



# "PRACTICAL POULTRY TALKS"



## HOW TO TREAT YOUR POULTRY IN HOT WEATHER.

Messrs. Editors: It will not do after all the planning and hard work of hatching to relax one's grip on the poultry work of the summer season. To neglect the duties of the warm months is to lessen the profits of the coming winter, if indeed there should be any balance in our favor.

To get the best results during the hot days of the year requires constant care and no letting down in the time given to the birds. Lice flourish wonderfully as the sun heats houses and brooders. Drinking water quickly becomes stagnant in the heat. The birds feel at once the effect of a diet that is too heating. Neglecting to supply the proper food to chicks and laying stock soon shows its results in the looks of all the birds. It is during the next two months that the successful poultryman puts in steady work. He or she lets the chicks out of the hot coops in the early morning, they feed all their stock, food that is suited to the season and age of the birds, they provide for the needs of the little chicks as well as the full grown birds, they plan to protect their birds from vermin, both great or small.

### Plan Your Winter Buildings.

Plans are now to be made for new buildings for next winter's use. The quicker the new house is covered in, the larger the money returns from eggs next winter. Fall-built houses are costly when we consider the losses from sickness due to dampness. It takes time to dry out the soil un-

der a new house, and wet quarters are always to be avoided. Keep clear of dampness, at all cost, in any brooding house designed for winter use. I have known of too many poultry failures due to erecting buildings after the fall rains, not to insist upon doing all building early in the fall, or better still, during the months of July and August.

Keep the birds comfortable during hot weather, and plan to bring them into winter quarters in condition to return a good profit for all time and money expended. Will you do it?

### How to Burn Sulphur.

Sulphur is an excellent disinfectant when burned in the poultry houses; but as sulphur melts and smothers the flame it is difficult to burn it satisfactorily. One way to do so, is to dissolve one-half pint of pine tar and one-half pint of turpentine in one-half gallon of kerosene in an open vessel; soak in this solution large corn-cobs until they are well saturated. Then take them from the solution and dust on them all the powdered sulphur that will stick to them. Use nails or pieces of wire, and insert the pointed end into the large ends of the cobs and then stick them on the floor. Remove all combustible matter from the poultry house, permitting the fumes to enter every crack and crevice, all over the surface, and the lice will be destroyed. This should be done at least twice a month in warm weather.

UNCLE JO.

## Vetch as a Forage Crop.

Has a Higher Feeding Value Than Timothy and Improves the Soil Like the Cowpea—Some Successful Experiments Near Wilmington.

The Wilmington, N. C., Star says that the Carolina Trucking Development Company has made a speciality of growing vetch the past year and the results indicate that too few of the farmers in Eastern North Carolina realize its value as a forage crop.

The rather loose sandy soils of this section as well as the climatic conditions encountered here are admirably adapted to its growth, so much so in fact, that upon soil which is far below the average in fertility and not capable of producing one-half bale of cotton per acre, a crop of one ton to one and one-half tons can be cut, provided that the soil is thoroughly inoculated. Inoculation is a gradual process, each succeeding year bringing better results, shown by more uniform stands, large root nodules and larger yield.

The company's experiments have shown that the nitro culture shipped in hermetically sealed tubes which is prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture does not give the desired result—whether the solution be applied to seed or soil, and that a better stand is secured by broadcasting soil brought from a field upon which a large crop of vetch was grown the year before. A striking illustration of this was seen at St. Helena where two ten acre farms contiguous to each other were sown, one being treated with nitro-culture, the other with inoculated soil. The latter yielded one and one-half tons per acre, while the former hardly gave 500 pounds per acre. About 500 pounds of such soil broadcasted over an acre of ground ordinarily intro-

duces enough bacteria to give a fairly good crop the first year.

The seed are sown broadcast in September or October at the rate of thirty pounds per acre with one and one-half bushels of oats, wheat or rye; this latter being necessary to support the vetch so that the cost of mowing will be reduced to a minimum. Vetch can either be harvested in May for hay or it can be grazed at intervals through the winter and early spring just at that season when virtually no pasturage is available. The cattle can be taken from the field in April and the vetch allowed to reseed itself.

### Superior to Timothy Hay.

Timothy has long been considered the standard for hays in this section, but a comparison of the following analysis proves that vetch has a far higher feeding value, showing 19.17 per cent protein matter for vetch as against 6.40 per cent for timothy.

Vetch.—Water, 00.0; ash., 8.91;

protein, 19.17; fiber, 28.63; nitrogen free extract, 40.70; fat, 2.59.

Timothy.—Water, 00.0; ash., 5.04; protein, 6.40; fiber, 35.21; nitrogen free extract, 51.16; fat, 1.97.

Cowpeas.—Water, 00.0; ash., 10.37; protein, 14.62; fiber, 29.25; nitrogen free extract, 43.30; fat, 2.44.

The analysis of cowpeas is also given for the sake of comparison, its nutritive value being about the same as that of vetch.

### High Fertilizing Value.

Both vetch and cowpeas have another and greater advantage over timothy in that they increase rather than exhaust the fertility of the soil.

It has been estimated that each good crop of cowpeas or hairy vetch turned under green adds about \$35 worth of fertilizing material to the soil, and if the hay is cut and stubble plowed under there will be added about \$7 in fertilizing value. Why then are our farmers willing to buy timothy at \$25 per ton when they can grow a better hay for less than half the price and at the same time increase the fertility of their land?

By growing our own forage crops, we will increase the annual income of Eastern North Carolina by over \$5,000,000, instead of filling the coffers of our Western friends.

### A School Without Cigarettes.

To an order for an advertisement for his institution, Prof. Z. P. Beach-board added the following note to show how little quarter is shown the deadly cigarette in Littleton, N. C., High School:

"We are making a strong fight against the cigarette question. We will not keep a boy in school who smokes cigarettes. Our stand on this question will make it unpopular for us, but we will not waste our God-given energies to educate a man who insists on killing himself by degrees with base cigarettes. At the close of school last year we had on roll over one hundred boys, and we did not have a single cigarette smoker in school. As soon as we show them the evils of it, and the penalty to follow if they do not stop it, they quit smoking them."

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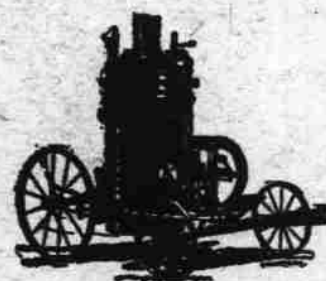
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