

THE POULTRY YARD

Killing Lice on Small Chicks

FOR lice on small chicks, rub on the head and below vent a very little lard or vaseline containing carbolic acid or kerosene oil. Dust the chick with any good powder—Persian insect. Conklin's or Pratt's. If chicks are big enough to use dust bath, put are big enough to use dust bath, put insect powder or Conklin's in the dust material. Good snuff is good also. For large birds take mercurial ointment, reduced with four times its bulk of good lard or vaseline, well mixed, and rub a very little below the vent and under each wing.

For mites, which attack chickens at night, put carbolated whitewash well applied all over the house, roosts, nests, etc. Then use a spray of kerosene oil, saturated with naphthalene flakes (common moth balls, powdered, is about the same thing) applied on all the wood work, two or three times a week, till mites are conquered. If litter and nest material is old, better clean it all out thoroughly and burn it before spraying or whitewashing. F. J. R.

Rid the Coops of Lice and Mites

IF THE young chicks are drooping around and looking sick, examine them for lice and mites," is the suggestion now being given poultrymen by E. P. Clayton, head of the Mississippi A. and M. College Poultry Department. Both the young chicks and the sitting hen are likely to be attacked by these pests at this time of the year.

If lice are found, pull them off with the fingers and kill them, then rub a little grease on top of the head and under the throat. Be careful not to get too much, as much grease is dangerous for the young chick. The old hens and roosters may be dipped in a solution of 1½ parts creolin to 98½ parts water.

To get rid of mites, spray with pure kerosene (coal oil) all the roosting places, poles, dropping boards, floors, and nests. Repeat within a week to get all eggs they may hatch. Remember that mites harbor in cracks and crevices, and be sure to spray such places thoroughly.

"If these directions are followed during the months of May and June," says Mr. Clayton, "lice and mites will give little trouble."

More About Keeping Eggs in Water Glass

A READER says: "Would it pay to buy eggs and put them away for winter to sell. Will it pay to put them under liquid?"

This is a very broad question, and you give no data upon which to base an estimate. What kind of eggs can you buy? Would they be uniform, from one breed? How many? What will they cost you? When and how do you expect to sell them?

The "liquid" you mention is, I imagine, the sodium silicate or water glass solution. Some do put eggs in lime water, but, while it may preserve them for a limited time, limed eggs always acquire a more or less marked alkaline and unpleasant flavor. Limed eggs always sell at reduced prices.

The water glass solution is different. As you probably know, the shell of an egg is porous. From the hour it is laid, evaporation of the water in the egg begins, varying with temperature. The same porosity admits bacteria—germs—and through them, decay. This is why an untreated egg, in time, spoils.

If an egg has been fertilized, then the embryo in the egg begins to develop whenever the temperature surrounding it goes above 80 degrees. After such development begins, a change in the temperature to below 80 degrees kills this embryo, and rapid decay ensues.

Now, putting eggs in a solution of water glass has the effect of filling

the pores in the egg shell and also adding over the whole surface a coating of the silicate, air-proof, water-proof. If the egg was infertile and fresh it will keep for an indefinite time—at least for several months, remaining perfectly sweet, with no perceptible diminution in water content of the egg, nor change in flavor. Such eggs are practically as good as fresh-laid eggs for every culinary use, except one. The water in an egg, when it is boiled in the shell, is partly turned into vapor—steam. In case of an ordinary fresh egg, this steam escapes through the shell gradually, but, in a water glass preserved egg this is impossible, as the shell as stated is air and water tight, and the egg will burst. When an egg is known to be of this class, bursting when boiled can be prevented by boring a small hole at one or both ends with a needle, making a safety valve, and such eggs, for home use, are safe and satisfactory.

But, if so preserved for sale, unless the buyer is honestly told they are water glass eggs, the result is certain to be unsatisfactory to the buyer, and to the seller.

Now, if the eggs so treated are sold explicitly as water glass preserved eggs, it is almost certain they will have to be sold at a reduced price. The question then resolves itself into this: What will infertile, clean, absolutely fresh eggs cost you? Can you get them in sufficient quantities, of a uniform color and size, to warrant the trouble of gathering and packing them? What is your market, and can you obtain in fall and early winter months assured prices, allowing a discount for "preserved" instead of fresh-laid eggs, to pay for the trouble?

Without a knowledge of all these points it is difficult to safely advise you. While we urge the storing—packing—of surplus summer-laid eggs for home use, as a commercial proposition, we have our doubts. F. J. R.

Chicks With Sore Eyes

A READER who signs no name, and gives no address, asks for a remedy for sore eyes in chicks, but gives no data, except that the eyes close and inflame like sore eyes.

The trouble probably is catarrhal inflammation of the membranes around the eye—probably extending to throat and nostrils.

The first thing to do is to remove causes. Damp, unsanitary buildings, exposure to drafts, dust, are exciting causes.

The simple treatment is best. Tincture of euphrasia is a reliable remedy for colds and troubles caused by colds. Give 15 drops to the pint of water, allowing birds no other drink. Bathe the eyes and mouth with a solution of hydrogen dioxide, 1 part to 2 of water. After bathing, use vaseline or lard ointment, with 2 per cent Kresol or Creolin added.

SALE DATES CLAIMED

The Progressive Farmer is glad to announce and claim for the breeders the following dates upon which sales of pure-bred livestock will be held:

Aberdeen-Angus
American Aberdeen Angus Breeders' Association sales as follows:
May 18—Knoxville, Tenn.

HOLSTEINS
July 3—Woodlawn Farm Co., Sterling, Ill.

Shorthorns
Nov. 6—Frank Scofield, Hillsboro, Texas. Shorthorns, Louisiana State Fair Grounds, Shreveport.

Our readers will confer a favor upon us if they will keep us advised of sales, and we will be very glad to claim further dates for breeders if they will let us know in time.

This is quite important, as it often prevents a conflict of dates and adds to the success of each individual sale.

HIS DEFINITION

"Son, what is an average?" asked the father. "Why," answered the youth, "it's what the hen in the arithmetic lays an egg a day on."—Exchange.

(Paid Political Advertisement)

BICKETT AND THE FARMER

To the Farmers of North Carolina: I am a Franklin County farmer. I live out in the country and have never lived in town. As a farmer I have watched the conduct of Mr. T. W. Bickett during the past twenty years, and I know he has always been willing to give his time, his talents and his cash to help the men who live out in the country. I am in a position to know what I am talking about.

His chief hobby has been to get young white tenants to buy their own farms, and in a great many instances he has gone out of his way to secure this kind of a chance for them. Franklin County is an agricultural county without a single large town in it. If Mr. Bickett is made Governor his first thought will be about the people who live on the farm, because they are his people.

I heartily endorse what Mr. J. Z. Green had to say in The Progressive Farmer of April 22nd. It is an independent expression which every farmer ought to read. The farmers of North Carolina are not an ignorant set of people. They do some reading and some thinking, and to those of us who know the real facts, the claim that Mr. Daughtridge is a farmer candidate is somewhat amusing:

The facts are simply these: (1) Mr. Daughtridge was born on a farm and inherited a

big tract of land from his father. (2) He did not like living in the country and moved to the city of Rocky Mount where he now lives. In the words of his campaign booklet: "He directs the affairs of the large, successful business of the Daughtridge Supply Co.," and is President of the Planters' Cotton Oil & Fertilizer Co. (3) Not a single farmer is in his campaign organization. The argument for his nomination is signed by seven lawyers and one insurance agent.

It is especially funny to a farmer who does his own thinking, that Mr. Daughtridge is trying to stir up the farmer against the lawyer when he gets seven lawyers to write his platform and then takes other lawyers around to explain it to the people.

I know from past experience and personal talks that Mr. Bickett wishes to do everything he can for the improvement of rural conditions, and I feel positive that he will be able to do much more than Mr. Daughtridge.

Considered solely as farmer candidates, the only difference between Mr. Daughtridge and Mr. Bickett is that Mr. Daughtridge lives in a big town and owns a big farm out in the country, while Mr. Bickett lives in a small town and owns a small farm out in the country. J. O. GREEN.

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