recent experiments show that quality of protein is as essential as the quantity in a feed.

Corn lacks two of the essential amino acids, and if a young pig is fed corn as its only source of protein, it will make no growth whatever, even if it gets an abundance of carbohydrates, fats, vitamins, and minerals.

The proteins of meat, milk, and eggs have exceedingly high food value, for they contain all of the necessary amino acids in abundance. Proteins in cereals are considerably lower in efficiency than animal proteins, and in quality, all of the cereals are similar. Navy beans, lima beans, and cowpeas have too little cystine, but soybeans and peanuts furnish high-quality proteins. Recent experiments indicate that alfalfa hay is deficient in cystine, should it be fed alone, but cereals with which it is usually fed contain an abundance of this amino acid.

Swine and poultry are likely to suffer more from unbalanced proteins than are cattle, sheep or horses. Swine and poultry are fed chiefly on cereal grains and other concentrated feeds and their digestive systems are not adapted to using much roughage. Consequently proteins furnished by tankage or meat scraps, fishmeal, and milk products are especially important. In Kansas experiments with beef cattle, a combination of linseed meal, cottonseed meal, with gluten meal was better than a combination of the first two.

Merely timothy hay and oats provide an excellent ration for work horses. Brood mares and growing colts must have, however, an ample supply and proper kind of proteins.

### Fine Profit From Lambs

#### Fed Alfalfa and Grain

Six hundred range Rambouillet lambs fattened at the Belle Fourche field station of the United States Department of Agriculture at Newell, S. D., and sold on the Sioux City (Iowa) market, returned an average of \$10 a ton for the alfalfa hay and from 70 to 88 cents a hundred pounds for the grain they consumed. The lambs cost \$4 a hundred delivered at the station and sold at \$6.35 at Sioux City, which was top price for fat lambs for the day.

When slaughtered these lambs dressed from 49.4 to 51 per cent. A careful grading of their carcasses revealed that in the entire 600 there was only one cull and nine common carcasses, 38 per cent of the group grading good to choice and 60 per cent medium to good, most of the latter missing the higher grade only because of excess weight.

### Potato Notes

Plant only good seed, using 1-ounce pieces dropped approximately 11 inches apart. Planting at greater distances will prove to be too costly this year. Treat seed potatoes infected with scab or rhizoctonia.

Largest potato yields will be obtained where the fertilizer is applied two to three inches from the seed piece and on the same or a slightly lower plane.

Cultivate deeply and close to the plants early in the season, but keep the cultivator away from the roots as the season advances. Close, deep cultivation later in the season does more harm than good.

Start spraying with Bordeaux mixture when the plants are six to eight inches high and make applications every week or ten days. Twenty years' tests have proved spraying to be a desirable practice.—American Agriculturist.

### To Kill Botflies

Carbon disulphide is the most effective substance for the removal of bots from horses, says the United States Department of Agriculture. Before administering the treatment all feed should be withheld from the horses for about 18 hours. Then the animal is given carbon disulphide in gelatin capsules, the capsules administered by hand or by means of a balling gun.

Carbon disulphide will remove many bots if administered at any time of the year but the greatest efficiency of the treatment is obtained if the treatment is given during the winter months. At the same time a wash consisting of 2 per cent of coal-tar creosote should be thoroughly applied to all parts of the animal to destroy the eggs.—Nebraska Farmer.

### Cottage Type of Home Is Prettiest When Set in Natural Surroundings

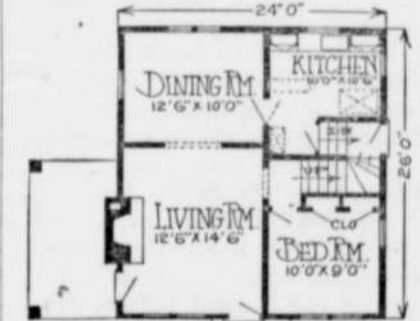


This six-room frame home with its unusual roof treatment provides room for a large family, there being four bedrooms and bath. The first floor bedroom is a convenience not found in many two-story homes.

#### By W. A. RADFORD

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to practical home building, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as editor, author and manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 407 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill., and only inclose two-cent stamp for reply.

Homes to be built on wooded sites or where there are natural surroundings oftentimes are prettiest when they are of the cottage type of home building design. The house shown in the accompanying illustration suggests a cottage but it is a full two-story frame home containing seven rooms and bath. The suggestion of a cottage is achieved by the unusual roof lines which come down at a steep pitch from the ridge at the front, giving the



First Floor Plan.

effect of a story and one-half house. Wide dormers on either side, however, give the head room necessary on the second floor to make it a full size.

### Explains Methods of Insulating the Home

The best advice that your architect or your friend or your home builder can give, whether your house has been built or is to be built, is insulate and insulate thoroughly and well, writes Roger B. Whitman in "Better Homes and Gardens." Your home is neither modern nor economical, nor healthful unless it is insulated, not to mention being as comfortable.

Insulation, continues Mr. Whitman, is a new, practicable application of a long-known scientific principle applied for many years to refrigerator cars and ice boxes, but now applied with equal success to our homes. It involves the use of storm windows, weatherstrips and insulating material in the walls. With insulation the heating plant can be smaller, the saving in the cost and installation of the heater going far to pay for the heat-proofing. It is a matter of course that the fuel bills will be reduced, and as the house will be tight and free from drafts, there will be less dust in the air to discolor walls, ceilings and draperies. A house from which heat cannot escape is also protected against heat from outdoors. An attic that in a house of ordinary construction would be unbearably hot during the summer may when insulated become the coolest part. While insulation is principally used to offer resistance to the passage of heat, the same materials will absorb sound waves and deaden noise.

Insulating walls and roofs is accomplished either by the use of rigid, flexible or bulk insulating materials. Rigid sheets are popular because they can serve for other purposes besides insulation, replacing the usual boarding or as a support for plaster. They can also be papered or calcimined. The sheets may be nailed to either side of the studs. A space of from one-eighth to one-fourth inch should be left between adjoining sheets to allow for expansion, for otherwise there will be danger of buckling. Two lay-

ers are almost twice as effective as one, particularly if there is an air space between. Flexible materials are either applied on the sheathing and underneath the exterior finish, to the frame horizontally, outside or inside, or within the stud spaces vertically. Bulk materials, fibers and powders, are either poured into place, applied by hand or air pressure. With one type, water added to a powder swells the mixture and in 20 minutes it hardens into a mass. This insulation can also be readily cast into blocks to fit between rafters or elsewhere.

### Brick on Hollow Tile Makes Good Sound Wall

A brick masonry house is a profitable investment always. Not all of these have solid brick walls, although to casual observation such may seem to be the case. Hollow tile is often used as a backing for the brick; while the face of the wall looks like any other brick wall, the inner portion of the wall is of hollow tile into which the brick are thoroughly bonded. The results in a wall lighter in weight, which is important in some types of construction. The air space results in a dryer and warmer wall.

It is something practical to plaster on the inner surface of this wall when the total wall thickness is 12 inches or when the walls are not exposed to driving rainstorms. The inner surface of the wall can be readily damp-proofed with a bituminous coating which will not affect the plaster bond.

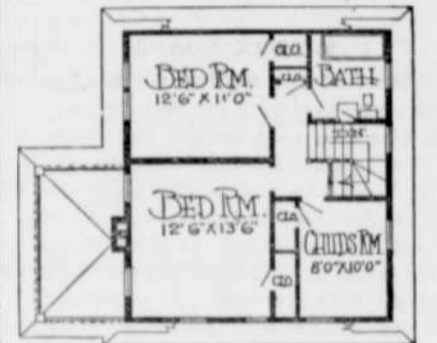
The all masonry feature of the wall is an important consideration for those who would shun fire risk.

### Modernized House

When the exterior lines of a house have been modernized, the dwelling virtually becomes a new one. To strangers there is nothing to identify the residence as being one built 20 or 30 years ago.

The floor plans show a bedroom on the first floor adjoining the enclosed stairs with three other bedrooms and bathroom on the second floor. The other three rooms on the first floor are the usual living room, dining room and kitchen.

The size of this house is 24 feet by 26 feet exclusive of the porch. The sizes of the rooms and their relation



Second Floor Plan.

one to another are shown by the floor plans reproduced.

How attractive this home may be with its well planned interior, and the open porch is shown by the reproduction of the exterior. It has a roomy inviting appearance and still is simple and suitable for a lot on which there are trees and shrubs or which has trees and shrubs as a background for a house.

This is the type of economical frame home which will appeal to a great many prospective home builders. It has abundance of space in the inside, is attractive from the exterior and it is low in cost which will be an added inducement.