POULTRY HUSBANDRY DEMONSTRATIONS

The Extension Service of the Oregon Agricultural College is now ready to offer the poultrymen of Oregon a series of poultry demonstrations giving actual practice in some of the important phases of the poultry industry. These projects will be cooperative but of a public nature, an effort being made to secure a large attendance of people interested in poultry raising at each demonstration, so as to disseminate the methods shown as widely as possible.

To justify the sending of a specialist into a community to hold demonstrations of this kind, it is necessary to have the promise of attendance of at least five interested persons.

While it will not be possible for the Extension Service to take care of all the requests made for this service in Poultry Husbandry, the one Extension Specialist will attempt to reach as many points as possible.

Very careful consideration will be given to dates requested, but preference will have to be given to those received first. When it is impossible to make arrangements for the first date requested, an effort will be made to find some other time that will be satisfactory.

The accompanying application blank and form of agreement furnish information for securing this cooperative service. Other copies of this form will be furnished upon request.

Send your application to the County Agent should there be one in your county; if not, send directly to the Extension Service, Corvallis, Oregon.
POULTRY HOUSE CONSTRUCTION

Project No. 1

Available Entire Year.

Proper housing accommodations will determine in large measure the egg yield of a flock of hens. In order to secure eggs out of the natural laying season, it is necessary to provide houses that will furnish the hens with proper and healthful shelter.

To secure assistance in the planning and construction of poultry houses, the applicant should communicate with his county agent or the Extension Specialist in Poultry Husbandry, explaining existing conditions on his farm in order to determine the system and kind of housing best adapted for his needs. The work may consist of building or remodeling a building for housing the hens in a large flock in large stationary house or in smaller flocks in portable colony houses. The College department of Poultry Husbandry will furnish plans and lists of materials for building or remodeling both kinds of buildings adapted to Oregon conditions.

After these details are settled, make your final arrangements with the Extension Service. Have everything in readiness to begin work without delay. The demonstration will resemble an old-fashioned bee. As much work as possible will be done on the building during the morning. After lunch, time will be taken for discussion of the work in hand and other prime factors in successful poultry keeping.

Project No. 2

FATTENING, KILLING, AND MARKETING POULTRY.

Available December, February, March, May, and June.

This project consists in preparing or fattening fowls, and in killing, dressing, and packing them, for market. Fowls used in this work may be hens, capons, or broilers.

It is profitable to fatten, dress, and pack poultry properly for market. The producer usually does the expensive part of growing the frame, but leaves to the dealers the profitable part of finishing the birds for market.

Instructions will be furnished for the making of fattening rations and the feeding of fowls.
The cooperator will be required to keep a record of the weights of fowls before and after fattening period and of food consumed.

At the end of the determined fattening period, a killing and dressing demonstration will be held, giving those who attend an opportunity to learn the proper methods, as well as to observe the gains in weight made by the fowls.

Project No. 3
Caponizing.

Available June, July, August, and September.

There are great possibilities for the development of the markets for capons. Capons put on better quality of flesh and more economically than cockerels, and when marketed will bring about twice as much a pound. Those having chickens of the general-purpose or heavier breeds can well afford to caponize their surplus cockerels.

Birds of the Plymouth Rock type should weigh a pound and one-half or a little more to be right for caponizing. The cockerels to be worked should be confined and starved for thirty-six to forty hours before being operated on.

Applicants should have at least a dozen birds ready to be worked; so all who attend will have an opportunity to become familiar with the operation.

Project No. 4
Feeding Laying Hens.

Available Entire Year.

The best laying strains of hens cannot be expected to make creditable showings if not properly fed with the proper kinds of foods. Most farms in Oregon produce nearly all the different kinds of food necessary for feeding laying hens. The correct proportioning of the different foods and the proper method of feeding are very often the weak points in the management of the flock of layers.

To secure assistance in balancing a laying ration from feed already on the farm, and in arranging a method of feeding, secure the cooperation of five or more of your neighbors who want similar help. These people will not be requested to be present but each will be expected to furnish transportation
for the Extension demonstrator from his farm to the next where this work is to be done.

Each person receiving this service will be required to keep a simple record of amount of feed used and number of eggs produced for at least three months.

Project No. 5
CANDLING, GRADING, AND PACKING MARKET EGGS.
Available Entire Year.

Many thousands of dollars above the present income could be realized by the farmers of Oregon if their market eggs were candled, carefully graded, and properly packed before being sent to market. All eggs should be sold on a quality basis.

This project will consist of a demonstration showing the process of candling and a study of the commercial grades and classification. Packages and methods of packing will be shown and suggestions given on marketing.

Project No. 6
TESTING BREEDERS FOR WHITE DIARRHOEA.
(Bacterium pullorum)
Available November, December, January and February.

Bacillary white diarrhoea is a disease that is transmitted directly to the chick from the mother hen, through the egg which is infected with the germ causing the trouble.

The successful raising of the young chickens is usually the most difficult part of the poultry industry. White diarrhoea is a disease far reaching in its effect upon a flock of chicks affected with it. There is no known complete cure for chicks having the disease, and those surviving may, in adult life, carry the bacterium and continue to spread the disease by transmitting it to chicks that may be hatched from their eggs. The only successful way to combat this disease is to rid the breeding pens of any fowls (reactors) having the germs in their bodies. This can be done by testing a small sample of the bird’s blood in a laboratory, by applying what is known as the agglutination test.

Several flocks in Oregon have come under our observation which were infected with bacillary white diarrhoea. Many
dead chicks and accounts of symptoms have been received from various sources in the State, which indicate that the disease is quite prevalent. These facts, together with the good results secured in eliminating the trouble in a few Oregon flocks during the last two years by agglutination tests, made at the College, and also the results obtained by the Massachusetts and Connecticut Agricultural Colleges, have decided the Extension Service to offer a limited amount of cooperative demonstration work as outlined in this project for the purpose of demonstrating to poultry raisers the importance of this disease and the best method of control.

To secure assistance in testing your breeding fowls, secure the cooperation of five or more of your neighbors who also want this testing work. These people will not be required to be present at the time of taking the blood samples, but each person receiving this service will be expected to furnish transportation for the field specialist doing the work from his place to the next farm in the community where the work is to be done. Each farmer receiving this service will be required to have his fowls confined in a convenient place for handling and pay a fee of five cents for each bird tested. This charge is made to cover in part the cost of the routine laboratory work connected with the agglutination tests, which will be done by the Veterinary Department. For the purpose of identifying the individual hens tested, an inexpensive numbered leg band will be fastened on the fowl’s leg. These will be furnished at cost.

To those owners of large flocks of fowls who do not wish to go to the expense of testing all their hens, it is suggested that they may select and have tested only those birds that are intended to be used as breeders. More hens should be selected than will be needed so as to make allowance for reactors.

**Project No. 7**

**TESTING FOWLS FOR TUBERCULOSIS.**

*Available Entire Year.*

Much evidence is being received to indicate that fowl tuberculosis is causing considerable loss among the flocks of the State. Tuberculosis is a disease that spreads rapidly and
is difficult to detect and combat because of its varying symptoms and the slowness or acuteness of attack in different individuals. It produces a high rate of mortality and should probably be feared as much as any of the diseases affecting poultry.

A reliable method of giving fowls the tuberculin test has now been perfected by Dr. L. VanEss of the North Dakota Experiment Station. The test consists of injecting a special tuberculin into the comb or wattles of the chicken. If the fowl is tuberculous, even in the slightest degree, a swelling or discoloration will occur at the point of injection at the end of twenty-four hours or a little later. This is called a positive tuberculin reaction and is certain evidence that tuberculosis is affecting some organ of the bird's body.

The most effective way to eliminate tuberculosis from the flock of hens is to apply this test to all birds on the place, and then kill off all reacting fowls. Move the non-reactors to a new place on the farm and thoroughly clean and disinfect the old quarters.

It is not known at present how much assistance the Extension Service in cooperation with the Poultry Department may be able to give in applying this test. It may be possible, however, in some cases to do this work at the same time the white diarrhoea test is made. It may also be possible to do a limited amount of tuberculin testing at other times during the year. A nominal charge of two cents per head will be made to cover cost of the material used.

This outline is submitted for the purpose of bringing the subject to the attention of poultrymen who may be having trouble with tuberculosis in their flocks or wish to take action in safeguarding their fowls from general infection by a few infected individuals.

If those interested in securing help in combating this disease will communicate with the Extension Service, stating extent of trouble experienced from tuberculosis, size of flock, etc., an effort will be made to furnish some practical demonstrations in tuberculin testing during the present year.
EXTENSION SERVICE
OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE
Corvallis, Oregon.

Application for Cooperative Poultry Demonstrations.

The undersigned petition for poultry demonstrations checked in the list of projects given below:

[ ] No. 1. Poultry-House Construction
    [ ] (a) Remodeling house
    [ ] (b) Building new house

[ ] No. 2. Fattening, Killing, and Marketing Poultry
    Give kind and number of fowls to be used.

[ ] No. 3. Caponizing

[ ] No. 4. Feeding Laying Hens

[ ] No. 5. Candling, Grading, and Packing Market Eggs

[ ] No. 6. Testing Breeders for White Diarrhoea

[ ] No. 7. Testing Fowls for Tuberculosis

I agree to make the necessary arrangements and give the cooperation requested by the Extension Service or County Agent for the successful prosecution of cooperative work undertaken at our request.

I agree also to furnish the Extension Specialist with accommodations while engaged in the work and conveyance to and from railroad station; to secure the interest of as many neighbors as possible; and to give as much publicity to the demonstration as possible.

The following dates are desired for the work but it is understood that the Extension Service may not be able to arrange for these dates and accordingly such dates as may be available during the season for the demonstration will be satisfactory, two weeks notice to be given for arrangement of the work.

Location of farm at which meeting is to be held

Nearest railroad station

Name Address

Name of owner on whose place demonstration is to be held.

The following blanks are to be filled in with the signatures of five people interested in the projects checked. This will warrant the Extension Service in proceeding with the arrangements for the work requested.

I agree to be present at demonstration requested above.

I agree to be present at demonstration requested above.

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This application blank is to be sent to the County Agent should there be one in your county, but if not, directly to the Extension Service, Corvallis, Oregon.