

State College Hints To Farm Homemakers

By **VERNA STANTON**
Assistant State Agent

For three years, the Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture has been making an intensive scientific study of home canning low-acid vegetables and meats. Given below in recipe form are the bureau's new directions for home canning asparagus and green peas.

The research scientists stress the necessity of using a steam pressure canner for low-acid foods, since this is the only practical method to guard against botulism—serious food poisoning—from these canned products. They also stress importance of following directions completely, since these process times may not be adequate for food prepared and packed by some other method.

Asparagus: Wash asparagus; trim off scales and tough ends and wash again. Cut into 1-inch pieces. Cover with boiling water. Boil 2 or three minutes. Pack hot asparagus to 1/2 inch of top of glass jars. Cover with hot cooking liquid; or, if liquid contains grit, use boiling water. Leave 1/2 inch space at top of jar. Add 1/2 teaspoon salt to pints; 1 teaspoon to quarts. Adjust jar lids. Process in pressure canner at 10 pounds pressure (240 degrees F.)—pint jars, 25 minutes; quart jars, 55 minutes. As soon as jars are removed from canner, complete seals if not the self-sealing type.

Green Peas: Shell and wash peas. Cover with boiling water. Bring to boil. Pack hot peas to 1 inch of top of glass jars. Cover with boiling water, leaving 1 inch space at top of jar. Add 1/2 teaspoon salt to pints; 1 teaspoon to quarts. Adjust jar lids. Process in pressure canner at 10 pounds pressure (240 degrees F.) in either pint or quart jars, 40 minutes. As soon as jars are removed from canner, complete seals if not the self-sealing type.

For control of aphids and thrips on roses, nicotine sulfate is recommended for the aphids, and 50 per cent wettable DDT for the thrips.

KEEPING CULLS IS EXPENSIVE

Poultrymen Should Make It Spring Practice To Cull Birds

North Carolina poultrymen are losing several million dollars each year in the form of feed bills by keeping culls in their laying flocks, according to Roy S. Dearstyne, head of the poultry department at State college.

"Culling of laying birds in the spring is, or should be, a routine procedure of the practical poultryman," Mr. Dearstyne said; "however, this is not carried out in all instances on as strict a basis as it should be done, and considerable loss results."

A laying bird will consume about nine pounds of feed a month, which, if figured at four and one-half cents a pound, would amount to somewhat over forty cents a bird. With feed representing about 60 per cent of the cost of production, the poultryman can easily figure how many eggs a chicken must lay to pay the cost of maintaining it.

Some birds are going out of production in all flocks during the month of May, and whether in the business on a large or on a small scale, it will pay the poultryman to follow through on this matter of culling, he said.

State College Answers Timely Farm Questions

Q. When should I place my pullets on range?

A. Roy S. Dearstyne, head of the poultry department at State college, says it is well to get developing pullets on range as soon as possible after they are 10 weeks of age. Before the birds are moved, they should be individually handled and all culls removed. It is not going to pay, especially with feed prices as high as they are, to attempt to carry sub-normal pullets ahead this year, because they seldom straighten out and become profitable birds. By providing a good range for the pullets, the feed bill may be reduced from 10 to 15 per cent.

15 per cent.

Q. How can I control root knot in garden vegetables?

A. Howard R. Garriss, plant pathologist for the State college extension service, says the garden should be located in a different site each year, if convenient; if not, plantings should be rotated in the garden. Plantings of warm-weather or summer vegetables on infested parts of the garden should be avoided.

Sweet corn, early plantings of lettuce, radish, onions, peas, spinach, and cabbage may be grown in infested soil with considerable success.

When buying plants for transplanting, get them from producers known to have clean soil, and do not plant infested Irish or sweet potato seed.

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J. Is it necessary to provide minerals to hogs?

A. A good mineral fixture should be kept in a separate compartment of the self-feeder, or in any dry place where the sows and pigs can have access to it at all times, according to E. H. Hostetler, professor of animal husbandry at State college.

The following mixture is recommended: Ten pounds of finely ground limestone, five pounds

thoroughly steamed domestic bone meal, and two pounds salt.

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