

Cull Flock For More Egg Profit

Poor Producers Can Be Taken Out With Proper Elimination Methods; Chickens Averaging 50% Production Do Not Need Handling

Culling of poultry means finding and getting rid of hens which can no longer be kept at a profit.

The experiment station, commercial and private farm flocks have all demonstrated the fact that there are a number of hens which will not produce profitably even under the most favorable conditions of management and breeding. By careful culling, these poor producers can be eliminated.

Culling will eliminate those birds that have stopped laying, reduce the cost of producing eggs, aid in increasing the average egg production per hen per year, and aid in the selection of your breeding stock as well as give the remaining birds more room.

Culling should start about the middle of May and continue about once a month throughout the year. The early spring and summer months is the proper time

to get rid of the star boarders. Before any poultryman can do a good job of culling, a few things must be taken into consideration. The birds should be normal in every respect, fed and managed to induce profitable production. A well-balanced ration should be fed daily for at least a month before intelligent culling can be accomplished.

If birds that are properly managed are not averaging 50 percent production, there are some culls and they should be taken out. However, as long as a flock is averaging above 50 per cent production, there are few and it would not pay to handle the birds. Remember that it is impossible to do a good job culling when all the flock is in production or is all out of production.

Three things which may be learned at the proper season of the year under good management are: (a) present production (b) comparative length of production and (c) quality for a high rate of production.

(a) Present production is indicated by four things—
1. A soft red comb and wattles and a bright eye.
2. A wide, wet, smooth vent.
3. Pelvic bones, wide spread.
4. Abdomen deep and full.

(b) Comparative length of production—
If a hen has been laying for a long time she will have—

Graze Chickens For More Eggs

Green Feed For Poultry Makes Production Zoom; Good For Vitamin And Mineral Content As Well As For Laxative Effects

The value of green feed as a supplement for poultry is underestimated by a large number of North Carolina poultrymen. Grazing crops for poultry are undoubtedly the most profitable feeds used, inasmuch as they cut down the consumption of mash and grain and form the most economical portion of the bird's ration.

Green feeds are used principally for their mineral and vitamin content as well as for laxative effects. Experiments show that laying hens having access to all the green feed they can consume, lay eggs with a more uniform shell texture than birds that are deprived of this supplement that is so much relished by poultry. As a rule the yolks of eggs laid by hens that are receiving green feed as a supplement are darker and occasional objection is made to this coloration. It is probable that the feed value is increased rather than decreased by such feeding.

Vitamins in green feed: The vitamin content varies with different sources of green feed. Legumes such as alfalfa and the clovers are considered more valuable from a feeding standpoint, but rye grass and Kentucky blue grass are more readily eaten by the birds than the legumes. Vitamins are essential in profitable poultry production and if supplied in green feed, the poultry man is not only supplying the vitamin content, but is feeding a bulky feed which may be in-

1. A bluish white vent.
2. Thin creased legs.
3. Ragged, worn and tight fitting plumage in July and August.
4. Yellow pigment disappeared from the vent, ear lobes, eyelids, corner of mouth, beak and shaks.
(c) Quality for a high rate of production—

1. Thin, pliable, pelvic bones, fairly straight and pointing to the rear, and good width above.
2. Thin, silky, elastic skin covering the abdomen.

3. Good capacity as shown by:
a. Flat, long and wide back for the breed
b. Deep full and well muscled chest

c. Straight breast bone of medium length
d. Wide between legs.
Remember that continuous culling pays.

strumental in correcting certain types of intestinal disturbances. The laxative effect that green feed has on the laying hen aids in keeping the bird in tip-top condition. In case green feed is not supplied, hens should be given epsom salts once a month at the rate of one pound of salts to 400 pounds of chickens. Climatic conditions are such in North Carolina and especially so in Columbus County that there is no excuse for the failure of the poultrymen to supply green feed for the greater part of the year. Such feeds may be provided by using the triple yarding system. One yard is seeded to permanent pasture, the other two yards are seeded to temporary pastures. For permanent crop, alfalfa and the clovers are excellent and for temporary grazing, rye grass or rape, as both make rapid growth and are likely very much for the hens.

When weather conditions get bad and the birds cannot be turned out to graze the poultryman should cut green feed and carry it to the birds at the rate of four or five pounds per hundred birds. Baby chicks need green feed and direct sunlight to assure

them of the vitamins that are in both. If chicks do not have access to direct sunlight and plenty of green feed, add one pint of cod liver oil per 100 pounds of mash.

Rabid foxes appear to be responsible for a large percentage of the cases of rabies in cattle.

TB TESTS LAG

It probably will take five years to catch up on tuberculosis testing of cattle throughout the United States, according to livestock health authorities. Testing lagged during the war because the armed forces took large numbers of veterinarians out of civilian practice.

If your cattle have been tested, spray with one percent 50 percent wettable DDT in 50 gallons of water. This amount should be enough to spray 10 cows. Be certain to spray on a sunny day.

Cutting cost is a good way to improve profits on the farm as well as in industry.

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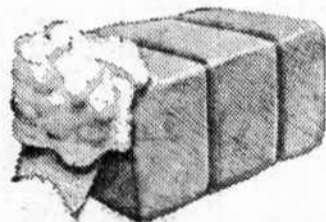
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Bonds	6,995,596.57	Reserves	108,049.72
Cash and due from Banks	1,921,449.92	Other Liabilities	17,970.58
Banking Houses, Fixtures	85,109.36	Capital Stock	220,000.00
Other Reserves	43,852.91	Surplus	300,000.00
		Undivided Profits	47,920.47
	\$12,097,188.58		\$12,097,188.58

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