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That coponizing pays but that capons do not gain anywhere near what is claimed by some, is indicated by the results of an experiment conducted by the poultry department at South Dakota State college.

According to these claims, the capon should gain twice as much as a rooster of the same age and breed, but a 10 per cent gain is about the best to expect. The lighter breeds like Leghorns, do not really gain at all. Since chickens usually hatch late on the farm and since there is usually plenty of feed, caponizing will probbly pay the farmer. The birds should be caponized when developing wattles and combis, or better when they weigh about two pounds in the American or medium-weight breeds. The capons can be shipped in barrels holding 150 to 200 pounds, during January and February, and bring a good price.

Two weeks before marketing, the capons should be put in close quarters and fed on futtening rations, such as milk, corn meal, bran, tankage, etc. Any combination like corn and milk is very good. Duffing the time previous to these two weeks, the capons can be fed on corn and can be allowed to run with the pullets.

In dressing capons for market, only the soft feathers need be removed. The coarse feathers on the wings, tall, etc., may be left on. The capons must be dry-picked, if a good price is expected.

As capon feathers, especially white ones, are in demand and will bring. from 85 to 90 cents per pound, the firmer can afford to keep them clean and dry and the colors unmixed.

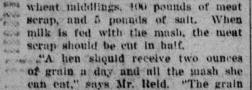
. To have capons mother little chicks does not pay. This means that capons have to be kept over winter. Three or four dollars are thus invested is them, whereas an old hen would do better.

## Must Feed Hens Mash to Fill Summer Egg Basket

"Hens will not lay eggs in the summer unless they are supplied with an the much they can cat," says Duncan H. Reid of the poultry department, University of Wisconsin. During the spring months, the wet ground and grass are full of insects which provide plenty of animal feed for the hens, but when summer comes the insects disappear and this lack of animal food must be supplied through the mash.

A good ration recommended by Mr. Reid consists of 100 pounds of ground corn, 100 pounds of ground oats, 100 pounds of wheat bran, 100 pounds of





ration should consist of corn supplemented with 25 per cent wheat and oats. This is contrary to the general tellef that corn furnishes too much heat. Tests have shown that the best results are obtained when this ration ts used. The grain should be fed a little in the morning and heavy at night. The mash should be changed at least once a week. A lack of oyster shell during the summer months will cut egg production in half. Green feed, such as clover, when mixed with the mash, has a decided advantage even if the green feed is growing in the yard."

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## **Poultry Notes** @#@#@#@#@#@#@#@#@#@#@#@#@#@#@#

For some reason, not fully understood, thick, sour skimmed milk seems To have a greater value for hens than sweet milk. . . .

The eld Idea of ducking and starving to prevent broodiness is not to be recommended where further egg production is desired.

Green feed at all seasons is a necessity for health and egg production. Large quantities of mangels and cabbages can be produced on a very small area.

. . . Chickens, to be fed profitably, should first be ':ept' growing during the growing seasor. To best accomplish this they should be given a varied diet of ment and vegetable protein.

Lime is the principal constituent of egg shells and hens should be provided with lime if they cannot gather it naturally. It can be given in the form of crushed lime stone, crushed egg shells, etc.

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Many farmers begrudge a hen every bite that goes down her neck, and numerous early risers on the farm get up to feed the hogs before daylight to keep the hens from enting with them.

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Poultrymen are finding out that hens will lay as freely without the company of males as with them. This fact permits the lessening of expenses by doing away with the rooaters. It is also a fact that eggs that are infertile will keep much the longest.