

Poultrynz

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**BANTAMS AS A HOBBY
IN NEW ZEALAND**

Poultrynz Editorial

About two months ago my Facebook page was hacked and I don't really have a clue how to fix it or whether I want to. My percentage of communication using it is probably less than 1% as most of my communication is by email. So, I am sorry for the breakdown in communication via Facebook and the easiest way is by email.

Just one price rise in the Poultrynz Products. That is in

the Lice Powder which goes from \$16 to \$20. The Lice powder is the only imported product we have and it should now be price stable for some time. The Courier Charges are a difficult one now. All prices have gone up slightly too but there is another round due on the 1st July. Nothing we can do about this either.

Until next issue.

Regards, Ian Selby.

If you have friends or colleagues who might appreciate the Poultrynz newsletter please pass it on. Your friends can be added to the distribution list.

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Venue - Barber Hall, Arena 5, Waldegrave Street, Palmerston North.

Thursday 4th June Penning 1pm to 8.30pm .

Friday 5th June - Judging - Open to exhibitors 3pm to 5pm .

Saturday 6th June - Open 9am to 5pm.

Sunday 7th June Debenching 8am to 10am.

Saturday 6th June Dinner and Prizegiving 6.30 pm at Tasty Restaurant

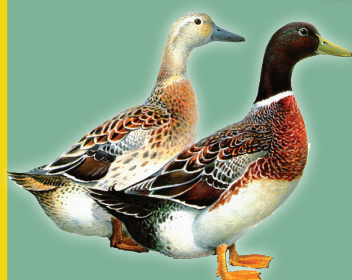
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CHICKEN SCHNITZEL



INGREDIENTS

Serves 4.

40g packet chicken-flavoured potato chips

1 cup fresh breadcrumbs

1 tablespoon chopped parsley

2 eggs

4 medium-sized single chicken breasts, skinless and boneless

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup oil

METHOD

1. Carefully crush the chips into small pieces within their packet, using your hands. Place the chips, breadcrumbs and parsley into a shallow bowl.
2. Whisk the eggs in another shallow bowl.
3. Halve the chicken breasts horizontally.
4. Dip each chicken fillet into the egg and then into the crumbs.
5. Heat a little oil in a large frying pan over a moderate heat and cook the chicken in batches until golden on both sides and cooked through. Add more oil to the pan as needed.
6. Serve with vegetables or a crisp green salad.

ANCONAS



by Phillip Rierpoint, from *"Poultry Fancier."*

Ancona Male

A few weeks ago, whilst browsing through a secondhand bookshop, I happened upon two old volumes of a Poultry Encyclopaedia; the exact age of which is difficult to determine, but as far as I can ascertain is about 1900 or perhaps a little later.

With regard to Anconas quite a lot of information is given in relation to the ideal utility specimen and its production, and also much of interest pertaining to the exhibition variety, both standard and bantam.

Being such an old edition I thought it may be of some value to compare present-day standards with those of many years ago and accrue from this comparison a fair estimation of progress in this breed. This is what the book had to say, briefly:

"In the early 1850s the Ancona was first imported to England from Italy, and was it seems of rather

mongrel appearance due to the fact that many varieties and sub-varieties existed, including white, brown and red specimens, though type remained constant. This accounts for the brown or copper-coloured feathers which sometimes appear in the neck hackles and wing coverts of present-day cockerels, though it is more often thought by those not intimately associated with the breed, to be due to cross breeding with other varieties. It is strange to note that these brown feathers rarely appear in the pullets."

"When breeding for exhibition purposes, a point should be made of selecting a cockerel and two or three pullets of medium size, with good head points and without any tendency to white in under colour, white lacing, or large white splashes anywhere. The under-fluff and bases of the wing and tail feathers



Ancona Female

should be as dark as possible and the legs and feet yellow with dark spots - neither pure yellow or pure black. All the feathers should possess a beetle-green sheen, and the white tipping to each should be small, clear and V-shaped. The head should be rather large for the size of the bird as also the comb; the latter should stand erect in the male bird and should have no inclination to fall over. Plumage and type are far more important than size, though to a certain extent this is a desirable feature. No judge with any real knowledge of the breed would, or should, allow a large badly-tipped bird to be placed above a smaller bird possessing good tipping, colour, type, etc."

UTILITY ANCONAS

"The Ancona is considered to be one of the most prolific of layers, requiring less food than any other variety of fowl. It is a mistake to give them corn and soft food ad lib, for much better results are obtained by allowing them to forage in hedgerows and fields for small particles of food, about which very few other fowls would trouble. When selecting birds for egg production it is wise to pick out those which are lighter in colour than the rest, especially in under-fluff, the male should have long flowing sickles, and

A Guide To Poultry Breeding

By R. Sturgeon

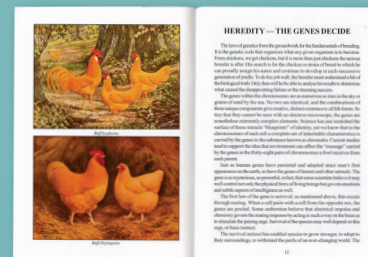
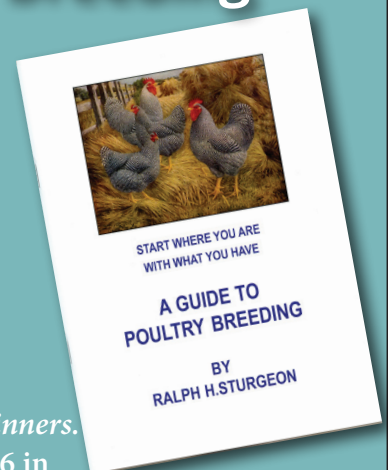
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Ancona Bantam

have plenty of neck and saddle hackles. He should be light in colour, upright and alert; preference should be given to a bird having white wings and tail with black tips to latter instead of a black tail."

ROSECOMB ANCONAS

"This sub-variety was first introduced about 1900; just how it was obtained cannot be definitely stated. The head gear of some strains is similar to the Wyandotte and others to the Hamburgh, the former being considered better in appearance. The Rosecomb Ancona often lays a tinted egg which indicates that some sitting variety was used in its production."

It is interesting to note the reference to small, clear V-shaped tipping and beetle-green sheen as being highly desirable features, for I am sure that many members will agree that occasionally size is given pride of place, combined possibly with a good

eye, lobe, etc. and the tipping, though far from satisfactory, thought to be sufficient to place a bird at the head of the class.

In conversation around the shows. I hear many terms of reference to the tipping of the Ancona, including mottling, ticking, flecking, etc. Let us not lose sight of the clean white V-shape as being the major characteristic and strive to follow this through when breeding.

Having been involved in the exhibition of eggs for several years I would like to point out the particular merits of the "Ancona", to those who have not produced eggs for this purpose or any under the misconception that the variety compares unfavourably with the more prominent white egg layers.

Unfortunately, pullets produce eggs which are rather too pointed as well as lacking in size and

the shape of the Ancona egg from birds in their second year is not, I admit, ideal; but with age an obvious improvement is observed. Personally I have obtained the best results from three year old hens which provided they are housed in small numbers and not harassed by an extremely active male bird, or bullied by members of another breed, will more than prove their worth with large eggs of good shape and shell texture.

The nesting site should be given careful thought especially with Anconas, as they are of a rather nervous disposition and easily alarmed. A large communal nest box I find ideal, situated well off the floor and in semi-darkness; the latter point is useful to dissuade a curious male from invading the sanctuary of the nest and also hinders a potential egg-eater.

Thorough cleaning of eggs at the first opportunity is essential, as delay causes staining which may be impossible to remove; prevention of contamination, of course, is the answer, and to ensure this birds must be kept in scrupulous clean conditions and remain indoors during wet weather, care being taken though to supplement their intake of green foods and grit.

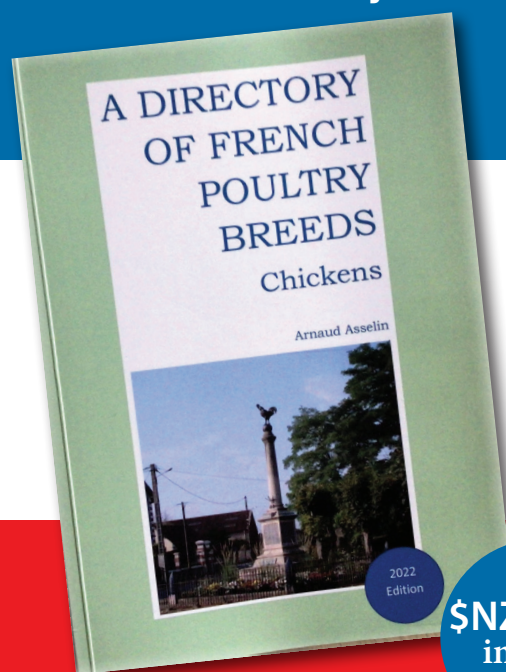
Regarding contents classes the breed compares quite well, though yolk size may be slightly inferior to the large brown egg layers, on the other hand I find less blemishes on average in Ancona eggs than other varieties - be this as it may, coincidental.

Bantam egg classes are usually included in most schedules, and the Ancona here again is in with a good chance, for many judges prefer a small trio which is a feather in which our Ancona eggs excel. It is important especially with bantam eggs to avoid rubbing them too vigorously as this only adds to the gloss, which will go against the marking in the majority of cases.

To conclude I would like to say that though the large brown eggs of the Welsummer, Maran and Barnevelder are undoubtedly a beauty to behold, and perhaps take most premier awards on average, the white eggs of the Ancona have won for me of recent years several Best in Show Awards, Poultry Club Certificates and Trophies, and will I am sure continue to give great satisfaction to other people who, on future occasions, decide to exhibit their Ancona eggs.

A DIRECTORY OF FRENCH POULTRY BREEDS

by Arnaud Asselin



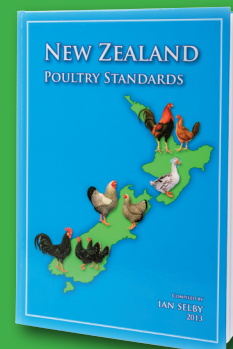
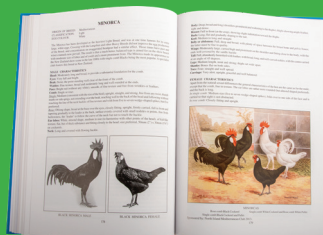
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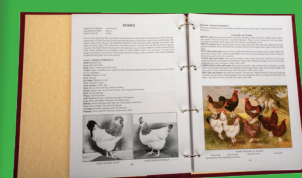
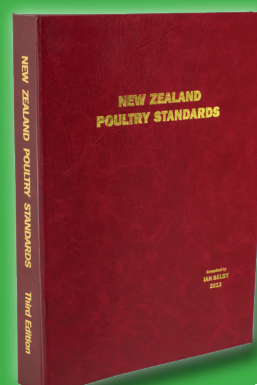
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BREEDING FROM PULLETS



by J.N.McLean. NZP&GB, 1993

Breeding Flock of Light Sussex with Cock mated to Hens

When the principles of poultry breeding on sound lines are under discussion, one of the most controversial questions relates to the use of pullets for breeding purposes. This is one of the questions which very few poultrymen would be prepared to answer with a straight-out “yes” or “no.” No experienced breeder would commit himself one way or the other without qualifying his statement. Authorities of worldwide repute, with the advantages of scientific knowledge, practical experience and information based on experiments and research, are by no means in agreement on this question.

There is, however, one assertion in regard to which there can be one opinion only, namely, that the indiscriminate mating of unselected pullets will inevitably result in the serious deterioration of the general standard of any reasonably good flock. One can go further and assert quite emphatically that such a practice when carried on for a number of years in succession will prove disastrous in respect to the general standard of a flock, including bodily

conformation, constitutional vigour, stamina and average egg production.

This sweeping condemnation of haphazard breeding from unselected pullets - all shapes, sizes and ages - cannot be accepted as having a maternal bearing on the question whether it is a sound practice, within limits, to breed from specially selected, well bred, well developed pullets which have been laying for four or five months before being placed in a breeding pen. As a matter of fact, the practice of breeding from flocks of unselected two-year-old hens - just because they are hens - will also result in deterioration, although possibly not to the same extent.

In discussion this matter of breeding from pullets modern developments have to be taken into account, particularly in regard to commercial farms which cater for the day-old chick trade and perching pullets. The general adoption of mammoth incubators and the demand for early hatched chicks have made it extremely difficult for the majority of poultry breeders to rely entirely on eggs from hens for incubation



Breeding Flock on Rhode Island Reds with Cockerel and Pullets

purposes, particularly in the early part of the season. In that case it becomes a matter of refusing orders or making up the deficiency of hens' eggs by using a proportion of pullets' eggs, the proportion of the latter being reduced as the season advances and hen eggs become more plentiful. Ideal methods are not always practicable, and, with due reservations and qualifications, an experienced breeder is justified under such circumstances. In using some specially selected pullets for breeding purposes.

It is generally agreed that a pullet does not become a hen until she has completed her first laying year and moulted. Pullets for breeding purposes may be classified as follows:- Those bred from hens; those bred from pullets; those which were hatched very early and have gone through a moult or a partial moult, and those which are about 10 months old at the beginning of the breeding season.

Pullets bred from pullets should not be used for breeding in their first season. Many breeders contend that the early pullets which have gone through a moult or a partial moult are superior to the 10

month old pullets because they say the former have had a rest. The reason advanced is open to question because many of the very early pullets which partly moult continue to lay whilst shedding and growing feathers and it is very questionable whether the majority of them are in better physical condition for the breeding purpose than the 10 month old pullets which have not moulted.

Most experienced breeders will agree with the following classification of matings is in the order of preference:

1. A proved cock and tested or specially selected hens;
2. Cockerel and tested or specially selected hens;
3. Adult cock and selected pullets, and
4. Cockerel and selected pullets.

Mating No.1 is ideal, but on a commercial farm has its limitations except for the breeding of stud stock. Those who categorically condemn breeding from pullets generally pin their faith to mating No.2 on the grounds that the females are fully matured hens,



Breeding Pen of Buff Leghorns with Cockerel mated to Hens

whose constitutional vigour and stamina have been proved, whereas pullets in that respect may eventually prove unsatisfactory. They overlook the fact, however that a cockerel is equally an unknown quantity as far as breeding qualifications are concerned, and that an inferior cockerel may be responsible for lowering the average quality of all the chicks of which he is the sire when mated to hens. In matings, No.2 and No.3, there is age on one side only, and It would appear that in the hands of an experienced breeder the risk in breeding from yearlings on one side – male or female – is about 50-50. The placing of mating No. 4 at the bottom of the list is sufficient indication that cockerel and pullet matings are to be avoided if possible.

It is a well known fact that the fertility of male birds rapidly declines after their first year and that the same remark applies to hens, with the added drawback that hens are longer coming into production each succeeding year after the moult. It is expensive and troublesome to carry over a large number of male birds from one season to another. Early chicks are needed for the home farm and to meet the requirements of clients. Under the circumstances it is safe to assume that pullets are used for breeding

purposes to some extent on many commercial farms and hatcheries. It is not suggested that a commercial farmer who is interested only in the necessity to resort to breeding from selected pullets, but it is just as well to face the fact that commercial poultry farmers and breeders who cater for the day-old chick business are practically obliged under present-day conditions to maintain an unprofitably large proportion of two and three year old hens or breed from some of their pullets.

If that assumption is correct the responsibility of using only specially selected mature pullets bred from hens, in the breeding pens, mated to second year cocks, If possible, rests upon every breeder who caters for the supply of day old chicks, eggs for incubator or perching pullets. The indiscriminate mating of flocks of uncultured pullets can result only in disaster to the breeder and complaints from his customers.

WHITE EARLOBES: FIVE BREEDS, FIVE FAULTS AND FIVE MERITS



by Chris Hardman, Australia

Head of a Hamburg Male

Re-written from articles by well known English Fancier and Author H. Easom Smith

There are five main breeds which possess white earlobes. Their lobes have five points of merit and equally there are five grievous faults. Although I find little significance in numerology it does make to summary easier to remember.

Anconas, Hamburgs, Leghorns, Rosecombs and Minorcas make up the five white lobed breeds likely to be encountered at shows. Andalusians are occasionally make an appearance in small pockets around the country and the same remarks concerning lobe properties also apply to them.

Although varying degrees of emphasis are placed on the production and maintenance of the lobe and Standards also vary in the number of points they allot for the feature, all the breeds named share common problems.

One of the first matters to be attended to is

the requirement of the respective Standard to ascertain the shape and other finer points and, most importantly, the number of points a perfect pair will rate.

The lobes which grace a Leghorn would not be acceptable on a Rosecomb or vice versa. Nor would they fit in with the general contour of the body and make of face and comb.

It would be rather ridiculous to see a tall, racily built single combed Leghorn with the round lobes of a Rosecomb.

The cobby body, heavily furnished round-ended tail feathers and drooping wings of the Rosecomb would look equally silly with pendant-shaped Leghorn lobes.

Getting back to the theme of the story, the first point of merit lies in the shape. They must



Head of a Leghorn Male

conform to that described in the Standard for the particular breed.

Not all white lobes are white. This is one aspect that can be overlooked by the casual observer and some all-round judges. Again, reference to the Breed Standard will inform breed demand white lobes as a must as well as which allow cream colouring also.

As a consequence of extreme sappiness in white plumaged fowls it is natural to expect that this discolouration will flow to the lobes as well.



Head of a Minorca Female

Anconas may tend to fail in an essential point for all pure white lobed breeds but they would be better with, rather than without, substance and thickness of lobe. Merely to get a lobe of good shape and colour will not get the breeder very far unless this is also incorporates good thickness.

Without substance the lobes will be then and “papery” and all sorts of troubles will automatically follow. Not the least of which is dished and curled lobes which will never lie flat nor look well.

The best way to assess thickness and substance of lobe is physically, by taking the lobe between the fingers and thumb. Eyesight is not enough. The lobe edges must be felt to ensure that what seems to be substantial is, indeed, solid to touch. At the same time texture of the lobe can be determined.

Experience tells us that there are two surfaces, both showing good texture, which differ in appearance. The first is perfectly smooth, even and free from folds and wrinkles and with a matt finish free from blemish.

The other is generally found on a smaller lobe and has a glossy surface giving the impression of being enamelled.

Of the two this shiny surface is more likely to wear well and it takes a good fancier to keep this shine on the lobes for more than a few months at best.

Of course both lobes must be evenly matched for size, shape, texture and substance. They should



Head of an Andalusian Female



Head of a Rosecomb Bantam

join the face smoothly. Such lobes are a thing of beauty, but not, alas, a joy forever.

Generally white lobes are only in perfect condition the height of maturity of the bird wearing them and only then if they have been carefully preserved during the growing process. A close inspection of white lobes will find that most fall into one of two categories. Either they are white right around the edges and underneath the lobes, or the whiteness stops at the outer edge and the underside of the lobe.

The first group tend to produce a high percentage of lobes which soon become coarse as well as “break” into the remainder of the face.

Those with red on the reverse side of the lobes will not strike as quickly and will have longer show lives. This is a point of merit and one often overlooked by breeders.

White in the face, as just mentioned, is at the top of the list of five faults. This condition follows careless breeding and lack of constitution; one is allied to the other.

Careful selection, avoiding specimens with white spreading into the face will keep this major fault in check.

The opposite can also apply with a red rim showing on otherwise good lobes with nice whiteness. At this stage it is not clear whether

going to the other extreme in the breeding pen selection has, or will, contribute to this fault. However commonsense would suggest that this would be the case.

Another fault is “blushing” whereby redness encroaches part of the white surface of the lobes from the edge or even the centre. Some strains of Anconas and Minorcas, in particular, are prone to this fault. Many fanciers blame the action of weather or having been in the breeding pen as the cause but again part of the fault spring from poor selection in the breeding pen.

In conclusion the shape, texture, colour and conformation of quality lobes can only be maintained with continued diligence on the part of the fancier when putting breeding pens together.

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BANTAMS AS A HOBBY IN NEW ZEALAND



by (Bill) William E. Gordon from
the American Bantam Association 1958.

Bantam Japanese Trio

In response to your request to write about the Bantams of New Zealand I will endeavour to give you a word picture of what we have in this country.

Our breeds of Bantams are very limited in comparison with the breeds listed in the American Bantam Assn. Year Book. The principal breeds in order of popularity are Black Rosecombs well out in front with Old English Game next in order, then Cochins (called Pekins over here) of several colours well up in numbers. Modern Games, Sebrights and Wyandottes in about equal numbers but well behind the first named three.

The Black Rosecombs are mostly the best entries and often up to twenty-five cockerels and pullets are exhibited, with keen competition, with birds of high quality. Often a good winner at one show has to take a lower place at a later show. There are a few nice Blue Rosecombs exhibited once in a while but

because of the bother with off colours they are not popular.

We have Old English Games in most colours and many of very high quality and fit to go to any show in any country. The greatest classes are in the Black Breasted Reds with Duckwings, Spangles and Blue Reds in that order. Old English Game have their hard core of followers in all centres and one always hears their beauty extolled in all the shows, but their love of a fight makes would be fanciers take on a quieter breed.

The Cochins (Pekins) in several colours have a fair following. The most popular being the Blacks which when in good health and condition are very attractive. The other colours come up in good numbers at some shows but the quality is usually just ordinary.

The Modern Game in places are quite good in



Bantam Wyandottes

type and colour but varieties are very limited. The Black Breasted Red being the most popular. Many fanciers do not keep them as they have a reputation of being hard to rear but of course that is a fallacy as I find they are just as easy to raise as any other breed or variety and I have had them for nearly sixty years. I find that if they are kept clean and dry and lightly fed on good clean food, I rarely lose any, except by accident.

There are some good White Wyandottes penned at most shows with some a bit on the big side but good type and colour. A few other varieties are shown now and then at various shows.

Sebrights have been scarce for over twenty years and what are now shown are not of good quality. New importations are needed to restore the breed.

I have not seen any Rhode Island Reds for a very long time. I think Mr. Bull had the last of the variety. In fact none of the utility breeds have taken on to any extent in New Zealand.

We have no Japanese Bantams since World War One, after which Major Smith imported from Major Williams of England about seven varieties of the best Japanese I had ever seen. With the passing

of Major Smith the Japanese just died out.

I had hoped that with fast air travel we could have been able to replenish our Bantam yards with new blood and new breeds from overseas but with so much disease in the poultry world it is almost impossible to get a permit to import new stock from overseas. We can get hatching eggs from Australia if the breeding stock can get a clean bill of health. I imported Bantam and large fowl eggs from Australia and the results are good. The sad fact is that Australia is also limited as to the number of breeds and they are greatly in need of new blood and new breeds. It would be grand if all the restrictions could be safely removed so we could get on with the improvement of our birds, but if it is unsafe to import we must not run the risk of losing by disease what we already have. I would dearly love to be able to get some Brown Red and Birchen Modern Game as depicted in Baldwin's book on Modern Game. Now most of our Bantams are from the British Isles. The Mod-

erns from Aincoughs, Proud, Beasley and Cathart. The Black Rosecombs from Lord Dewars and Mr. Morris. Cochins from Lord Dewar and J. Maude of Australia. The Old English Games from several Australian breeders. A number of Rosecombs and Modern Games also come from Australia.

So with careful breeding and selecting, we have a reasonable lot of Bantams to build up some good strains for the young fanciers to carry on the fancy.

In conclusion I wish to send fraternal greetings to all good fanciers within the membership of the American Bantam Association.

USING POULTRYNZ PRODUCTS



POULTRY LEG SPRAY

For Scaly Leg Mites use the Poultrynz Poultry Leg Spray regularly. Saturate the spray on the leg. Gently massage into the legs making sure all areas are covered. Repeat in 3-4 days and again in 7 days.

Do not pick off the debris as it can cause bleeding. The chickens will help by pecking the debris off the leg themselves. In cases where the chickens scales are lost they will not grow back. Even if your other chickens do not have signs of Scaly Leg Mites it is recommended that you do them as well so Scaly Leg Mites do not establish themselves in your flock. Check their legs regularly throughout the year.

The main ingredients are: Cotton Seed Oil and Eucalyptus. There is no egg-withholding period.

POULTRYNZ D.E. (Diatomaceous Earth)

Dusting your chickens with Poultrynz D.E. is a very good deterrent for Poultry Lice as well as Red Mite especially around the vent. Putting a handful of Poultrynz D.E. where they dust bath is also a perpetual way of keeping your chickens free of Poultry Lice.

For better Red Mite eradication mix Poultrynz D.E. with water to make a slurry. The amount of Poultrynz D.E. you use depends on how big your house or coop is. Mix the slurry to a consistency that is easily used with a paint brush. You then apply the slurry to the cracks, on the perches and nest box. Making sure that you apply a good amount under the perches. You can apply it to the walls and ceiling if you wish for a better affect. When you paint it on you are able to dab all the nail holes and cracks where mites live and in effect seal them off.

When the Poultrynz D.E. dries it will form a barrier that repels the Red Mites. Remember Red Mites can't fly so to feed they need to get at the bird and a lot will go under the perches. If they walk over the Poultrynz D.E. slurry you have got them, well within 72 hours. Avoid inhalation of dust using a suitable dust mask. Wear eye protection. There is no egg-withholding period.

