

Poultrynz

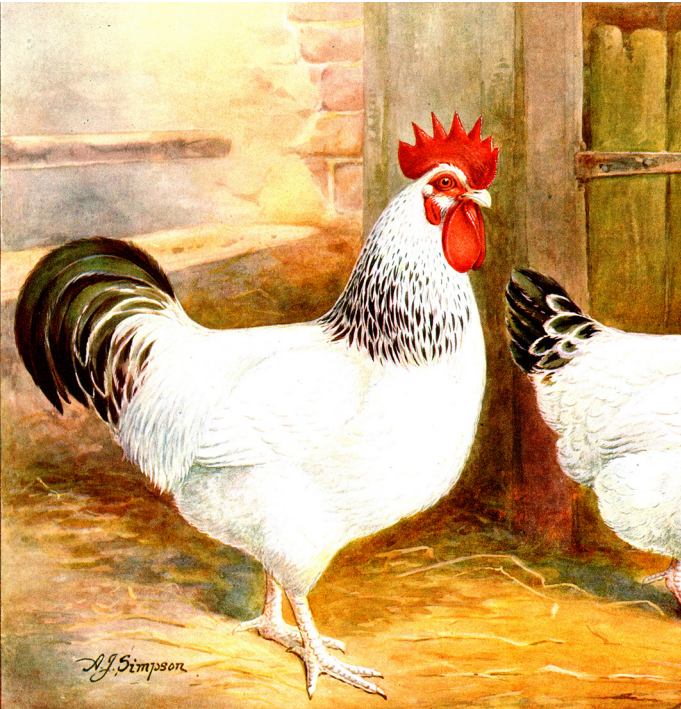
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Poultrynz Editorial

I must say that this Show Season has been quite hectic for me hence the lateness of this Newsletter. I was really pleasing to meet old friends again after missing last years Show Season because of illness.

The last show I will be attending this year will be the Waikato Show in Hamilton on the 15th and 16th of July. Poultrynz will

have a stand there and our surprises will be the sale of Poultry, Pigeon and Cagebird books and prints. We will display a lot of rare and hard to find items so that some can share in the enjoyment I have had from these rare items over the years. It will be good to see you there. Until next issue.

Regards, Ian Selby.

It's live!

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Poultry Shield	1 Litre	\$30.00	\$12.50	\$20.00
	5 Litre	\$100.00	\$15.00	\$25.00
Poultrynz DE (Diatomaceous Earth)	300gm puffer	\$16.00	\$10.00	\$12.50
Poultrynz DE	300gm refill	\$10.00	\$7.00	\$12.50
Poultrynz DE	1kg	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$20.00
Poultrynz DE	2kg	\$35.00	\$10.00	\$20.00
Poultrynz DE	4kg	\$70.00	\$15.00	\$25.00
Poultrynz DE	8kg	\$120.00	\$15.00	\$25.00
Poultry Leg Spray	500ml	\$20.00	\$10.00	\$20.00
Poultry Leg Spray	125ml	\$9.00	\$5.00	\$12.00
Epsom Salts	3.5kg	\$15.00	\$12.50	\$20.00
Combo's				
1 litre Poultry Shield + 300gm D.E.		\$40.00	\$12.50	\$20.00
1L Poultry Shield + 300gm D.E. + 500ml Leg Spray		\$56.00	\$12.50	\$20.00
5 litres Poultry Shield + 4kg DE		\$150.00	\$15.00	\$25.00

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APRICOT AND ALMOND MERINGUE FLAN

INGREDIENTS

Serves 6 or more

- 200g dried apricots
- 400g homemade or ready-made rich shortcrust or buttercrust pastry
- cream, lightly whipped, for serving (optional)
- Meringue
- 120g ground almonds
- 2 small egg whites
- 120g caster sugar

METHOD

- Soak apricots in very hot water for three to four hours, until soft. Drain, mop with absorbent kitchen paper, and chop coarsely.
- Roll out pastry and line into a 24cm fluted flan ring with a removable base. Chill until pastry is firm. Line with tissue paper (or tinfoil) and fill with rice or baking beans. Bake for 12-15 minutes (baking 'blind'), or until the rim of the pastry is coloured, in an oven preheated to 190°C (fan bake). Remove rice or baking beans and paper.
- Put the ground almonds in a shallow ovenproof dish and toast them lightly, for about 5-7 minutes, in an oven preheated to 170°C (fan bake). Let them cool.
- Put the apricots on the bottom of the pastry. Beat the egg whites with an electric beater until foamy, then add caster sugar a little at a time. Beat until the mixture forms stiff peaks. Fold almonds into whipped egg whites and spread over apricots, keeping mixture in from the pastry edge as it swells during baking.
- Bake for 30 minutes in an oven preheated to 180°C (fanbake). If the meringue colours too quickly, drape a piece of aluminium foil over the top to reflect the top heat. Remove the flan from the oven, leave five to ten minutes, then slide onto a cooling rack. Serve cool, with lightly whipped cream.

TIP

The flan can be prepared several hours ahead; when cool, store in the pantry, not the fridge. Before serving, whip the cream very lightly.

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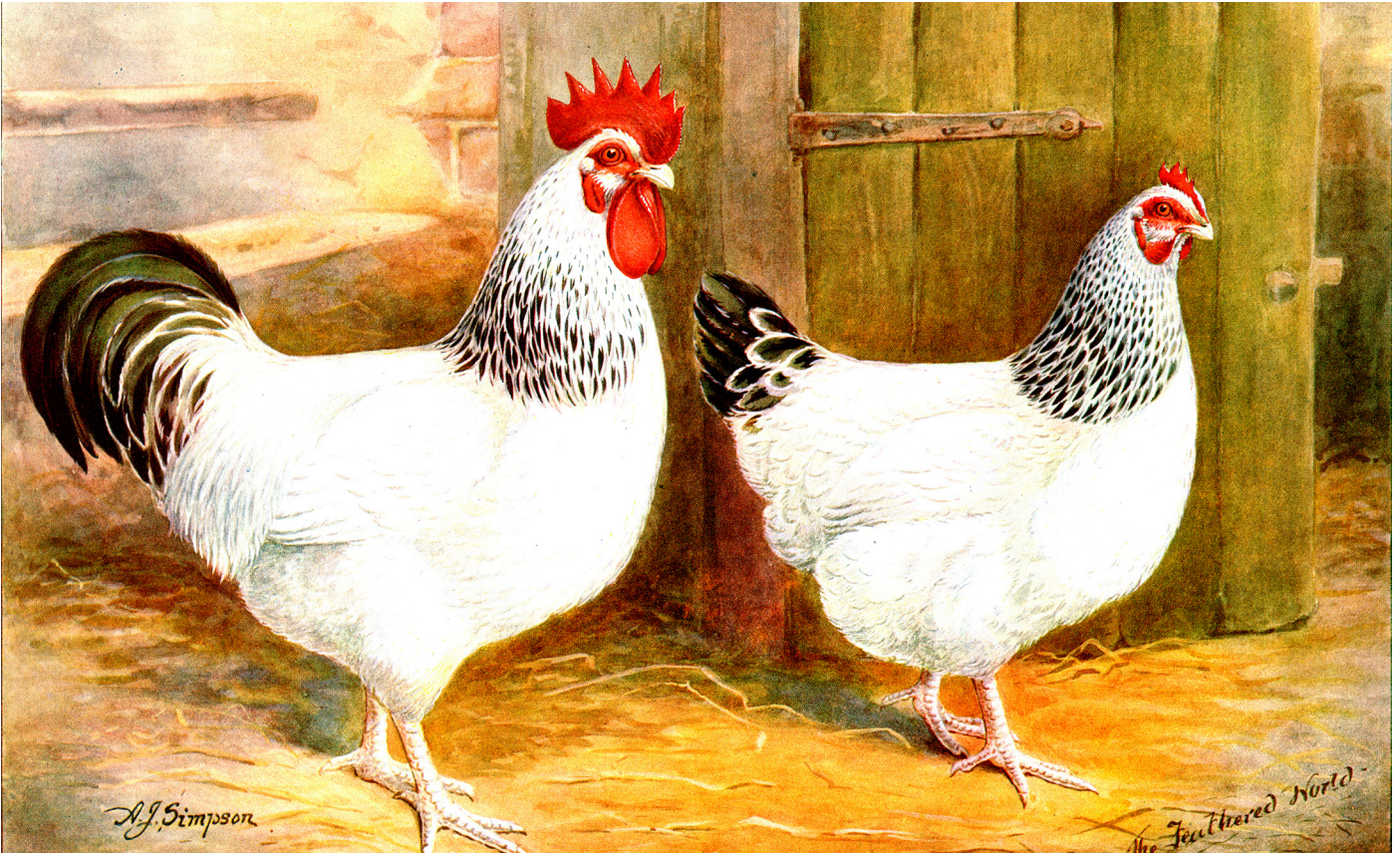
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THE IDEAL SUSSEX FOWL



Author unknown

Light Sussex pair

In the course of a paper delivered at Heathfield, Sussex, England, the extensive trading centre in specially-fattened Sussex fowls fordable, on the subject "My Ideal Sussex," Mr. John A. Howard, a prominent English breeder, stated:

We have to thank several old breeds, such as Cochins, Brahmas, Dorkings, Game and others, for the part they played in making the Sussex.

The standard of the Sussex fowls was drawn up and the club started, I believe, in July, 1903. The first show of Sussex in the county from which the breed derives its name was held at Lewes in November, 1903. (England) There were then only three varieties; the lights, the speckled and the reds. There are now six varieties; the lights, reds, speckled, browns, buffs and whites.



Red Sussex

The novice should visit shows, studying the exhibits, and buy a well-selected breeding pen or sittings of eggs from a reliable breeder. Experienced breeders are always willing to advise the novice. It is not always possible for the beginner to buy many good fowls, therefore a good cock or cockerel and three or four good hens or pullets can be purchased.

A Sussex cock should have at least four mates; it is possible to get infertility through under-mating as well as over-mating. The fowls selected must be of good, size - cocks weighing 9lbs. (4.10kg) or over and hens 7lbs. (3.20kg) and upwards. They should have



Speckled Sussex

moderately-sized single combs, well set on and nicely serrated. Long, deep bodies and straight, broad backs, long breasts, broad, rounded and carried well forward, and close-fitting plumage are necessary. They should have stout white shanks and feet of moderate length, set wide apart.

Points of the Light Variety

White plumage, with black in neck hackle, wings and tail. Neck hackle feathers while striped with black, centre of each feather entirely surrounded by white margin. See that black does not run out at tip of feather. Select specimens with broad feathers in neck. Neck hackle markings should start as high up the head as possible and extend round front to neck. Some black is required in flights and tail, and cock has black tail coverts. Undercolour should be white, but in the breeding pen same dark undercolour is allowed. In breeders have excess of black rather than too little. Black must be dense and white pure. Eyes orange.

Characteristics of the Speckled

Feathers composed of three colours, white tip, then broad bar of glossy black, the rest rich dark mahogany. Undercolour should be slate, not red or white, and flight feathers in both sexes white, brown and black. Hen's tail should be three colours, tip being white: cock's tail black and white, and sickle feathers black with white tips. The great thing in speckled is to start with a good ground colour, that is, a rich, dark mahogany,

and the black must be free from smears of white

A Guide To Poultry Breeding

By R. Sturgeon

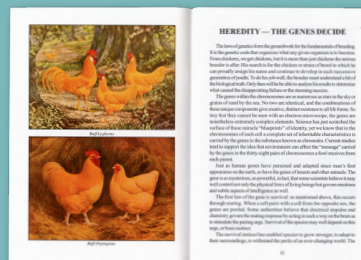
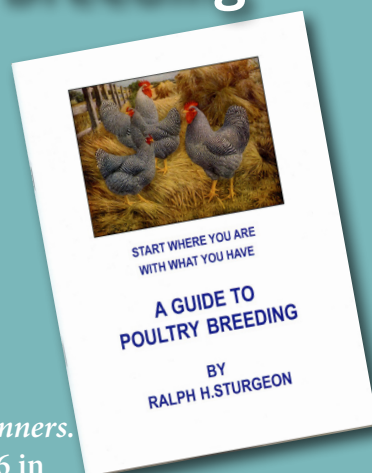
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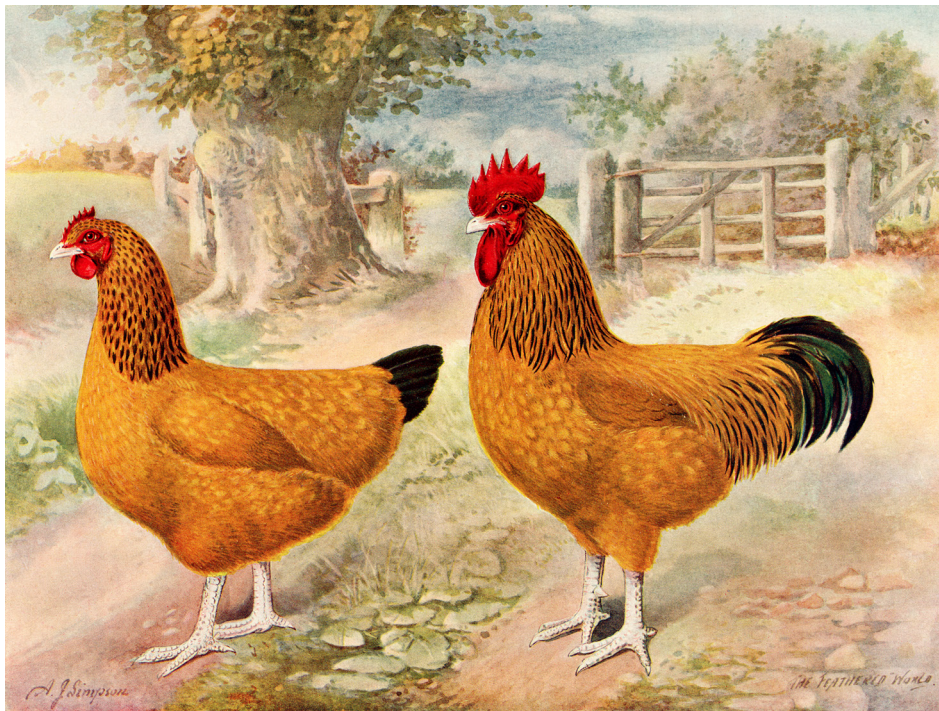
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Buff Sussex

or brown, and the white tip must be snow-white without specks or smears. There should not be too much white on the females, or they will look what is termed "too gay." Points to avoid in the males are ginger necks and saddle hackles and too much white in tail and wing-bow. Eyes red.

The Red Sussex

Male and female should be a rich dark red with a sound black stripe in the neck hackle, black tail and some black in the secondary and flight feathers. Undercolour should be slate. There must not be any sign of mealiness on the breast or pepperness on the back. Eyes red.

Brown Variety Described

Male has head, neck and saddle hackles of rich, dark mahogany, each feather striped with black. The back and wing-bow, rich dark mahogany. The wing coverts forming the bar should be blue-black. The wing secondaries and flight feathers, black edged with brown, and the breast, tail and thighs black. The female has head and neck hackle of brown, striped with black, back and wings dark brown, finely peppered with black, the shaft of the feather forms a fine line of pale brown. The breast and underbody should be clear, pale wheaten brown; the flight feathers should be black edged with brown, and the tail black. The colour of the eyes is brown or red. Males should not have golden neck or saddle hackles, and females must not be too black on back or wings, or red on breast.

Colour in Buffs

The colour is a rich, even golden buff, The head and neck hackle in both sexes striped with greeny-

black, wings buff with black in the flights, tail greeny-black and tail coverts in males greeny-black. The undercolour should be buff, but a dark shade is at present allowed. Eyes red. Avoid using males that are red on shoulders or patchy-breasted or with white in wings or undercolour. In the females, endeavour to breed only from those that have sound buff breasts and fluff. Avoid washy-coloured specimens.

The White Variety

These should be pure white from head to tail, and undercolour also must be pure white. A very little black in places is allowable in the

breeding pen, as it sometimes makes for a purer white. The eyes should be orange.

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SEASONAL ADVICE ON MATING

Author unknown

This being the mating season it is appropriate that special attention be called to the influence vigour plays on the success of your breeding program. If your breeding stock is physically weak you cannot expect to have good hatches. No matter how good your breeders may be as regards to exhibition points, they should not be in your breeding pen if they are at all weak in constitution. Your stock should be capable in parenting strong chicks that will live and grow. There are many causes to which the lack of health and stamina

in adult bantams can be traced and which ultimately have a bad effect upon your chicks. Inbreeding over an indefinite period to fix standard points; showing birds to excess prior to breeding from them; mating your birds too long before eggs are actually required for hatching; over-feeding for the use of highly stimulating foods outside the birds natural season of egg production. Any of these will seriously affect the progeny.

When mating birds then, the chief fact to be sure of is constitutional vigour and soundness in the birds. Being sure that the foundation upon which is built your strain of stock will be sound. It does not mean that because a young bird appears good to the eye, such a bird is fit for the breeding pen, as much depends upon the age of a bird in respect to the physical condition of its progeny. It is safer to breed from a vigorous old bird than from a vigorous young and immature one. The hen that has entered her second laying season undoubtedly produces stronger progeny than does the late hatched pullet. Tip-top exhibition pullets hatched late may be fine for early winter shows and they may win everything in sight but that does not mean they are fit for the breeding



Laced Wyandotte hen showing good constitution, ideal for breeding.

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pen. Pullets actually should not be used until they have reached at least 10 months of age. If the pullets are of the age mentioned above, they should be mated to either well matured cockerels or two year old cocks, then strong, vigorous chicks will result. Two year old hens are, of course, the most desirable for breeding, but unfortunately they are not always in laying condition for the production of early chicks. Hens should be mated to cockerels if possible, it is a mistake to mate two year old hens to two year old cocks if the birds are much or the same weights up in the standard, as the resulting progeny will, as likely as not, be heavier than their parents when matured. A word about the number of hens or pullets used with a male bird. I have found that a breeding pen does best with just two females. Pairs matings are also advisable if you want to correct certain faults.

Pullets should not really be used in the breeding pens of Fowls.

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WHAT I LEARNED FROM A HEN

by Jim Rines, Sr., USA who wrote this at aged 88

In the days of my youth there were no \$1-stores and childhood was not littered up with gimmicks. I played with living things – puppies, kittens and little chickens. I would not leave the impression that when I was a child, I made a scientific study of living things on the farm, but I did observe them and in later years realized that my youth had been surrounded by wonders that great thinkers are unable to explain. I choose to speak of a hen because hens have less intelligence than any other fowl I have observed. This one was a fluffy chick that grew to henhood under my careful watch. It took only seven months to do this and she was a grandmother before I was old enough to understand why. In some respects I envied her. She could sleep on the limb of a tree without falling out of bed, of food within reach, she ate what she pleased, where she pleased, how she pleased, when she pleased and did what she pleased between meals. When half grown, she could eat one third of her weight in succulent food in one day. Timid folk were called “chicken hearted” and I didn’t want a chicken heart, but Oh for a chicken gizzard – my size! No toothache, no stomach ache, just a gizzard with a lining that could wear out gravel. I used to wonder what law of survival gave a gizzard to chickens and little boys had to take castor oil for their stomach ache, and then there were teeth to be pulled.

Have you considered how a poor family could pay its instalments on a high priced automobile if they could grow their own garments, sleep in a tree, and live all summer on a load of chicken feed and a broken grindstone. After more mature reflection I am most happy that my family was not chicken like in appetite, growth and numbers. If from birth I had doubled my weight as often as the chicken did, I would have weighed 512 pounds before I was weaned. If there had been as many half brothers and half sisters in my family as in hers, the disaster would have been appalling. Really, I am glad that God gave personal attention to the creation of man. If God had given the physical equipment of any other creature on earth, even if he had added the mental and spiritual gifts that man has, the result would have been a calamity. Little as a hen knows, it is surprising how much she knows about learning. From the time the chick is old enough to leave the nest or incubator it understands hen language. A hen has two words to caution her brood. One means hush, the other means hide. She is more upset with other cries when fighting in their defence, or caught by the foe. As a lad I learned to imitate a mother hen and found much entertainment in bidding them, “hush and hide.” A hen



Lad with Chickens

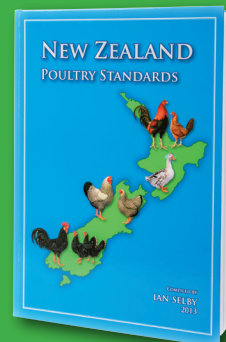
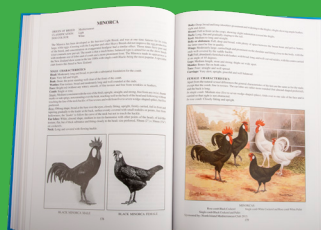
knows when it is likely to rain, she knows her feathers ought to be waterproofed. She knows where there is an oil fountain on her body and proceeds to smear her face with oil and use her feathers for a towel.

When my hen reached maturity she announced it with a ‘song-a-hen’ song. Choir leaders will not understand

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how she did it the first time perfectly without rehearsal. Having heard other hens sing the same time, I made a nest in a secluded place, put her on it and she sat for perhaps three hours. In the meantime, I found a white door knob and slipped it under her. When she arose from the nest, she looked at the door knob and burst into cackling, announcing her gift to the wealth of the world. How she knew that she was doing the right thing, I do not know. I do know that cults have been started that way. Next day she really laid an egg, and we both cackled or, to be more exact, we both made much ado over it. As she could not count up to two, I took the egg and left the door knob in the nest, she never missed the eggs. After four weeks she again did what she had never done before. She clucked! Up to that minute, she had never tried to cluck, and then she couldn't stop clucking, except when she was on the nest. A new urge possessed her. She wanted to do what would be a punishment for a hen without the urge. Overnight she had become what we called a "setting" hen. One might think it would be a torture to sit on hot eggs in hot weather for three weeks, but it is a punishment to restrain a hen that wants to.



Hen with Chicks

After the brooding had been going on for a few days, I took a newly hatched chick from another hen and slipped it under my hen – just to surprise her. I surprised her and she surprised me. If I had not quickly removed it, she would have killed it. She had the urge to sit on eggs, but the urge to hover moving chickens had not arrived. After the urge arrived she was a good mother. So it is with nature – as it is written in the Bible, "Behold the Fowls." As I approach ninety I give thanks for all the blessings which have come my way.

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SHOULD I KEEP PURE BREED FOWLS?



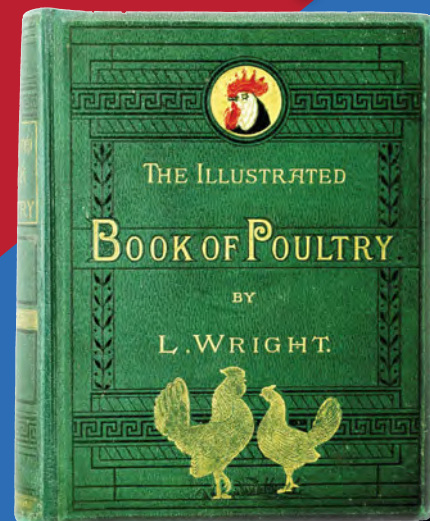
by Barry Bilton

Nice trio of Buff Orpingtons

As a fancier, that question requires no answer, however, how often is that comment posed to you? I know I am really preaching to the converted, but some of the following thoughts which I recently read in a publication are worthy of repeating when discussing this topic.

To the factory farmer (Poultry Farmer if you wish) of today, the pure breed of poultry is of very little interest, modern hybrid birds being more suited to his needs. However, it is interesting to note that nearly every egg-laying record is still held by the pure breeds. I guess we can acknowledge that the advantage of hybrid fowls is their better food conversion and their ability to survive in intensive conditions. But for the fancier who wishes to keep poultry in more natural conditions the standard bred fowl has much in its favour. The difference in food conversion is largely offset by the fact that the traditional breeds require lower quality feed. Many of the old heavy breeds can make considerable use of household scraps, while lots of the lighter breeds (particularly Game Fowl), given free range are excellent foragers. I believe that the biggest advantage of pure breeds over hybrids is that they are genetically stable and breed true. Instead of the annual expense of purchasing new stock the owner of a pure flock can carefully select his best birds and breed his own replacements.

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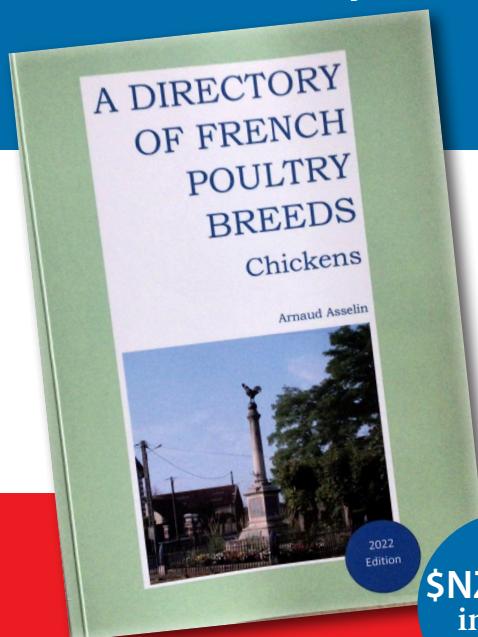
Attractive Brown Leghorn Fowls

Moreover, the traditional breeds have a longer useful life and remain a more viable proposition. There is no doubt that their continued existence is largely due to the Fancier, Poultry Clubs, the various breed Clubs and Poultry exhibitions. I have heard various opinions expressed over the years but I am convinced that although some breeds may have lost their commer-

cial qualities, I take my hat off to the fanciers who continue to retain them and help to stimulate interest in pure breeds of poultry.
cial qualities, I take my hat off to the fanciers who continue to retain them and help to stimulate interest in pure breeds of poultry.

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