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**FEED LIBERALLY
WHILE MOLTING**

Forcing Will Stop Egg Production Without Causing Resumption Earlier Than Usual.

FAT GIVES FEATHER GLOSS

Hens That Begin to Molt Early Do the Job Slowly and Are the Poorer Layers of the Flock—Hen Cafeteria is Used.

Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Scarcely anything on the farm is more distressing to view than a lot of hens going into cold weather without enough feathers to keep them warm. It is much like a man wearing a palm beach suit with snow on the ground, and trying to seem unconcerned about it, or the chap who leaves off his overcoat in zero weather to harden himself—so he says.

Forcing the Molt Unwise. But there doesn't seem to be any help for the unhappy poultry minus their winter clothing. Much was said a few years ago about forcing the molting of hens, controlling it, and so arranging things generally that the hen would get back on the job of laying eggs with less delay. An experienced New York poultryman declared he had solved the problem by cutting down very materially the hens' rations for several days. This was followed by heavier feeding than ordinarily. The menu, or the lack of it, stopped laying, and often resulted in molting at once.

The results were not so satisfactory as had been hoped. In many cases the hens did not finish the molt much, if any, quicker than if they had been let alone. It didn't seem possible by this means to control the time at which the hens could be brought back to laying. Egg production could be stopped all right, but it couldn't be resumed any earlier than usual, and sometimes it looked as if it had been stopped permanently. Obviously, this wouldn't do.

One of the chief attractions of poultry keeping is a constant supply of eggs, let the feathers fall when they may. So the United States Department of Agriculture doesn't advise any one to try systems that seem in conflict with nature, who seems to have a way of her own in such things.

Early Molters. As a rule, hens that begin to molt early do the job slowly, and are the poorer layers of the flock, while those that molt late get through with it quickly, and are about the best layers. Usually it takes three or four months to complete the process of molting. A few are all through in two months. Some go at it gradually, as if they didn't like to attract attention, while others drop all the feathers they have, or nearly all, at one time, and go about almost naked, with no regard for the proprieties. And while this is going on the hens lay few or no eggs. This is because the growth

**MOST SATISFACTORY
ALFALFA FERTILIZER**

Well-Rotted Barnyard Manure, Free From Weeds, Is Best.

It Gives Best Results If Applied to Soil Before Plowing in Order That It May Become Thoroughly Incorporated.

Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Well-rotted barnyard manure which is comparatively free from weeds is the most satisfactory fertilizer for fall-sown alfalfa, according to specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture. It should be spread on the land before plowing, in order that it may become thoroughly incorporated with the soil. Good results also follow from heavy applications to the preceding crop.

If the manure is not available, a liberal application of commercial fertilizers rich in phosphoric acid should



The Proper Way to Apply Manure to the Soil.

be made. The percentage of nitrogen may be low, but some nitrogen should be supplied for the use of the young plants before they become inoculated and are able to secure their supply from the air. On most clay soils heavy applications of potash have not been profitable. A combination which has been commonly recommended is muriate of potash 75 to 100 pounds, acid phosphate 350 to 500 pounds, and nitrate of soda 50 to 75 pounds. The cheapest and most satisfactory method by which the consumer may obtain such combination is to purchase the desired ingredients and mix them himself in their proper proportions.

WHITEWASH RECIPE IS GOOD

One of Cheapest and Most Lasting Wood Coverings is Quite Easy to Manufacture.

Government whitewash is one of the cheapest and most lasting wood coverings and protectors. It is simple to make. Take a half bushel of lime and slack with warm water, keeping it covered. Strain through cheesecloth, and add eight quarts of salt, previously dissolved in warm water. Next stir in three pounds of ground rice, boiled to a thin paste, and stirred in boiling hot. Then add a half pound of plaster of paris, previously dissolved with a pound of glue, over a slow fire. Last, five gallons of hot water. Stir thoroughly and let stand for three days. Apply while hot. An application to fences, trees and unpainted outbuildings will add \$500 to the selling value of a farm, and sell it quicker.

CLEAN UP BARNYARD MANURE

Material Should Be Scattered on Fields to Permit Sun to Destroy All Insects.

Keep barnyard manure, especially if containing straw, cleaned up and scattered on the fields to permit the sun and drying to kill the maggots. Stack the straw; don't blow it out in an irregular loose pile. Build vertical sides. Keep middle well filled and tramp well. Clean up around the base of the stacks and scatter remnants. If it is certain that the straw will not be used for feed, spread it at once to be plowed under, or if that cannot be done, burn the stacks immediately.

GETTING POULTRY TO MARKET

Speed Was Once Considered Only Consideration—Handling and Refrigeration Added.

Speed was once the only consideration in getting poultry to market, but now to this has been added good handling and refrigeration, from start to finish. The time the produce would keep was so short that the whole course of marketing had to be rushed. Now it's a matter of maintaining even refrigeration.

BUSINESS OF VARIED RISKS

In Farming Weather is Greatest Factor, Fluctuating Prices Rank Next in Order.

The farming business is one of many and varied risks. The weather is the greatest risk, weeds are another, fluctuating prices another, and yields per acre, as they affect the margin between cost and income often measure the amount of risk sustained.

The Kitchen Cabinet

Well read, deeply learned and thoroughly grounded in the hidden knowledge of all salads and all potteries whatsoever.—Beaumont and Fletcher.

SEASONABLE IDEAS.

For the waffle lover this will be a piece de resistance, as every one knows how delicious a tender, crisp waffle is. Never serve a hot sirup with waffles, as it tends to soften and destroy their crispness.

Rich Waffles.—Add the yolks of three eggs to two cupsful of cream, one-quarter of a cupful of sugar, two cupfuls of flour, sifted with two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and one-quarter of a teaspoonful of salt. Stir to a smooth batter, then fold in the stiffly beaten whites. Cook on a hot, well greased waffle iron and sprinkle with powdered sugar before serving.

Butterscotch Sauce.—Melt two tablespoonfuls of browned flour, stir to a paste, then add three-quarters of a cupful of water and cook until smooth like an ordinary sauce. Lastly, add one-quarter of a cupful of molasses, one tablespoonful of vinegar and one cupful of brown sugar, and let boil up once.

Spiced Peaches.—Use seven pounds of fruit to five pounds of sugar, with an ounce each of cinnamon and cloves tied loosely in a small bag; add one pint of water and one pint of vinegar. When boiling hot drop in the peaches, a few at a time, and cook until they are thoroughly scalded. Pour the boiling hot sirup over them after the can is full. Seal as usual.

Preserved Figs.—Where the fresh, ripe fig is to be obtained they make a delicious preserve. Pour three quarts of boiling water over three quarts of figs, which have been sprinkled with one-half cupful of baking soda. Let stand ten minutes, then rinse the figs well with water running through them in a colander. Boll two pounds of sugar in three pints of water ten minutes, add the figs, cover closely and cook slowly until the figs are clear and tender. This may take two hours and the quantity of water should not be allowed to become too much reduced. When the figs are clear, boll down the sirup until heavy. Pour over and seal. The rind of two oranges added to the figs improves the flavor, some think. Spiced figs may be prepared as are spiced peaches.

The patten of rain on a cottage roof
Is a sound that I love full well—
And I love the break of an autumn day
And the woodland's leafy smell.

I love the turn of a pasture lane
Where asters mimic the mist,
And I love the orchard fruit that glows
To a blush where the sun has kissed.
—R. R. Greenwood.

EVERYDAY GOOD THINGS.

The following treatment of lamb stew is unusual but worth trying:

Mexican Lamb Stew.—Take a pound of the neck of lamb, cut in small pieces, roll in two tablespoonfuls of flour, brown in one tablespoonful of drippings with one chopped onion. Add three tomatoes, three green peppers; fry all together for a few minutes, then add two quarts of hot water, one tablespoonful of salt and one-fourth of a spoonful of pepper. Simmer one hour, then add one cupful each of green peas, green corn and one-half cupful of rice. Cook until the rice is done. When ready to serve put in the bottom of the serving dish one egg, one teaspoonful of salad oil and one-half teaspoonful of vinegar. Pour the stew over this.

Calves' Liver.—Fry one-fourth of a pound of bacon cut in thin slices until crisp, pouring off the fat occasionally. Remove to a hot platter. Pour hot water over the liver and let stand five minutes, then drain. Roll the liver in one-fourth of a cupful of flour and the same amount of cornmeal well mixed with one teaspoonful of salt. Fry until brown on both sides, using the bacon fat. Add one-fourth cupful of coffee infusion, boiling hot. Cover tightly for a few minutes and serve garnished with bacon.

Mock Venison.—Purchase a five-pound of lamb. Wipe it with a damp cloth and lay in a dish of vinegar, adding one onion, six cloves, one-fourth of a teaspoonful of ginger and ten peppercorns. Allow the lamb to remain in the vinegar one day, then turn it all leave for the second day. Remove, cover with flour, season and roast in the usual manner. Use three in four cupfuls of vinegar.

Meat Balls.—Season two cupfuls of finely chopped cold meat with salt and pepper, minced onion, sage, thyme and lemon juice. Add one cupful of fine soft bread crumbs, one egg and water or stock to moisten. Shape into cakes and fry in beef drippings and lard until well browned on both sides. Apies With Cinnamon Drops.—Wash and core good flavored apples. Fill the centers with the red cinnamon candies, basting during the baking.

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She Despised Them.
A little Brookline girl of seven heartily disliked having to practice on the piano and one day she grumbled about it to a neighbor. "Why, Mary, don't you like your music?" the neighbor asked. "No," said the child vehemently. "I just 'spise those little black things sittin' on the fence."—Boston Transcript.

SWAMP-ROOT FOR KIDNEY AILMENTS

There is only one medicine that really stands out pre-eminent as a medicine for curable ailments of the kidneys, liver and bladder. Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root stands the highest for the reason that it has proven to be just the remedy needed in thousands upon thousands of distressing cases. Swamp-Root makes friends quickly because its mild and immediate effect is soon realized in most cases. It is a gentle, healing vegetable compound. Start treatment at once. Sold at all drug stores in bottles of two sizes, medium and large. However, if you wish first to test this great preparation send ten cents to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., for a sample bottle. When writing be sure and mention this paper.—Advertisement.

The Family Car.
"What is your ambition?"
"To be rich enough to own an automobile of my own."
"But you already own a car?"
"I know that, but you don't know how tired I've grown of having to argue with the wife and the daughter and the son every time I want to use it."

ASPIRIN INTRODUCED BY "BAYER" IN 1900

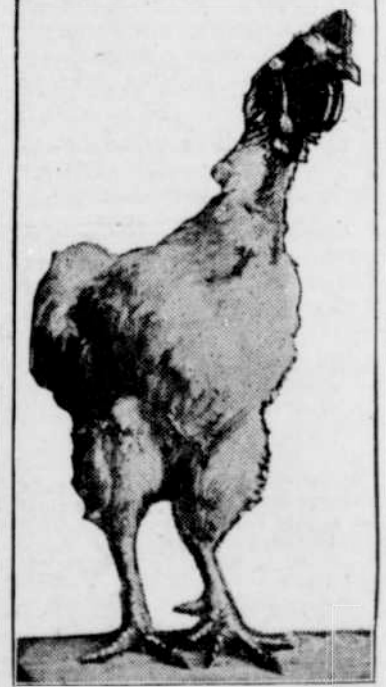
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The Fowl Molts Just When It Needs Feathers for Warmth.

of a new coat of feathers makes such a demand upon the body that it is out of the question for egg production to continue in any large degree.

The growth of feathers, like all other growth, calls for a plentiful supply of protein in the ration. Most poultry raisers, however, make no effort to feed a special ration at molting time, but continue to give the laying ration which the hens have been getting right along. This is good practice because a laying ration contains protein which goes into the forming of feathers, since egg production practically ceases when the molt begins. Still, some poultrymen like to be sure there is a liberal supply of protein available for the hens during the molting period.

Sunflower Seed in Favor. Rations which contain a high percentage of fat have a tendency to give the feathers a high gloss. Sunflower seed, because of its fat content, is in favor among some poultrymen as a feed during the molting period, especially with birds which they wish to get into the best condition for exhibition.