

# OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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**Poultry Husbandry**

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## POULTRY CONTEST.

**C**HE poultry contest announced in the prospectus of the Portland Junior Poultry Association will begin November 1st. Those wishing to take part must notify the Association at once. Address the Portland Junior Poultry Association, Y. M. C. A. Building, Portland, Oregon.

Any boy or girl between the ages of 12 and 18 may take part in the contest, which will last one year.

The contestant must not have less than five nor more than fifty fowls in his flock. He shall choose his own chickens, and they may be of any breed or variety he prefers, or they may be crosses. Following suggestions in Reading-Course Lesson 1, he should select fowls of good health and vigor. If pullets are selected they should be mature, or nearly so, at the beginning of the contest. If hens are used, preference should be given to those that are over the moult.

The contestant is not required to use any certain style or plan of house. He will find suggestions in Reading-Course Lesson 2, but if he prefers to use some other style of house and secures good results from it he will receive as high a mark as though he had used a house such as is described in Lesson 2.

It is hoped to have Lesson 3, which will treat on Feeding, in the hands of each contestant at an early date. Meantime, I make this one suggestion: Feed the fowls liberally, but feed them in such a way as to keep them active or busy. Activity is the life of the hen.

The contestant will remember that we do not lay down any hard and fast rules for the feeding and care of the fowls. We give him the best information we can, but if for some reason he cannot follow our suggestions he is at liberty to use other methods. The prizes will be given to those scoring the highest in the manner indicated below whether he follows our ideas or his own.

All contestants will receive exactly the same information or instruction, and this will be sent to them by the Department of Poultry Husbandry of the Oregon Agricultural College.

Blanks on which to keep records will be furnished by the College. All food must be weighed and the amount placed on the record sheet. The cost of the same will also be recorded; likewise the number of eggs laid each day, and the amount of money received from sale of eggs and chickens. These records will be easily kept with the blanks that will be furnished. Record-keeping is given a high value in the scoring for the reason that it is

the records that will be of value to the public. The purpose of the contest will be defeated unless we secure records that have been carefully and accurately kept.

The flock and yards of each contestant will be inspected about once every two months by the professor of poultry husbandry of the College or his assistant, and markings will be given on the following basis:

#### SCALE OF POINTS

1. Good record-keeping will count	- - -	20 points
2. Good condition of the flock	- - -	20 points
3. Good housing	- - -	10 points
4. Good arrangement of yards	- - -	10 points
5. Cleanliness of yards and house	- -	10 points
6. Good business methods in marketing products	-	10 points
7. Well fattened and well dressed chicken	-	10 points
8. Completion of Reading-Course	- -	10 points

#### DEMERITS

Marks will be deducted from the score as follows:

1. Failure to send in reports when called for	-	5 points
2. Reports coming in late	- - -	2 points
3. Feeding rations that are not practicable	- -	2 points
4. Methods that entail too much labor	- -	2 points
5. Records missing at inspection	- - -	2 points

It will be understood that the number of eggs laid, or the amount of profit shown by the records, will not be considered in making the awards. We expect that those scoring the highest in the manner outlined will secure a good egg yield, but the one getting the highest egg yield will not necessarily get the prize. Fowls vary greatly in egg-laying capacity, and it is possible that one contestant may do the best work with his flock and not get the highest egg yield. The prizes will be given to those who have done the best work with their chickens regardless of how many eggs they may have laid.

Those completing the reading-course will have 10 points added to their score, but any one may enter the contest without taking the course, though they will have a better chance of securing a prize if they take it. Those who have not begun the course may begin it now. The lessons will be sent free on request to the Agricultural College, Poultry Husbandry Department, Corvallis, Oregon.

There will be no charge to those engaging in the contest. Each contestant will provide his own chickens and house, furnish the feed for the fowls, and whatever he makes out of the flock will be his own.

Each chicken must be leg-banded with a Smith's Sealed Leg Band. These will be furnished by the Executive committee.

Some time during the spring a chicken show will be held, open to the members of the Association, at which special prizes, in addition to the general prizes, will probably be offered. There will be exhibits of hens

with chicks, incubator chicks, broilers alive and dressed, fancy and utility fowls.

### PRIZES

The boy or girl having the highest score at the end of the contest will receive the first prize of \$100 in gold. To the one having the second highest score \$50 will be paid, and to each of the next ten highest \$5 will be paid.

This poultry contest is undertaken solely for the purpose of stimulating an interest in the poultry industry and to give the young people an opportunity to employ their spare hours in a profitable way. It will not be necessary for the contestant to neglect his school duties; the work may easily be done in his spare time outside of school.

If you wish to compete in this contest it will be necessary to begin preparations at once. Notify us at once, and get your chickens and yards in order and be prepared to begin the contest on Nov. 1st. If you haven't the chickens they may be secured from others.

The following are the members of the executive committee: B. Lee Paget, Portland Trust Co., chairman; E. J. Ladd, Portland Seed Co., secretary; H. W. Stone, Y. M. C. A., treasurer; Geo. C. Hatt, 525 Henry building, organizer. Either Mr. Stone or Mr. Hatt will be glad to give any further information desired in regard to the contest.

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