



SODIUM FLUORID EFFICIENT

Recently Discovered Insecticide for Fowls Is Cheaply and Quickly Applied.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Nothing has given so much satisfaction in getting rid of chicken lice as sodium fluorid, used by poultry specialists in the United States Department of Agriculture. It kills adults and young lice, including the young which emerge from eggs present at the time of treatment.

Sodium fluorid can be obtained in two forms known as commercial, and as chemically pure. Both of these are in the dry state, the first being a fine powder and the second in small crystals, somewhat lumpy. While the chemically pure material is effective, it is not so easily applied by the dusting method as the more finely powdered commercial form, and furthermore, it costs more. The commercial grade should contain 90 to 98 per cent sodium fluorid.

This material is the sodium salt of the chemical element known as fluorin, and hence is a compound very similar to ordinary table salt, which is known chemically as sodium chlorid. In asking for sodium fluorid, therefore, it is important that the name, "fluorid," be carefully stated to the druggist.

If the proper methods are followed remarkable control is obtained. One thorough application of sodium fluorid to all fowls will destroy completely all the lice present. It is essential, however, to see that treatment is thorough, and that every fowl is treated. It may be applied in two forms—as a dry dust and as a dip. In the dust form the action of sodium fluorid is comparatively slow; hence, if examined the next day after treating, or even two or three days later, a few lice may be found, but the material persists, and after four or five days all lice disappear. It kills, too, all lice emerging from eggs on the feathers.

For best results small amounts of the material should be placed on different parts of the infested fowls. Specialists have found what they call the "pinch method" to be entirely effective against lice, and to have the advantage of economy of time and material. The material is placed in an open vessel on a table, the fowl is held by the wings or legs in one hand, while with the other hand a small pinch of chemical is placed among the feathers next to the skin in this way: One pinch on the head, one on the neck, two on the back, one on the breast, one below the vent, one on the tail, one on either thigh, and one scattered on the underside of each wing spread. Each pinch can be distributed somewhat by pushing the

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Dusting With Sodium Fluorid—An Effective Way to Rid Poultry of Lice.

thumb and fingers among the feathers as the material is released. It is advisable when dusting to hold the chickens over a large shallow pan, as in this way the amount of material ordinarily lost is recovered.

The material may be applied with a shaker, but this method has disadvantages when compared with the pinch method. The material is shaken into the feathers with one hand while the feathers are opened with the other. A second person is needed to hold and turn the fowl. In this method the amount of sodium fluorid used may be reduced by adding some finely powdered material such as road dust or flour. Fowls should be turned into the open as fast as dusted to prevent possible injury from breathing the dust. For young chickens, young turkeys, and indeed all newly hatched fowls the dusting method is recommended rather than dipping. This applies also to sick fowls.

The common objections to dipping poultry to rid them of lice have been overcome by the specialists by using the sodium fluorid solution. In general the dipping method is applied to the South and to summer treatments in the North. A rather warm, sunny day is preferred so fowls will dry quickly. Windy weather should be avoided.

POULTRY FLOCKS

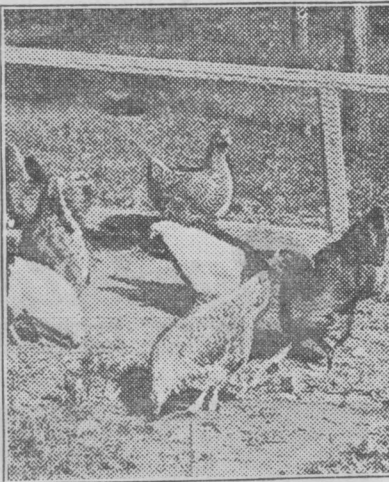
EGGS FROM BACK YARD FLOCK

Owner Should Be Satisfied With No Less Than Ten Dozen Eggs Per Hen, Say Experts.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The average novice can reasonably expect to get an average of at least ten dozen eggs per hen a year from his small flock in the back yard, say poultry specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture. On the basis of two hens to each member of the family this will give 20 dozen eggs a year to each person, which amount is about half way between the general average of farm and city consumption. No back-yard poultry keeper should be satisfied with less than this. He should try, however, to get as much more as possible.

To provide an egg a day for each person two hens would have to lay 183 eggs each a year. This is by no means an impossible average for small flocks. It is perhaps not too much to



A Common Mongrel Back Yard Flock.

say that in case, where the person attending the flock is in a position to look after the wants of the birds three or more times a day an average of better than thirteen dozen eggs per hen can be secured if the hens are mature and in good condition at the start, and have the vitality to carry them through a year of heavy laying.

For the farm the average of 100 eggs per hen is advised as the lowest that should be accepted as satisfactory, while for the back yard 120 is insisted upon as the lowest average, although in general the conditions in back yards are less favorable to poultry keeping than on farms.

WHY CULLING IS PROFITABLE

Unculled Flock of 992 Hens Laid 3,576 Eggs in Week and 3,520 With 79 Taken Out.

An unculled flock of 992 hens laid 3,576 eggs in the week before being culled. Seventy-nine weak layers were cast out. The culled flock of 913 came right back the next week with a record of 3,520 eggs, while the 79 culls, living under precisely similar conditions, and doing their very best, were laying only 85 eggs. The market value of the eggs laid by the culls was around \$3.50. The cost of feed alone for them at a cent a day for each hen was \$5.53 for the week. Figures like these, say the poultry specialists at the university farm, show the importance of keeping only the best layers. Lessons driven home in the farm bureau's and extension division's campaign for frequent culling of flocks should put thousands of dollars in the pockets of poultry raisers.

GEESE ARE QUITE PECULIAR

Different From Other Fowls as They Must Be Mated Previous to Breeding Season.

Geese are peculiar animals. They ought to be mated several months prior to the breeding season to obtain the best results; therefore breeding stock should be bought in the fall, and all changes in matings made then. Matings are not changed from year to year unless results are unsatisfactory. And this is the peculiar feature of it. If the matings are changed, it is necessary, usually, to keep the previously mated geese so far apart they cannot hear each other.



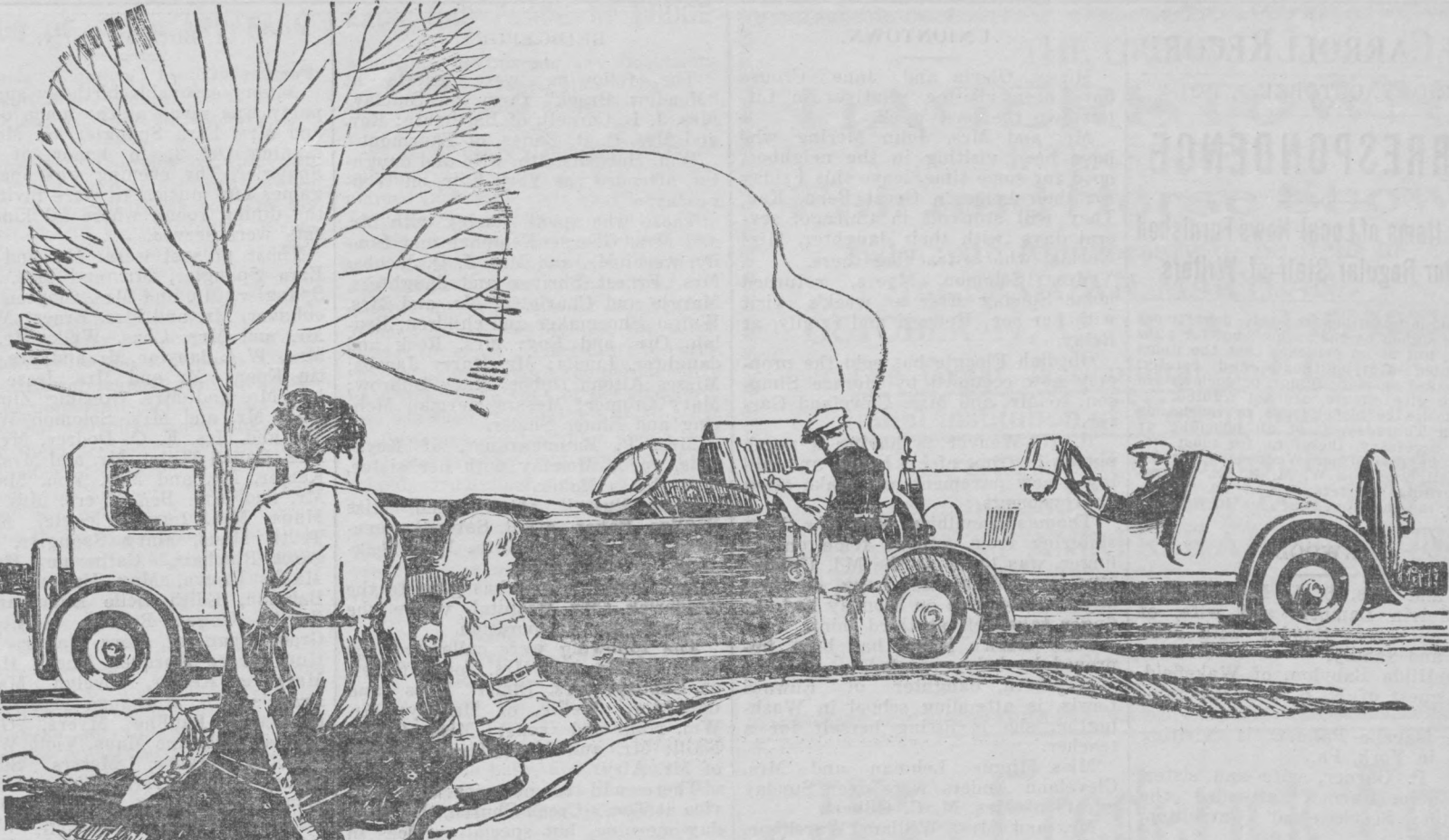
Keep lime always in reach, plenty of gravel or grit and a good dry dust bath for the fowls.

Give the growing stock all they want to eat. They won't pay unless they grow, and they can't grow unless well fed.

Separate the males and females. Both will stand the hot summer weather better if separated, and the eggs will also keep better.

Hens need fresh water as much as do horses. During these hot summer days they will suffer greatly unless they have constant access to it.

The farmer who fails to save some of his choicest second-growth clover for the hens during the winter will miss one of the best egg-producing feeds we have.



The More Annoying and Common Motor Troubles are Avoidable

If your motor overheats frequently, misses, gives off vile-smelling exhaust fumes, requires frequent carburetor adjustments, carbonizes quickly at valve seats and spark plugs, it is probable that impure gasoline is the cause.

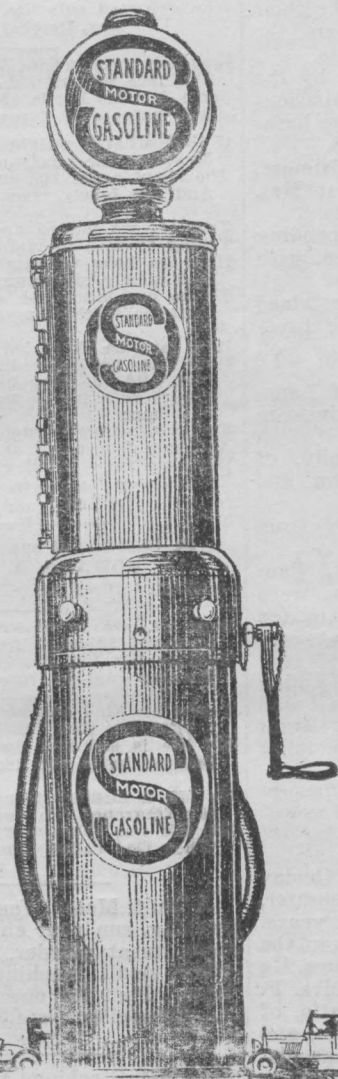
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