

THE FARM NEWS

SPECIAL PAGE DEVOTED TO THE FARMING INTERESTS OF CRAWFORD COUNTY



Edited by E. F. Tucker

DEPARTMENT

THE NEWS OF THE FARMER AND BREEDER OF PURE BRED LIVESTOCK

CULL POULTRY IN JULY

Beginning in July poultry owners should begin the culling of their flocks with a view of eliminating the poor layers, says H. A. Bittenbender, head of the poultry work at Iowa State college.

"After July 1 many hens that did well in spring and early summer go on a vacation," says Mr. Bittenbender. "A few of them will come back and produce reasonably well in the fall months. Most of them will show a marked decrease in egg production through summer and fall, lay a few eggs before cold weather sets in and then quit laying until spring. These birds should be culled from the flock in July, August or September.

"As a rule," says Mr. Bittenbender, "the earliest moult, that is, the bird that goes into a complete early moult is unprofitable and should be put on the market."

There are three types of culls to look for:

1. The hen that lays around during the spring, laying only a few eggs. This bird is almost always reasonably fat and in good condition because she spends more time keeping herself looking well than filling the egg basket. If of a yellow leg variety her shanks and beak will be yellow and the pelvic bone well covered with meat. If the yellow color in shanks, beak and eye ring has not faded, it is sure that she has not laid enough eggs to pay for her keep and is not likely to do any better later on.

2. The back-heavy, over-fat, broken-down, buggy hens. They are best culled in the early part of the summer. They may have done quite well in laying, but the chances are that the summer's heat will break them down. Most of these hens are older than yearlings and should be culled because of age alone.

3. The hen that shows signs of physical weakness. She has a long narrow head, lacking depth from top to base of beak, and with small, elongated nostrils. Her beak will be long, straight and pointed and her eyes will be sunken. The face and comb will often be pale and the comb undeveloped. The body will be narrow, especially through the back, and lacking in depth, and her breast undeveloped and sharp. Her legs will be long and stilt-like, or bending at the hocks, giving a squatting appearance. Toss will be long and ends showing. Lack of vigor will be shown by dull eyes and restless appearance. She will be inactive and her feathers rough.

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One of the progressive and successful farmers and stock raisers of East Boyer township, a man who represents the best interests of the community in which he resides, a man who by enterprize and thrift has acquired 400 acres of some of the best land in the township is A. C. Lochmiller, of section 21, East Boyer. "Walnut Grove Farm, A. C. Lochmiller, Prop.," is registered with the county auditor, and derives its name because of the splendid walnut grove that furnishes ample shade for the large fine house owned by Mr. Lochmiller.

It is a delightful drive from the ridge road to Manilla down through the winding valley by the Bert Hester farm, the Wm. Mundt farm, now owned by Frank Constock, and then up by Walnut Grove Farm. One's attention is attracted by the stately walnut trees that stand majestically in the well kept front lawn of the Lochmiller home. Under these trees the family spend many delightful afternoons and evenings. The home was built in 1906, and has been kept in the very best of condition. Each year fresh paint is added and the entire place has the appearance of having recently been built up. The house is 32x47 feet, with 18 foot posts, has a fine and complete basement, heated by furnace, has a gas lighting plant, and the arrangement of the rooms is such that space and convenience predominate. Mrs. Lochmiller is a daughter of W. H. Schneider, and she became Mrs. Lochmiller 24 years ago. They have a family of five children, and Mr. Lochmiller does not depend upon hired help at all. The boys have everything they wish and are content to remain under the parental roof, and assist with the work of the farm. Mrs. Lochmiller takes considerable pride in a chicken house recently built by Mr. Lochmiller. This building is 20x48 and is modernly equipped. There is a scratching room, two roosting rooms, hot water brooder feed store room, curtains for the windows that keep out the hot rays of sun, and a cement floor is easily cleaned. Mrs. Lochmiller has a large number of chickens and the son, Emil, who occupies Chicago. Ordinarily he ships to Omaha, but this shipment will go to Chicago. The cattle were all of his own raising, and were the nicest bunch of fat stock we have ever looked at. This year's crop as he raised the corn, and also the cattle. These cattle are of the Polled Shorthorn breed. A. C. is very careful in the selection of his founch, from stock; he likes uniformity in color and size, and always culls anything not to his liking. These cattle have the range of a fine pasture and the advantage of a fine never-failing never-freezing spring of cool water that is piped into a drinking trough. He enters the red hog, and has 75 spring pigs.

President of the school board, town ship trustee, farmer, and breeder and raiser of pure bred Hereford cattle, pure Chester White hogs, and a man who believes that the farmer and stock raiser should exert extra efforts in production this year as well as years to follow, is Henry A. Hamann, proprietor of Nishna Center Stock farm in sections 15 and 16, Nishnaboth township. As president of the school board, Henry believes in paying good wages, furnishing the best equipment and demanding a competent teacher; as trustee he demands that the affairs of the township be run the same as one runs his private business; as a breeder and stock raiser, he believes in eliminating the scrubs, keeping a pure sire and at least a good grade dam; a breeder cannot pay too much for a good sire of the right kind; Henry's advice to the farmer is to rotate the crops, keep cattle and hogs and raise plenty of feed with which to market his stock. Without livestock on the farm, no matter what the price the farmer cannot exist to an advantage. Henry says if a scrub gets into his herd he immediately culls the animal at whatever price. In another place in this paper, Mr. Hamann is advertising some of his pure Hereford for sale, and if anyone wishes to look his stock over, phone to Henry and he will meet all trains with an auto. We found 70 head of Herefords on the Hamann farm the other day, and the herd was headed by that great bull "Leo Fairfax." This bull is a son of the world's famous "King of the Hereford Sires" Perfection Fairfax, and is a splendid individual; kind and docile, a splendid head and shoulders, well rounded quarters and a back as straight as they make them. The cows Mr. Hamann is offering for sale have calves at foot and are rebred to Leo Fairfax. In the hog line, Mr. Hamann went to the world's famous "King of the Hereford Sires" and purchased the best of the breed for his herd. He has some 120 spring pigs and 25 brood sows. It was at this place we saw some exceptional barleys, and in this field had been sown some alfalfa, and it was well rooted and growing fine. In another field was some of the best oats to be found in the neighborhood, and in still another field of sixty-five acres, was some fine corn. Mr. Hamann keeps one man steady, and during the busy season, hires extra men. In all that Mr. Hamann does, he has the sanction of his wife, and she has proven a great help to him. By the way, Mrs. Hamann is a Perry girl, but is glad she came to Crawford county and to Nishna Center Stock Farm.

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Tom Jackman, the Grant township potato farmer, boasts a "fifteen acre patch of good old Irish tubers that now bears 'fruit' as big as hen eggs. "Tom" boasts having put into the ground more than a thousand dollars worth of potato seed, a fact which proves he is possessed of a good and steady nerve. Tom also has an acre of onions that looks like seven hundred bushels right now. The Bee family visited the Jackman ranch the other evening and found his specialty crops a delight to the eye.—Jefferson Bee.

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Dan Swanson has sold his farm in Willow township, the north half of section 21, to Richard Lickbalm of Hillford township. The Swanson farm has long been known as one of the good farms of Willow, and has long been in the possession of Mr. Swanson.

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Pumpkins planted in the corn fields where a missing hill of corn is found will make good feed for hogs late in the season when the corn is removed. Also a good supply of winter pumpkins can be gotten.

SWEET CREAM IS IN DEMAND

Dairy farmers of Iowa could realize a considerable additional income on their milk if they marketed sweet cream instead of sour, according to M. Mortensen, head of the dairy department of Iowa State college.

Many Iowa creameries, says Professor Mortensen, have found that cream market sweet cream for a better price than they can realize on butter made from sour cream. The rapid increase of the ice cream business has made a heavy demand for sweet cream.

Some of the creameries in Iowa that are marketing their products in the form of sweet cream are the cooperative creameries at Randall, Burt, Algon, Manley, Manchester and several other places.

"As a result of this system," declares Mr. Mortensen, "these creameries have increased their production materially for the producers realize that they are obtaining a better price for their product than under the old plan of marketing."

"Manufacturers are now selling cream cooling tanks for farms which can be placed between the water pump and the stock watering tank. The cream, immediately after it has been skimmed, is placed in this cooling tank in a separate container. It is mixed with cream from previous skimmings only after it has been thoroughly cooled.

"By this system it is possible to keep the cream sweet for several days and the farmers producing such cream are able to realize a premium of 3 cents or more per pound of butter for their cream."

CREAM PRODUCTION AT HIGH POINT

According to reports coming from large packing centers, receipts of live poultry are heavier, but prices show little change on account of the fact that storage stocks of poultry have been much reduced. There is a good demand from the consuming trade. Young chickens are being marketed in increasing numbers, but unless there is some immediate change in the situation prices will be well sustained until after the 4th of July.

More eggs are being produced than are required for current consumption.

Due to hot weather and generally poor quality, there is a tendency toward slightly lower prices.

Deliveries of cream during the week have shown some increase and production has now reached the high point of the year. There has been little change in prices, although the trade is taking a conservative view of the situation, because of the expected importation of Danish and Argentine butter.

Claimed the college girls don't always marry but anyway they don't have to resort to the drug store in order to interest the men.

German claim their army reduced to 200,000 but the other 800,000 know where their guns are hid and what the signals are.

George, or H. G. Boeck, living in section 3, Nishnaboth, has been making some improvements on the ground his place, and right now is just completing an ornamental gateway to the farm. Two large brick piers capped with cement tops, have been built and from these there swings a fine farm gate. The piers are of hard brick and colored mortar, and the work was done by none other than L. D. Vassar, of Denison, and right here we recommend him to any farmer who wishes a similar job of work. L. D. also made the forms for the cement capping, and the whole job is one of workmanship. A similar gate is to be built at the front entrance to the yard. The H. G. Boeck family, like hundreds of other Crawford county families get lots of enjoyment out of life, and when they come into town, the ladies ride in a sedan and if George has any hauling to do, he uses a truck. Considerable attention is being paid at this time to the appearance of the front yard and the grounds leading up to the house, and many ornamental trees and hedges have been set out, and a fine lawn started. The buildings are all well painted, and the general appearance of the farm is one of good management and progressive ness. Geo. has 30 head of pure Aberdeens, and purchased a McHenry Blackcap of Messrs. Escher & Ryan to head his herd. He keeps the Duroc hogs and has some pretty fair brood sows. Mrs. Boeck likes the Buff Orpington chickens and has 300 at this time.

We are reliably informed that there is to be a Farmers' Union store started at Schleswig in the near future. There is already subscribed for the project more than \$10,000. The concern is to be incorporated and a manager secured. It has not been learned whether the intention is to buy out one of the Schleswig concerns or to start independently.

If some folks in Denison would spend a little less time existing the high cost of labor and a little more in mowing their own lawns and painting their own floors, they would come out considerably better.

Someone suggests getting rid of curbstone loafers by having moving sidewalks. While the Willie boys would then have to stand in the streets and slightly lower prices, the public would not feel the loss much.

The stock brokers made money by putting stocks down on the year showing of the winter wheat crop, and now they are prepared to make some more by putting them up on the good reports from spring wheat.

The people who have money won't buy costly goods any longer and those who haven't money can't buy them. Might as well come off your high perch, Mr. Profiteer.

Sugar shortage stops the food canneries, but the ice cream saloons must not be interfered with.

WEEDS REDUCE PASTURE VALUE

Weeds in Iowa pastures reduce their efficiency sometimes as much as 50 per cent. That is not a mere guess, but a statement based on careful investigation of a good many pastures in the state by Dr. L. H. Pammel of Iowa State college. In some localities Dr. Pammel found less than 4 per cent of the growth in clean, weedless grass while the remainder of the growth was hoary vervain, prickly lettuce, small rag weed, greater rag weed and golden rod. In other locations there were few weeds, but still from 75 to 80 per cent.

"Iowa land is too valuable to permit it to produce so many weeds," says Dr. Pammel. "The annual loss on weed account is heavy in Iowa. The best remedy for the trouble is to use the pasture in a rotation system in order to destroy the weeds by cultivation. If ground is to be left in grass, then weed seed formation should be prevented. This can be done by cutting the weeds close to the ground with a mower at blooming time and, if necessary repeating the operation."

One of the pleasant farm homes, and in which supreme contentment reigns is that of Bert J. Hester, in East Boyer township—the Wm. Schneider place now owned, however, by Mr. Hester. There are 100 acres in this farm, and the place is well improved, and Mr. Hester stands to make a lot of money on the place. Fortunately he purchased it just before the big rise in land values, paying \$185 per acre for it. He could double his money right now if he cared to. Mrs. Hester is a daughter of Mr. Matt Frey, of Denison, and she is a worker from morning 'til night. She now has the care of 500 chickens and exports 200 more; looks after the milk from 11 cows, cares for a good garden, and does her own housework. Mr. Schneider keeps 40 head of cattle and a large number of Duroc hogs. His crops are looking fine and Friday last he was cutting some hay that was more than knee high. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Stahl, of Ashton, S. Dak., were recent visitors at the Hester home, and Mr. Frey is spending the week out there. The Hester home is modern has a gas lighting system, furnace heat is well kept, and the household is a most happy one.

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