

# Poultrynz

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# Poultrynz Editorial

With May just around the corner is the start of the show season in New Zealand. I am hoping to be at most shows in the North Island starting with the Central Districts Show in Levin on the 13th & 14th of May then onto the Whangarei Show on the 27th & 28th May. So if you need anything from the Poultrynz Shop you are bound to find it there.

The things that are not on the website are the large range of books and framed prints. The cold weather is coming so it is best to get your housing right before the winter sets in and as always please keep them Dry, Clean and Warm. Until the next issue. Regards, Ian Selby.

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# HONEY MUSTARD-GLAZED SALMON



## INGREDIENTS

Serves 8

1 salmon fillet (approx 1kg)

2 lemons, finely sliced

2 tablespoons honey

1 tablespoon wholegrain mustard

1 teaspoon fresh or dried dill tips

¼ cup oil

Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

½ cucumber, peeled into ribbons

1 spring onion, finely sliced

130g fresh rocket leaves

Juice ½ lemon

## METHOD

- Preheat the oven to 175°C. Place the salmon fillet on a baking paper-lined shallow baking tray. Arrange the lemon slices over the salmon.
- Mix together the honey, mustard, dill and oil. Season well and divide the mixture in half.
- Spoon half the honey mustard mixture over the salmon and bake it in the preheated oven for 20-25 minutes until just cooked through. To tell that it is cooked, the salmon flakes should just pull apart from the thickest part.
- Toss together the cucumber, spring onion and rocket leaves and dress with the remaining honey mustard mixture and a squeeze of lemon juice.
- Serve slices of the salmon on a bed of the cucumber salad.

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# ORPINGTONS IN PERSPECTIVE



Author unknown, Abridged.

Black Orpingtons

In the early 1920's a boom set in and large classes were seen at all the major shows. Big prices were paid for top class birds, 25 to 30 guineas

being a common figure. Blacks topped the list and were easily the best of the four colours seen at the bigger shows and numerous specimens were shown approaching perfection.

The real Orpington is a large bodied fowl standing on short legs with a broad deep front and the breast well forward. The back should be broad and flat with a gentle rise to the tail, and last but not least a good green sheen. If you can get a male bird with the side fluff, showing a green sheen, he is an ideal bird to use on dull black or weak sheened females. Never breed from a bird overdone in headpoints: a firm strong comb is what is required.

A lot of ignorant people are always running the Orpington down, calling them balls of fluff and saying that they can hardly lay enough eggs to reproduce their kind. However, if bred and judged correctly, the best



Blue Orpingtons



Orpingtons in any of the colours will lay more and bigger eggs than most show Australorps. I have often seen winning Australorp pullets full of poor laying characteristics. Some judges look at the face only, and I would like to remind these foolish men that it takes more than a good face to make a good layer. The committee that drew up the Standard for Australorps would always persist in adding a bit more hackle (by this I mean saddle hackle) to the standard drawing. This craze for hackle is always detrimental to any utility breed, and the over hackled males used by some in breeding Black Orpingtons gave many strains a bad name and the same thing will assuredly lower production in Australorps.

The thing that did more harm to the Orpington and many other breeds was the banning of imports. It was a sad day for the Poultry breeder when we became controlled by men totally ignorant of the laws of breeding, most of whom have never bred a good fowl in their lives. Let me remind you that the same laws apply to the breeding of good poultry; all strains peter out if inbred too long, and an infusion of fresh blood would bring out the latent good qualities that are already there.

These breeding laws apply to all our domestic stock and the above will be noted in some other of our domestic animals before many years. My advice is don't inbreed any more than you can help and always remember that bad points are established as well as the good; a lot of bad points are overlooked, particularly if the bird or bird have won a few major prizes. Next comes the Buff variety and I venture to suggest that they have more good qualities than most other breeds. They are hardy, good layers and have very fine flesh. The scientifically fed poultry of today could not hold a candle to them; the meat was tasty, tender with plenty of it in the right places. I strongly advise anyone looking for something to breed good table birds to get some.

The Buff is a magnificent show bird and when well conditioned, they always attract attention. You will hear some people say never take a Buff breed because they are too hard to condition, but if ordinary common sense is used this is not so.

White Orpingtons are nearly non-existent, the one time good strains having petered out but



White Orpingtons

the colour is now making a comeback. A more beautiful fowl would be hard to find and they were great layers of big eggs. They were once very popular.

A particularly good strain of the 'stay white type' and you frequently came across birds with pink quills; this was the secret of the stay white birds as pink quills in any white breed indicates purity of

## A Guide To Poultry Breeding

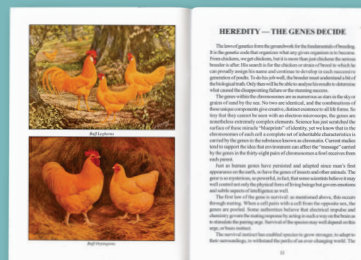
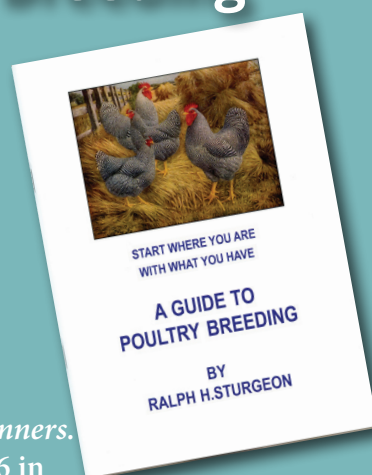
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Buff Orpingtons

colour. The worst fault that I could find with the White Orpington was early laying in the pullets – this invariably stopped them making size and they petered out quicker than the other varieties.

The Blue variety has never been really popular. Like all Blue breeds they do not breed true, splashed white chicks often out numbering the Blues. Blues are extremely hardy and excellent layers, but will never be very popular because of the mixed chickens one gets from each setting. A good Blue in show condition is certainly a grand fowl and one that will always command attention. There have been some really good Blues; a big well known shaped female with the correct ground colour and lacing is hard to pass. All Blues can be bred if a splashed white male is mated to blue bred Blacks females and I have had very satisfactory results this way.

I strongly advise any young fanciers to take on one of the Orpington varieties as he will get endless pleasure breeding this truly grand fowl.

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# THE BEGINNER'S FIRST SHOW

by G.P. Isherwood

No fancier, not even the hardened veteran, can forget the thrill of his or her first show. In fact, I know many who have been showing for years who still get as much excitement out of it as they did from their first attempt. These notes, however, are for the benefit of the novice issuing forth to his first encounter in the show arena. I assume that he/she is one of those keen fanciers who has reared his fowls from the shell, anxiously watching them grow and taking great pride in their gradual development from raw chickens to prospective winners. I have always had a soft spot for the little man; who probably because of the shallowness of his pocket or more likely his determination to produce a winner bred and reared entirely by himself, plods away until he eventually achieves his object. Let me picture one such fancier who has a promising cockerel and pullet just approaching show condition.

First of all he has to decide on a suitable show; it must be one that is timed to come off just when he thinks his fowls will be at their best. If it is conveniently near for him to attend in person, all the better, he will get more pleasure, and profit, better by the experience. His next job is to make his entries; having made them he must now devote his spare time to getting his prospective exhibits into their final show condition. To do this he will have to use a couple of show pens, without which he can never hope to get his fowls sufficiently tame to show themselves off to the best advantage.

## PENNING THE FOWLS

A couple of days will be quite long enough at any one time, but it should be done fairly frequently until he sees that they have settled down, and come to the front of the pen when he appears. By using a judging stick or light cane to move them around he will also improve their chances of showing off to advantage when the judge goes along the class. Constant handling and hand-feeding through the front of the pen helps to bring about that state of docility so necessary in show fowls.

While the fowls are restricted to the show pens an opportunity is given to promote good show condition; small portions of cooked meat, or even a little chopped feed of boiled linseed or linseedmeal added to the soft mash helps to bring up the sheen in the plumage. When suggesting meat as a show conditioning agent I should mention that if



A group of youngsters at a Poultry Show

the pullet shows signs of coming on to lay it is better not to give her anything of this nature as it may force her on to lay

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too quickly; once she has started to lay a pullet soon goes off in condition

### THE LEGS ARE IMPORTANT

The novice must not forget the legs of his fowls; should they be yellow or dark, and after being well scrubbed in warm soapy water, they should be dried thoroughly and massaged with olive oil. If this is done occasionally before the show it will help to bring the colour to the surface, giving the legs a soft velvety polish. In the final preparation before dispatch the legs (if they happen to be yellow or white ones) must be manicured with a toothbrush. This may seem a tedious job, but the results will justify the labour; no legs ever look clean with dirt left under their scales.

### OILY SUBSTANCES AND DUST

Although oil and vaseline may be excellent things for earlier preparation before the show, for the final polish I would suggest a quick, evaporating cream of some sort. Anything of an oily nature applied before the fowl is placed in a crate for its journey is apt to remain on the surface and has a tendency to collect all the dust from the crate; no matter how clean a crate may be, dust will arise from the bedding material.

### AT THE SHOW

And so the preparation is complete and the fowls despatched to the show.

Then comes that uncontrollable wait outside the doors while the judge is completing his awards. Will he never finish. Yes the doors have opened, and there is a rush along the aisles, each fancier looking for the class he is interested in. The novice has found his exhibits - result, a third and a very highly commended. Well, not so bad for a first time; one has to make a start and something higher is almost



Prizes to be won at Poultry Shows

certain to come later. In conclusion, I would add that, I would much rather see a beginner commence low down in the list of awards. A third prize spurs him on to greater efforts, whereas a first prize might lead to disappointment, if next time, his fowls drop to a lower award.



Chickens need clean legs to compete at a Poultry Show

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# COMPLICATIONS FROM SIMPLE COLDS

*From The Australian Poultry Magazine, 1941*

While dealing with respiratory diseases it will perhaps be advisable to consider some of the conditions which arise as a result of these or from the same cause.

It has already been shown that colds, chills and all the other closely associated conditions arise from faulty ventilation, draughts, dampness, overcrowding, etc., and these faults in management give rise to kidney, stomach, intestinal and other troubles either with the presence of a cold or without any evidence or respiratory involvement.

It is frequently found that in cases of simple cold, or respiratory, catarrh, apart from the excessive mucus noted in the upper respiratory passages there are far more serious involvements of the lungs, kidneys, etc., these, generally, are the ultimate cause of death.

## WHEN PNEUMONIA DEVELOPS

The cells of the lungs are moulded in such a way that they form a sort of sponge with millions of small spaces. The function of the lungs is to provide a medium or exchange for the waste gases of the body with fresh gases necessary for survival. When air is taken in it yields the oxygen and when it is expired the waste gas of living tissue is sent out. This interchange takes place in these spaces of the lungs, and the method by which the gases are carried to and from the lungs is the blood stream.

Consider a case of pneumonia, the result of respiratory catarrh or directly from other causes such as detailed above, in the first place, the germ which causes pneumonia has begun to exist in the lung tissue at the expense of the birds. The defensive mechanism of the bird immediately comes into play and inflammation occurs, inflammation means the adjustment of the tissues by a series of changes which attack the cause of the injury and exert certain reparative effects. The first stages of inflammation are generally accompanied by a great increase in the flow of blood to the part seen in the accompanying redness. Secondly, the part becomes warm, due to the increased blood pressure. Thirdly swelling of the part occurs, with increased sensitivity to pain and loss of some of the function of the affected part. In the case of inflammation due to bacterial invasion there is an accompanying formation of "pus". All these changes occur in the lungs of the bird affect-

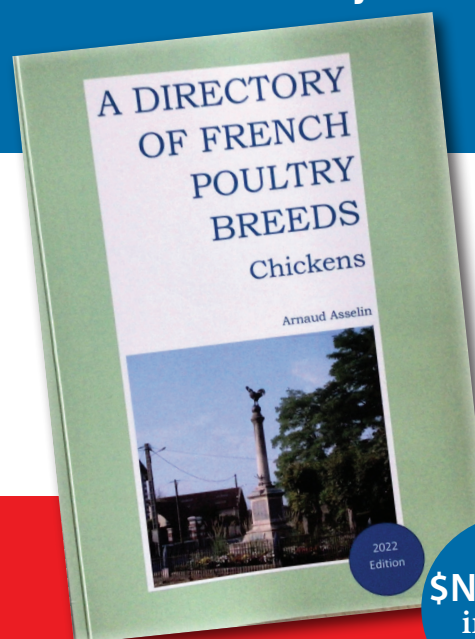


A Chicken with a bad cold

ed with pneumonia. The first change is acute congestion by blood, and from the blood circulation the cells

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A Chicken with a cold in the eye are poured out into the spaces of the lung, and as the liquid part of the exudate is absorbed the pus cells form solid masses in all these tiny spaces. The lung becomes solid either completely or in part, and further breathing is impossible, at which stage the bird dies.

Two types of pneumonia are known. That where the lung tissue in areas surrounding the air passages (the bronchi) is affected is known as bronchopneumonia,

whereas that where the long lung, or a whole lobe, is affected is known as lobar pneumonia – the more serious.

When the lung tissue is solid with the accumulation of pus cells the appearance is very similar to that of the liver in health. Because of this similarity in appearance and consistency the condition is referred to as “grey hepatisation” which means that the liver-like appearance has assumed that colouration due to the presence of the pus cells.

Another frequent accompaniment of chill is inflammation of the kidneys. This goes under the name of nephritis. The cells of the kidney are formed into channels whereby the waste liquid products of the body can flow down and be voided from the body. The blood vessels run into these channels (tubules) and there twist and turn over and over in a kind of knot. The blood as it flows through this tortuous route, is slowed up and the waste products seep through the wall of the blood vessel to be liberated from the body. Inflammation of this organ results in these tubules becoming clogged with pus cells, the confines of the tubules very much narrowed by the expansion of the surrounding cells, so that the waste matter from the body cannot be voided. This waste matter, therefore, flows back into the circulation, where the whole sys-

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tem becomes clogged with uric acid and its salts. The bird therefore dies from a poisoning (uraemia) arising from the retention within the system of waste products arising from the body cells.

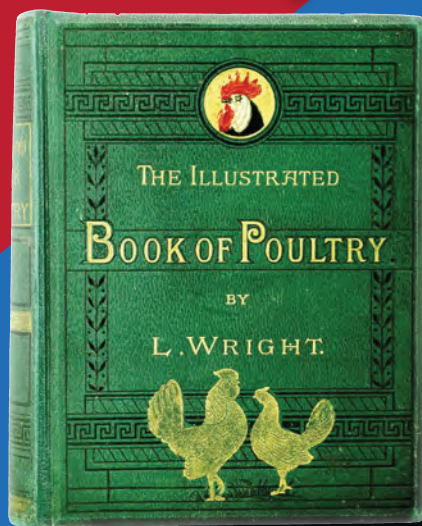
It is interesting to note that in pneumonia and nephritis death arises not from the actual inflammation, but from loss of function of the organ affected. It therefore of the utmost importance that any birds showing signs of respiratory trouble be isolated, and with as much individual attention as possible attempts should be made to prevent the development of further complication. Immediate treatment of birds should be carried out, because the prolongation of respiratory trouble tends to give rise to the deeper seated complications.

A bird which has suffered, but recovered, from an acute attack of nephritis will probably be a chronic kidney case for the rest of its life, liable at any time to break down, and certainly not in the best of production. Inflammation of other organs, such as the liver, pancreas, intestines, frequently arises from the same causes as the respiratory troubles, and similar interference with the normal functions of these organs will take place. The liver and intestines, can however, stand quite a lot of interference without the bird displaying signs of acute disease. The pancreas however is very vital, inasmuch as from this organ is derived the

ferments necessary for digestion and the insulin with which the "sugar" in the blood stream is broken down to meet the requirements of the tissues. Involvement of the pancreas results in a condition similar to diabetes in human being, therefore be carried out, because the prolongation of respiratory trouble tends to give rise to the deeper seated complications.

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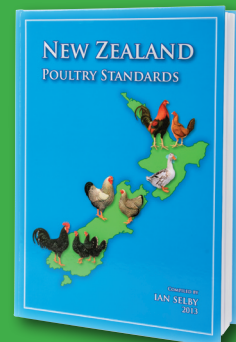
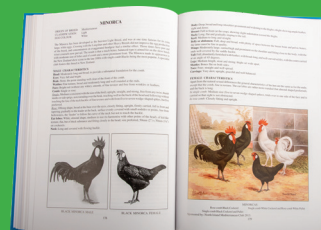
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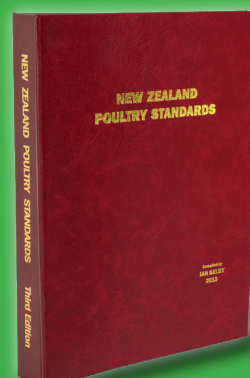
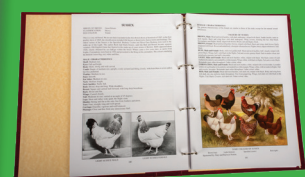
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# LITTER MANAGEMENT

Litter must be used on the floor of the laying house, the same as in the brooder house, and the same materials are satisfactory. A good many poultry raisers clean out the litter every week or two. This may be necessary when only a thin layer of a relatively non-absorbent litter is used, but such a system of management results in a high litter cost, excessive time spent in cleaning, and such litter is not as satisfactory for fertilizer as that which has been used for a longer time.

Most of the more absorbent materials, such as peat moss, sugarcane & fibre, and soft wood shavings, can be used for a month to six weeks before being changed, particularly if they are stirred frequently. A system which has attained favour is to use what is known as a 'built up' litter. This is developed by spreading two or three inches of a good litter material over the floor in late summer. It seems helpful to use 'an inch or so' of sand over the floor under the litter, but this is not essential. This litter is kept stirred frequently and spread evenly over the floor. As it becomes pulverized, small quantities of fresh litter are added. By the time cold weather arrives, there should be a thickness of six inches of fine litter over the floor. During the winter, then, it is kept stirred but is not changed unless it becomes really wet around a fountain or where rain blows in at a window. Although this may seem like an insanitary method of litter management, there actually seems to be less development of disease germs in a deep finely pulverized litter than in a thin layer of litter. This 'built up' litter can be cleaned out in the spring or used until the house is cleaned for the next group of pullets. 'Built up' litter cannot be started late in the fall, and if, for some reason, it must be cleaned out in the middle of the winter, it cannot be built up again, but it will be necessary to continue if for the rest of the year with a thinner layer and more frequent changing.

Each time the house is cleaned it ought to be scraped and swept thoroughly, then sprayed with Poultry Shield.

## DROPPING BOARDS AND PITS

In houses where the roosts are over dropping boards, the manure should be cleaned off at least twice a week. If dropping pits are used, they will not need to be cleaned so frequently. If the entire house is cleaned as often as once every six weeks, the pits can be cleaned out at the same time, and the droppings from the pits mixed right with the litter from the floor. If 'built up' litter is used, however, and cleaned only once or twice a year, then the



Fowls on a floor of shavings

dropping pits should be cleaned out about once very month or six weeks. If a thin layer of the litter material is spread over the floor under the dropping pits after each cleaning, it will help to keep the droppings drier and make cleaning easier.

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