O. A. C. Portable Poultry Fence

By Frank L. Knowlton,
Poultry Husbandman

Fig. 1. Breeding pens on the College plant fenced with O. A. C. portable fence.

Corvallis, Oregon

The regular bulletins of the Station are sent free to the residents of Oregon who request them.
Sketch of frame upon which fence panels are constructed.
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The portable fence described in this circular has been developed by the O. A. C. Poultry Husbandry department and successfully used by it for a number of years. Its use is recommended in fencing brooder yards, small breeding pens, temporary pens for holding cockerels, or any small temporary pens that may be desired. Its chief advantage is the ease with which it may be removed, thus permitting the plowing and cultivation of the entire area which such pens have occupied. Plowing and cultivation of the ground upon which chickens are kept constitute one of the best known means of preventing soil contamination with the germs and eggs of the many poultry diseases and parasites which cause so much loss in the poultry business.

Construction of panels. In constructing these panels it is necessary to have a frame similar to that shown in the accompanying sketch. This frame can be made from any size planks not smaller than 2 by 6 inches. It should be suitably braced so that the corners will remain square, and firmly supported on boxes or tressels at about average work-bench height.

Roll onto the reel the wire to be used on the panels. Lay a 2" x 3" x 5' 10" post through each of the two pairs of notches. Unreel sufficient wire to reach the post farthest from the reel and staple the end of the wire firmly to that post. Draw back on the reel until the wire is stretched tight, then staple it to the post nearest the reel. Cut off the wire. Nail on the baseboard so that it will be two inches up from the bottoms of the posts. Nail on the diagonal braces. Take the panel from the frame and put on it the feet and their brace as shown in the accompanying drawing. The best way to construct these feet and their brace is to outline their shape with cleats nailed on the top of a table in such manner that when the two pieces of 2" x 3" and the 1" x 5" brace are laid on the table between these cleats they will occupy the same relative position they are to keep when nailed to the panel. By nailing the brace to the feet while they are thus held by the cleats this position will be retained, making it possible to put all three pieces on the panel at once. From the post to which the feet are nailed, saw off the 2-inch projection below the baseboard so that the completed panel will touch the ground in three places only, the two feet and the post at the other end.

BILL OF MATERIALS FOR ONE PANEL

1 — 2" x 3" x 12' for posts.
10 — lineal feet of 60" poultry netting.
1 — 1" x 6" x 10' for baseboard.
2 — 1" x 5" x 12' for braces.
1 — 2" x 3" x 6' for feet.
1 — 1" x 5" x 4' for feet brace.
Small staples.
8d box nails.