

Issued by The Extension Service Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and The United States Department of Agriculture Ide P. Trotter, Director, College Station, Texas

## **Poultry Calendar**

By Ted Martin and W. J. Moore, Poultry Husbandmen Texas A. and M. College Extension Service

#### Begin the Poultry Year Right

INTELLIGENT planning is required to develop a really paying demonstration. It is not enough that records be kept. A carefully planned program directed toward eventual ideal management must be started if the record is to mean anything. The record then enables the owner to see the weak spots in the business so that they may be corrected.

Before starting the demonstration, take stock of every strength and weakness in your poultry business, remove every weakness possible, and plan at the outset how best to develop the most profitable management. As a suggestion, ask yourself these questions:

- 1. Have records been kept and what do they show?
- 2. How many hens will you keep and for what purpose?
- 3. Have houses and equipment been cleaned and disinfected?
- 4. Have you knocked loose a roost or two and looked for mites and blue bugs?
- 5. Have you examined a few hens for lice?
- 6. Does the flock show any signs of worms? When were they de-wormed last?
- 7. Are there two and one-half square feet of floor space for each hen in the poultry house?
- 8. Are there 3 inches of feeder space for each hen?
- 9. Do you provide 5 gal. water per each 100 hens?
- 10. Is there one nest for each five hens?
- 11. Do you feed a complete ration? Is it economical?
- 12. Does the flock need culling? Have you a large number of old hens that need replacing? Are your hens well bred as to laying ability?
- 13. Have yards been plowed? What provision have you made for green feed?
- 14. Is the poultry house comfortable, dry, well ventilated, and easily cleaned?

These questions and others will find out your shortcomings as a poultryman.

#### Some Tips on Keeping This Record

This record is not hard to keep but questions occasionally arise that the following suggestions may answer:

1. Charge all home grown feed used at its farm value. If the feeds are ground, include grinding charges.

2. Charge skim milk to the flock at about  $2\phi$  per gallon.

3. Include in the feed column all consumable items of expense of the laying flock such as: feed, grit, shell, worm remedies, and other medicines.

4. Keep in the chick expense column all chick expense, cost of chicks, feed, oil for brooders, and disinfectant. If chicks are home or custom hatched, charge full value of eggs and hatching cost.

5. Put all receipts for broilers, fryers, culled young stuff, in the chick receipt column. At the end of the season by subtracting receipts from expenses and dividing that figure by the number of pullets raised, you have the cost per pullet.

6. In noting both receipts and expenses, put in a full description of the item. It is just as easy to put down "500 pounds of mash" as it is to merely put "mash." It is no more trouble to put "65 broilers, 82 pounds at 21 e'' rather than just "broilers."

7. The value of eggs and fowls used at home should be credited to the flock.

8. When the record shows that culls were removed it should also show some value for them in the receipts.

9. Give all fractions in decimals.

10. The last column under receipts is left blank so the calendar may be fitted with any unusual type of poultry business. If the demonstrator's hatching egg business is large, or if he makes a business of selling pullets, or if capons are a specialty, or for any special type of receipts that differs from the usual, and on which he gets a goodly portion of his income, this column may be used by inserting the proper heading.

11. A handy hatching and brooding record is provided. A blank card in the brooder house to note death loss each week is all the extra information needed for this record. Costs and receipts on young stuff is kept from day to day as previously indicated.

12. Depreciation on building and equipment should be taken in account when setting down the end of the year's value on the building. If considerable repairs have been made during the year and their cost already charged in the monthly record, it is possible for a building to inventory at a greater value at the end than at the first of the year. This increased inventory balances repair cost.

#### Hens Culled Number' Eggs Date Hens Died 1 2 3 4 5 6 $\mathbf{7}$ 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 1516 17 18 19 20 21 22 $\mathbf{23}$ $\mathbf{24}$ 25 26 $\mathbf{27}$ 28 29 30 TOTAL

#### November Poultry Receipts

Date	Amount and Description	Al	l ipts	Eggs or Ea	Sold ten	Broil and Fi	ers ryers	Hens Roos	and ters	Misc lanco	el- us		
	Example:												
Nov. 7	30 doz. eggs @ 25¢	7	50	7	50								
Nov. 14	6 hens, 32 lbs., @ 10¢	3	20					3	20				
Nov. 15	1 fryer, 3 lbs., eaten		60				60						
					(								
	TOTAL												

#### November Poultry Expenses

Date	Amount and Description	Al Exper	1	Feed— Grit, e	Shell tc.	All Cl Raising	nick Exp.	Buildin Equipt	ig & nent	Hiro Labo	Misc lanco	
	Example:											
Nov. 5	400 lbs. lay mash @ \$2.15	8	60	8	60							
Nov. 14	1 chick feeder		50				50					
Nov. 25	6 pair hinges @ 20¢	1	20					1	20			
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+	TOTAL									_		

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Average No. hens for month..... Total No. eggs produced..... Average eggs per hen.....

Date	Number Eggs	Hens Died	Hens Culled
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31			
TOTAL			

December Poultry Receipts

Date	Amount and Description	All Receipts	Eggs Sold or Eaten	Broilers and Fryers	Hens and Roosters	Miscel- laneous	
	TOTAL						

#### December Poultry Expenses

Date	Amount and	] Description		All Expen	aes	Feed Grit, e	Shell tc.	All Ch Raising	ick Exp.	Buildir Equips	ng & nent	Hire Labo	d r	Mise	cel ous
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Total No. eggs produced.....

#### Hens Culled Date Number Eggs Hens Died $\mathbf{2}$ . $\mathbf{24}$ $\mathbf{26}$ TOTAL

#### January Poultry Receipts

Date	Amount and Description	All Receipts	Eggs Sold or Enten	Broilers and Fryers	Hens and Roosters	Miscel- laneous	
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	TOTAL		<u> </u>				
	January	Poultry Ex	D <b>en</b> ses				
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Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed—Shel Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- laneous
Date	1	1		All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- laneous
Date	1	1		All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- laneous
Date	1	1		All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- laneous
Date	1	1		All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- laneous
Date	1	1		All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- laneous
Date	1	1		All Chick Rnising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- laneous
Date	1	1		All Chick Rnising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- laneous
Date	1	1		All Chick Rnising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- laneous
Date	1	1		All Chick Rnising Exp.	Building & Equipment		Miscel- laneous
Date	1	1		All Chick Rnising Exp.	Building & Equipment		Miscel- laneous
Date	1	1		All Chick Rnising Exp.	Building & Equipment		Miscel- laneous

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Average No. hens for month..... Total No. eggs produced.....

Average eggs per hen.....

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Date	Number Eggs	Hens Died	Hens Culled
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TOTAL			

#### February Poultry Receipts

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	TOTAL											 
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#### February Poultry Expenses

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Average No. hens for month.....

Total No. eggs produced.....

Average eggs per hen

#### Hens Died Date Number Eggs Hens Culled 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 $\mathbf{12}$ $\mathbf{13}$ 14 15 16 17 18 19 $\mathbf{20}$ 21 22 23 $\mathbf{24}$ $\mathbf{25}$ 26 $\mathbf{27}$ 28 29 30 31 TOTAL

#### March Poultry Receipts

Date	Amount and Description	All Receipts	Eggs Sold or Enten	Broilers and Fryers	Hens and Roosters	Miscel- laneous	
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<u></u>	TOTAL	<b>I</b>					
	Mar	ch Poultr:	v Expenses				
Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed—Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel-
		Expenses	a Grit, etc.	mising Exp.	Equipment	Labor	Miscel- laneous
		Expenses	Grit, etc.		Equipment	Lnbor	laneous
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Average No. hens for month.....

Total No. eggs produced.....

Average eggs per hen.....

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#### **April Poultry Receipts**

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#### **April Poultry Expenses**

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Average No. hens for month..... Total No. eggs produced..... Average eggs per hen.....

#### Number Eggs Hens Culled Date Hens Died - $\mathbf{25}$ TOTAL

May Poultry Receipts

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Average No. hens for month.....

Total No. eggs produced.....

Average eggs per hen.....

#### Number Eggs Hens Died Hens Culled Date $\mathbf{24}$ $\mathbf{26}$ TOTAL

#### June Poultry Receipts

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Average No. hens for month.....

Total No. eggs produced.....

Average eggs per hen.....

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## Eggs Sold or Eaten Broilers and Fryers All Receipts Hens and Roosters Miscel-laneous Amount and Description Date

July Poultry Receipts

#### July Poultry Expenses

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Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed—Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- laneous
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Total No. eggs produced.....

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#### August Poultry Receipts

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Date	1	1	i			All C Raising	hick Exp.	Buildi: Equip	ng & ment	H La	ired ibor	Milan	iscel- eous
Date	1	1	i			All C Raising	hick Exp.	Buildi: Equip	ng & ment	H	ired ibor	Bii Ian	iscel- eous
	1	1	i			All C Raising	hick Exp.	Buildi: Equip	ng & ment	H	ired ibor	bii Jan	isce]- cous
	1	1	i			All C Raising	hiek Exp.	Buildi Equip	ng & ment		ired ibor	bi lan	isce]- eous
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	1	1	i			All C Raising	hick Exp.	Buildi Equips	ng & ment		ired		
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Average No. hens for month..... Total No. eggs produced..... Average eggs per hen.....

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#### September Poultry Receipts

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	Sept	ember Pou	ltry Expen	ses			
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Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed—Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- lancous
Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed—Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- laneous
Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Fccd—Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- lancous
Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed—Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- lancous
Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed-Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- lancous
Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed—Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- lancous
Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed—Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- lancous
Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed—Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	
Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed—Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- lancous
Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed-Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	
Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed—Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	
Date	Amount and Description	All Expenses	Feed—Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	

Average No. hens for month.....

Total No. eggs produced.....

Average eggs per hen.....

Date	Number Eggs	Hens Died	Hens Culled
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#### **October Poultry Receipts**

Date	Amount and Description	All Receipts	Eggs Sold or Eaten	Broilers and Frycrs	Hens and Roosters	Miscel- lancous	
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#### **October Poultry Expenses**

Date	Amount and Description	Al] Expenses	Fccd—Shell Grit, etc.	All Chick Raising Exp.	Building & Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscel- lancous
		,					
	TOTAL						

Total No. eggs produced.....

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Average eggs per hen.....

#### HATCHING RECORD

Date Set	Breed	How Hatched	No. Egga	No. Chicks	Cost*	Cost Per Chick
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\*Cost includes value of eggs plus actual cash expenditure of batching.

#### BROODING RECORD

DATE HATCHED	DEATH LOSS							Total	%	No. Mature		
	lst Weck	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Wcek	õth Week	6th Week	7th & 8th Weeks	3rd & 4th Month	5th & 6th Month	Loss Los	Loss	ss Pullets
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## Summary of Year's Business

Receipts

1				Hens and Roosters	Miscellancous		
MONTH	Total Monthly Receipts	Eggs sold or Eaten	Broilers and Fryers	Hens and Roosters	Miscelleneous		
November							
December							
January							
February							
March							
April						-	
May							
June							
July							
August							
September							
October							
TOTALS							-
		·····	Expen	ses	F		·
MONTH	Total Monthly Expense	Feed, Shell, Grit, Etc.	All Chick Raising Expense	Building and Equipment	Hired Labor	Miscellaneous	
November							
December							
January							
February							······
March							
April							
May							
May June							
June							· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
June July							
June July August							

## Year's Production Summary

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MONTH	Standard Actual Pro	oduction Avg. No. Hens	Avg. Egg Price J	Feed Cost Per Hen	Feed Cost Per Doz.	% Culled	% Died	Profit Per Hen Above Feed Cost
November	9							
December	11							
January	12							
February	15			<u> </u>				
March	18							
April	19							
May	18							
June	16							
July	14							
August	11							
September	9							
October	8							
Totals or Averages	160							

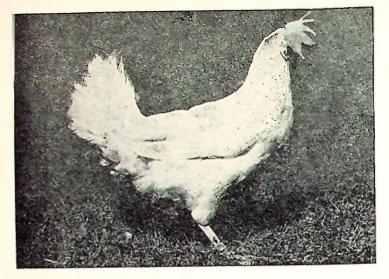
\*\* To get correct figure-divide year's total feed cost by year's total dozen eggs.

• To get correct figure-divide year's total egg receipts by year's total dozen eggs.

#### CONDENSED STATEMENT

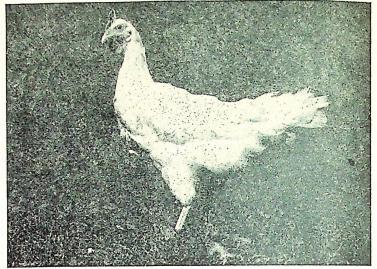
Total Cash Receipts\$		Year's Average Number of Hens	_
Increase in Inventory\$	-	Labor Income per Hen	
Total Receipts	\$	Total Expense Young Stock	\$
Total Cash Expense\$		Total Expense Foung Drock	- Ap.
Decrease in Inventory\$		Total Receipts Broilers, Fryers, Etc	
Interest on Investment of \$at 6%\$		Cost of Remaining Pullets	\$
Total Expense	\$	Number Mature Pullets Raised	.\$
Labor Income	\$	Cost per Pullet	\$\$

## **KEEP** this kind



Deep body. Wide, long back. Full abdomen. Vigorous — Active — Busy.

## **CULL** this kind



Body Shallow in depth. Back narrow and short. Lazy-usually spends lots of time on the roost.

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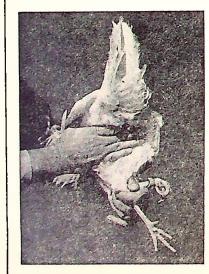
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Full, red, waxy comb. Bright eye, Well developed wattles. Short, well curved beak.



Full — Soft — Pliable Abdomen.

# Culling Hens

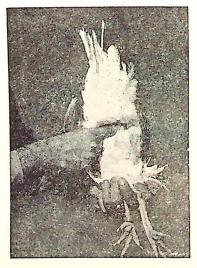
VERY person engaged in poultry production, regardless of the size of the enterprise, should have a working knowledge of culling. The owner of the flock should cull the flock and not depend upon someone else. It should be borne in mind that profitable egg production depends upon the efficient use of feed by the hen in the manufacture of eggs. It is the object of culling to remove from the flock those hens that do not make efficient use of their feed.

Profits from the average farm poultry flock could be increased if owners would study the birds and learn to tell good layers from poor ones. First the poultryman should become familiar with the things to look for in the good layers, and then the hens should be studied until the layers can be distinguished from the slackers

Culling should start with the day-old chicks and be continued throughout the life of the birds.



Comb shrivelled and scaly. Eye listless, sunken. Long slender head.



Very little body capacity. Shallow in depth. Narrow in back, occasionally hard and fat.

#### **CULLING CHART**

## Judging for Present Production

Character	Laying Hen	Non-Laying Hen
Vent	Large, dilated, oblong, moist	Small, contracted, round, dry
Pubic bones	Flexible and wide apart	Rigid, close together
Comb	Large, red, full, glossy	Small, pale, scaly
Wattles and lobes	Prominent, soft, smooth	Inconspicuous, rough and dry

## Judging Past Production

Character	Long Laying Period	Short Laying Period Flesh colored		
Vent	Bluish white			
Eyelids	Thin, edges white	Thick, yellow tinted		
Eye	Prominent, keen, sparkling	Listless, sunken		
Earlobes	Enamel white	Yellow tinted		
Beak	Pearly white	Yellow tinted		
Face	Clean cut, sunken	Full, well fleshed		
Shanks	White, flat, thin, creased	Yellow, round, smooth		
Plumage	Worn, soiled, lifeless, close- feathered	Signs of molting, loose-feathered		

## Judging Rate of Production

Character	High Rate	Low Rate		
Keel	Slopes downward	Slopes upward		
Pubic bones	Tips thin, point straight out	Tips thin, curve in		
Capacity	Four to five fingers	Two fingers		
Abdomen	Soft, pliable, dilated	Fatty, hard, contracted		
Rump	Broad, width, carried back	Narrow, cramped		
Lateral processes Skin	Prominent, pointed outward Soft, thin, loose, silky	Hard to find, pointed inward Thick, dry, underlaid with fat		

#### POULTRY BULLETINS

#### From Your County Agricultural or Home Demonstration Agents, or from Extension Service, College Station, Texas

- B-65 Poultry Houses for Texas
- B-71 Poultry Yard Equipment
- C-163 Growing Baby Chicks
- B-88 Preparation of Fowls for Home and Market
- B-105 Culling Hens
- C-33 Feeding Hens for Egg Production
- B-143 Broiler Production
- C-231 Texas Turkey Growers' Guide
- C-235 Trouble Shooting Chart for Disease and Parasites in Poultry
- C-241 Poultry Production Guide for Texas

## From the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C.

#### Farmers' Bulletin-

- 801 Mites and Lice on Poultry
- 897 Fleas and Their Control

849 Capons and Caponizing

- 1070 Fowl Tick
- 1377 Marketing Poultry
- 1378 Marketing Eggs
- 1506 Breeds of Chickens: I. American
- 1507 Breeds of Chickens: II. Continental
- 1652 Diseases and Parasites of Poultry
- 1409 Turkey Raising

#### **Bulletins on Other Fowls**

#### From the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C.

#### Farmers' Bulletin-

- 684 Squab Raising
- 697 Duck Raising
- 630 Birds Useful to the Farmer
- 767 Goose Raising
- 1391 The Guinea Fowl.