

POULTRY

CLEANING POULTRY HOUSE IS ADVISED

Building Should Be Freed of Annoying Insects.

By M. D. Farrer, Entomologist, Illinois State Natural History Survey.—WNU Service.
Before farmers begin housing their chickens for fall and winter production, they will be decidedly profitable to thoroughly clean and treat the poultry buildings for lice, mites and other parasitic insects.

Unless effective control measures are taken at this time, flocks often become so heavily infested with these insect pests that they become unthrifty, egg production declines and thousands of dollars in poultry profits are lost by producers.

Practically all poultry insects can be killed by applications of any kind of oil. This applies particularly to mites, bed bugs and fleas which feed on the birds by sucking their blood at night. In the daytime these insects usually leave the birds and hide in cracks and crevices in the poultry house.

Some of the more economical and effective oils for this purpose are creosote, kerosene and waste crank case oil, applied with a brush or emulsified with soap and water and sprayed on the inside of the building. Dormant tree spray emulsions mixed at the rate of four or five gallons in 100 gallons of water are also efficient poultry insect destroyers. All cracks and rough places in the floor should be saturated with the oil to insure satisfactory control.

Poultry lice spend their entire lives on the birds and thus must be controlled by treating the fowls with dips, powders or gases toxic to the insects. For this a good grade of sodium fluoride is economical. Each bird is dusted individually by applying a pinch of sodium fluoride under each wing and around the vent, roughing the feathers to allow the powder to sift into the plumage, or the birds may be dipped in a solution of one ounce of sodium fluoride in one gallon of water.

Where it is impractical to handle each bird, painting the roosts with 40 per cent nicotine sulphate is recommended. A line of the disinfectant about one fourth inch wide is applied along the roosts just before the birds retire. The nicotine fumes filter through the birds' feathers, killing the lice. This treatment should be repeated in 10 to 14 days as it does not kill the eggs. All lime or whitewash should be removed from the roosts before nicotine sulphate is applied.

Scaly leg, caused by mites feeding under the leg scales, can be controlled by dipping the feet and legs in a solution containing two parts of raw linseed oil and one part of kerosene.

Confined Hens Lay Well, Experiments Have Shown

That hens kept in confinement, if properly fed, will lay quite as well as those of the same age on the usual limited range and even tend to lay eggs larger in size, has been shown in experiments at the United States Animal Husbandry Experiment farm at Beltsville, Md., covering a five-year period.

These experiments further showed that neither the fertility nor the hatchability of the eggs was affected by the confinement of the birds laying them. Important considerations in poultry flock economy. There was also no appreciable difference in mortality in the flocks maintained experimentally under the two systems of management.

Both lots of birds were fed the same rations except that those confined to their laying house had cod-liver oil added to the basic ration and the non-confined birds were allowed to range in grass yards about 70 by 100 feet in size. Every effort was made to furnish the confined birds all the sunshine possible through open windows in the laying house, the sunshine and cod-liver oil precautions preventing possible ill effects from vitamin deficiency. Both lots were furnished electric lights from 5 a. m. until daylight each day from September 15 to April 15 each year.

Cellophane Protects Chicks

It is well known among poultry raisers that young chicks have a tendency to pick at everything bright. Often they will pick to death another chick which becomes slightly scratched or injured, because they are attracted by the sight of blood. Experiments indicate that blue cellophane can be successfully used to control this trouble. The cellophane is simply placed in wooden frames similar to those used for wire screens and then fitted into the windows of the chicken houses.

Hens and Their Diet

The practice of throwing grain on the floor in soiled litter is coming to be looked upon with disdain. Experiment stations and commercial poultry farms have found that the normal laying flock can be fed both grain and mash in hoppers, and that they will consume about the correct proportion of the two. The same type of hopper that holds the dry mash can be used for scratch feed. But where grain is hoppers fed, additional hopper space must be provided.



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SCHOOL STATISTICS

Very likely the school situation in North Carolina will be given consideration in the next General Assembly, and for the information of those interested, the following data has been secured from the public relations committee of the North Carolina Education Association. The source of this data is from reports of the State Department of Education, the National Education Association and the U. S. Bureau of Education.

Increase in Amount of Work 1929-1930		
	N. C.	Nation
Enrollment	866,939	25,778,015
Average daily Enrollment	672,895	
1933-1934		
	N. C.	Nation
Enrollment	895,525	26,772,000
Average daily Enrollment	831,563	
Average daily attendance	756,758	

Total enrollment is different from average daily membership. In the latter duplicates, due to children being enrolled in two different districts in the same year are accounted for. Gross enrollments are used here in first item in order to make national comparisons. Average daily enrollment for the first period not available. While gross enrollment increased only 28,528 during the four years, average daily attendance jumped 83,863.

Decrease in Number of Teachers 1929-1930		
	N. C.	Nation
White teachers	18,025	
Negro teachers	5,866	
Total teachers	23,891	880,365
1933-1934		
	N. C.	Nation
White teachers	15,585	
Negro teachers	5,745	
Total teachers	21,330	850,000

While the number of children in average daily attendance increased 83,863 for the four year period, the number of class-room teachers decreased 2,561. North Carolina decreased the number of teachers 11.13 per cent as compared with a reduction of only 3.12 in the nation as a whole.

Number of Pupils Per Teacher 1929-1930		
	N. C.	Nation
Based on		

Enrollment	31.1	29.16
Average daily membership		
Average daily attendance	28.16	
1933-1934		
	N. C.	Nation
Enrollment	39	31.43
Average daily membership	36.2	
Average daily attendance	33.0	

Neither gross enrollment nor average daily attendance is the best method of arriving at the number of children per teacher. The average daily membership is the best basis. Gross enrollment is used in order to make comparison with national averages. Under either of these methods of computing the teacher load North Carolina is considerably higher than the nation as a whole and this load has increased during the past four years.

Average Cost Per Year Per Child 1929-1930		
	N. C.	Nation
Teaching cost	\$33.08	
Total cost	45.71	\$90.22
1933-1934		
	N. C.	Nation
Teaching cost	\$20.04	
Total cost	21.89	\$67.33

Per capita cost may be figured either on the cost of running the schools for the year, which gives a smaller figure, or on the cost of running the schools, plus the amount spent on building, called capital outlay. The per capita for national expenditures includes the buildings. In either case North Carolina has never spent more than half the national average per child for a year's schooling. Although we had never reached half the national average this State reduced the per capita cost 32 per cent as compared with 25 per cent in the nation. In teaching cost we cut over 39 per cent over the four year period.

Total School Expenditures 1929-1930		
	N. C.	Nation
Salaries	\$21,443,965	
Other operating	7,173,638	
Totals	\$28,616,603	\$2,316,790,384
1933-1934		
	N. C.	Nation
Salaries	\$14,198,466	

Other operating	4,575,482	
Totals	\$18,773,948	\$1,799,306,000

North Carolina cut its school expenditures during these four years 34.8 per cent, while the nation as a whole cut only 22.3 per cent.

Average Annual Salaries 1929-1930		
	N. C.	Nation
White teachers	\$ 954	
Negro teachers	639	
All teachers	\$ 850	
White principals	\$2,405	
Negro principals	1,344	

All principals	\$2,177	
Principals and teachers	\$ 902	\$1,420
1933-1934		
	N. C.	Nation
White teachers	\$ 604	
Negro teachers	384	
All teachers	\$ 566	
White principals	\$1,147	
Negro principals	949	
All principals	\$1,093	
Principals and teachers	\$ 618	\$1,222

In the nation as a whole the salaries of teachers were cut 13.9 during the period of the depression. In North Carolina the cuts amounted to 31.4 per cent. Much of this cut in North Carolina, of course, came because the local units side-stepped increasing salaries over and above the minimum provided by the State. Average salaries for both state and nation in this comparison of percentage reductions based on payments made to both teachers and principals.

Dr. J. W. Selig

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