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In this issue ... Hens Versus Incubators by Brian Reeder • A Simple Breeding Plan by Matt Lhamon • A Special Section on Feed and Fertility in Hens • Poultry Breed Clubs Listing • APA & ABA Judges List. • Upcoming Shows and more. ...

Exhibition Poultry Magazine®

This morning's crop news headlines . . .

"GRAINS-Corn, soy snap rally, up sharply for week

WINNIPEG, Manitoba/CHICAGO, July 6, 2012 (Reuters)

"Demand for soybeans continued to be strong, however, with the USDA exceeding expectations with nearly 1.8 million tonnes sold in the latest week, and reporting a single sale of 120,000 tonnes to China for 2011/12.

"What it does indicate is panic setting in," said Anne Frick analyst at Jefferies Bache."..." By Rod Nickel and Julie Ingwersen.

Yes, I am still preoccupied with feed this month... It is no secret that the cost of a sack of feed just keeps going up. The traditional 'soybean-corn' based diet has been a mainstay of our animal's lives for many years now. The most expensive part of the feed you buy is the protein source - usually that is soybean byproducts. Energy is cheap in comparison.

I am still working on alternate (non-soy) protein sources for my flock and, after having a few issues relating to availability/price with the garden peas mentioned last month, I am currently using crops that are easier to find in my latitude. My birds are *loving* the local black eyed peas (cowpeas). My chickens are all still eating soaked whole grains. Plus I have some greens/sprouting projects I am working on. Also, I make sure they all get animal protein each day. The new feeding program is a lot more work but it seems well worth the effort involved. By the way, it was mentioned to me after the last issue that people should know that birds on whole grains need grit. I am assuming you are all aware of that. But with the dependence on commercial processed grains, maybe a reminder is in order. I am hoping to wrap up an article on the subject of feeding various peas/beans soon. It should be ready for the August issue.

For any of you that are considering compiling your own feeds you might want to "Google" 'soaking grains for poultry'. Also with special reference to poultry, research a few terms like, 'phytic acid', 'phytase', 'anti-nutrients', 'trypsin', 'equol' 'phytoestrogens', etc. There is a *lot* of information out there. Until next month ~ Ann Charles, Editor

Exhibition Poultry Magazine® Advertising Rates and Deadline

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Columns are 2 3/8' wide. This is the size of a \$6.25 1 column inch display ad. Display Ads Display ads are \$6.25 per column inch. Please include an email address if you would like a proof of your ad.

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Ann Charles Editor/Publisher email: ads@ExhibitionPoultry.net Andrew S. Charles Technical Support email: admin@ExhibitionPoultry.net

*We reserve the right to refuse any advertisement or article that is deemed to be of inappropriate content by the Managing Editor of this Publication.

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On The Cover . . .

Seth Hardwick's East Indie, the Champion Bantam Duck at the Rison, Arkansas Poultry Show, March 3, 2012.

Photo by Ann Charles, Exhibition Poultry Magazine.



By Brian Reeder

I often hear people discuss the merits of one form of incubation over the other. In my years of raising poultry I have used both methods with good success. In choosing which to use, there are many factors to consider. I will touch on a few here.

The hen is the original and most natural incubator. However, there are instances where you will need to use artificial incubation. Some of those may include needing to hatch chicks when you do not have hens that will set or none that are currently setting, when you do not wish to let a hen set and therefore stop egg production or when you wish to hatch a large number of chicks (beyond 6-12 per hen).

Conversely, there are times when it makes more sense to let your hen do the work. Examples would include when a hen refuses to quit setting, you have delicate and valuable eggs that you are afraid to set in an incubator (and you have a reliable setting hen) or when you only want to hatch a few chicks and have a hen that has gone broody.

Incubators require a good amount of attention and the larger and more reliable incubators use a fairly large amount of electricity. Both of these points can be drawbacks to using incubators. I have personally never found any incubator to hatch chicks as quite well as a good hen, yet I have used incubators and hatchers formany years. The smaller, Styrofoam types of incubators are difficult to use and very time consuming, while the larger cabinet incubators are easier

An Introduction

to Form and Feathering of the

Domestic Fowl

though much more expensive to buy and operate. However, as I said, I have never seen chicks come from either that were quite comparable to the chicks from a good, reliable hen.

I will state for the record that I no longer use incubators. I do not hatch enough chicks anymore to bother (or to waste the money on the electricity that the large cabinet incubators I have suck down like water in a desert), nor do I want to be bothered with maintaining the incubators. I now use hens exclusively, but I rarely hatch more than 50-75 chicks in a year. For instance, this year I have hatched a grand total of 15 chicks, though I will probably let some of the hens do a late summer/early fall hatch, if they are so inclined (which is usual). What I like about the hens setting most is that they are fairly carefree, but that is because I do not maintain many birds anymore and thus only have a few broodies at any given time.

With that said though, I could never have pursued any of the experimental work I did with setting hens, unless I had desired to maintain hundreds of such hens.

In such an instance, the incubators are much easier, less costly and require less maintenance. I want to stress that when you are working to make improvements in a line, making a new variety or breed or working to restore an old one, broodies are inconvenient, as you will need to hatch large numbers of chicks to make the appropriate selections to see advancements in your project. Please consider this before starting such a project. It is very difficult to make any advancement or improvement when you are relying solely on a few broodies to hatch all your chicks for selection. The exception would be the rare person maintaining a large enough flock to have a large number of broodies at any given time, and the willingness to care for them. It is also best if your main breeding hens are not your broodies, as their brood time will cut into their egg production time, and when you find a hen worth breeding from, you want all the eggs you can get from her.

Now for someone who simply wants to hatch a few chicks, either for the fun of it, as replacements in the flock or because their lines are fairly set and they don't need to work in large numbers anymore, the brood hen is an exceptional thing.

My experience is that the chicks that come from a reliable setting hen are usually active and alert, hatch well and seem to get a good head start in immunity from their immediate exposure to pathogens from the mother. I can't foresee a reason I will ever go back to using an incubator, but I should never say never.



National Call Breeders of America A club formed for the promotion of breeding and exhibition of Call Ducks, Offering National, District and Special Meets. Quarterly newsletters and annual yearbook. Memberships: Junior(under 16) \$8/year; Individual \$15/year or \$29/2 years; Family \$17/year or \$33/2 years; Lifetime membership \$200. Visit our website at www.callducks.org to join online or purchase club merchandise, such as t-shirts, pins, patches, posters, etc. For more information contact secretary Dennis Fuller, 1729 Otterville Blvd., Independence, Iowa 50644. 1-319-334-3497, wapsiwaterfowl@aol.com (12-12)

Introducing Brian Reeder's latest book . . .

An Introduction to Form and Feathering of the Domestic Fowl

This book is available **NOW** at **Amazon.com** & **Authorhouse.com Amazon:** http://www.authorhouse.com/Bookstore/BookDetail.aspx?BookId=SKU-000450530 **Author House**: http://www.amazon.com/Introduction-Form-Feathering-Domestic-FowI/dp/1456747843/ ref=sr_1_11?ie=UTF8&qid=1305509150&sr=8-11

Order your copy online today.

Plus see Brian Reeder's new blog at: http:/brianreederbreeder.blogspot.com



APA NEWS - July 2012

I have been around exhibition poultry since I married into it many years ago (hint: LBJ was president). When I first went to poultry shows with my husband, there weren't many women, and fewer kids involved. It is nice to see how things change, poultry shows are now very family oriented. The new wave of additions to poultry are the backyard poultry people. They are a little different than people who want to win at poultry shows, they just seem to like to have some fresh eggs and "pretty chickens" to look at. We should welcome them with open arms, and share our knowledge and birds, maybe some of them will be coming to the shows soon.

I have had a lot of interest in our brochures from people who are sponsoring seminars for backyard poultry people. Most of these events are through a 4-H program, which means a lot of young people are interested. I hope this means an increase in exhibitors at future poultry shows. If you know of anyone who is involved in promoting the APA or you would like to put some brochures out at your local fair, please let me know and I will be happy to send some brochures and pencils your way. I need about three weeks notice to be sure you receive them on time. It won't take much of your time and the APA will appreciate the help.

Dues notices have been sent to anyone whose dues expire on July 1 or January 1. Please renew as soon as you can so you can continue to receive the newsletters and any points you may be eligible for.

The yearbook is coming together and I want to thank everyone who advertised or contributed to it in any way. Your support for the APA is always welcome.

My thanks to all who accepted the News & Views online. This not only allows you to receive the newsletter faster, but you can now see the pictures in color, makes for a much better looking paper. I will try to increase the number of online newsletters in the future editions. It also is a cost saving measure for the APA, which helps the bot-

tom line for the financial statement.

I know everyone is busy raising those future champions, with the hot weather they do need a lot of attention and water, so I will check on Dick's "brood" before I get back to my paperwork. Have a good summer and raise lots of champions.

Pat Horstman

International Waterfowl Breeders Association

The International Waterfowl Breeders Association is hosting their national show in Indianapolis, Indiana October, 21st thru the 23rd. 2012. Our organization hold a raffle each year, to raise money to support the associations educational programs. If your company would be interested in donating a item or gift certificate, it would be most appreciated. We also appreciate your support and donations. All donors company names will we advertised in our newsletter, and at the show. If requested, a receipt for your donation can be created. We hope to hear from you! Thanks for your support! James Konecny-IWBA President, my address is 22172 N Hillview Dr. Lake Barrington, IL, 60010 Ph 847-842-0605

News from the Ohio National

We would like to announce the lineup of judges for the 2012 show Harry Halbach Jeff Halbach John Thomforde Matt Lhamon Duane Urch Jackie Koedatich Terry Britt Steve Jones Lewis Cunningham, Brian Knox and Art Rieber

Next on the list is the entries for the Ohio State Fair will close on June 20. You can find the printable entry forms and scholarship forms at http://www.ohiostatefair.com

For 4H and FFA the youth can now exhibit birds over 1 year of age

If you have any questions about the Ohio State fair please feel free to contact Clell Agler at 614-296-3385

We have the show hotels set up already so you can make your reservations now, the Hilton Garden Inn 1-614-846-8884 and the Comfort Inn (614) 791-9700 both are \$93.00 per night and you will be able to get the contact information from the Ohio National web site at http://www.ohionational.org/ Hotel_Info/hotel-info.html Be sure to visit the Ohio National web site for the latest updates of the show. As always if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time at Markley@ohionational.org and I will get back to you ASAP.





ABA Happenings

JULY 2012

I will write this month to all who are reading who are NOT ABA members.

The ABA is a non-profit organization started some time ago since 1914 actually. We are a dedicated group of poultry fanciers whose focus is on the little breeds of poultry known as bantams. We publish an Annual yearbook as well as the ABA Bantam Standard. The yearbook is included in your membership fee of \$20.00 per year. Time and time again, ask any ABA member you happen to see, and they will tell you the yearbook is well worth the price of membership. This yearbook is designed every year with one goal in mind. To help you (the ABA member) keep up to date on who is showing what - who is winning where - who has advice to share - and of course - the current workings of the ABA. We also keep you in the loop with four newsletters a year. Did I happen to mention email notifications, top rated awards programs, licensed ABA

judges, and all around good company of bantam people? Yes - these are the benefits of joining the ABA in as few words as I can muster.

You may wonder, how can we offer ALL this for a mere \$20 per year and I myself can't help but wonder the same thing too. We have great people dedicated to the club. These people are made up of (the secretary me) as well as volunteer directors and committee people - not to mention the ABA members who also volunteer as ambassadors to our club every time they enter a show hall. They are all wonderful. They all give their time and talent for the good of the club and the betterment of the hobby. In today's world, this is of great value. Times are turbulent and there is not recession proof hobby. We are very fortunate to have a hobby which is valued so deeply by those who have enjoyed it over the years. This is what keeps the ABA (and most other breed clubs) going. It is the commitment that is impossible to put a value on - but to coin a commercial..... "priceless". So if you are NOT an ABA member, this is one investment that is small but will likely bring you your money's worth easily.

Back to the ABA news updates:

2012 ABA yearbook: Ad placements are closed. We (Kim Munden and I) are busy putting this book together. If you are EX-TREMELY lucky- we could likely squeeze a few more in - but you must contact the ABA office pronto (like now) and full payment



Website: http://www.bantamclub.com

Contact: **Karen Unrath**, Secretary P.O. Box 127E, Augusta, NJ 07822 Phone: 973-383-8633 Fancybantams@embarqmail.com

President: **Jeff Halbach** jeff.halbach@tds.net

Vice President: **Matt Lhamon** mattlh@embarqmail.com

Membership Dues: \$20 per year - \$50 for 3 years \$400 for Life Membership (check or money order only)

Outside of USA Rates: \$30 per year - \$80 for 3 years

\$50.00 SPECIAL OFFER (US only) One year membership, plus current ABA Color Mini Bantam Standard, and New Member Patch.

New members receive a free copy of the latest available yearbook and quarterly.

must accompany the ad. There will be no billing terms. To be considered, the rates are as follows: Full page - \$95; 1/2 page - \$75; 1/4 page - \$40; 1/8 page - \$25.

BOOSTER LINE is only \$5.00. What is a BOOSTER - it is a one liner. The \$5 will help defray the ever increasing costs of mailing this book. It is a very easy way to support the ABA and give you or your club or breed a small billboard in our bantam world. Examples: WHITE COCHIN BANTAMS - LIFE MEMBER \$460 - ACME POULTRY CLUB -BEGONE FEATHER MITES.... try it - it is fun...

2012 Legbands - moving quickly - visit the ABA website at www.bantamclub.com to get yours.

2013 is an election year for the ABA. Those of you who are interested in running for office must file your letters of intent in the ABA office by November 1st 2012.

National Meet bids will be reviewed by the Board of Directors at our 2012 National Meet in January 2013. If you are interested in bidding for either the 2013 or 2014 National meet - we want to hear from you. You can contact the ABA office or your district director for more information.

CORNISH BANTAMS: This publication has been out of print for many years. We are happy to add it once again to our list of Breed Book offerings. Many thanks to Chris Tamayo of California for helping me gather updates for the book. We have added some color pictures as well as updated Standard information and new articles from current Cornish breeders. The book sells for \$12.00. To order yours, send \$12 plus \$3 shipping/ handling (\$6 CANADA) to ABA, PO Box 127, Augusta, NJ 07822. Theywill be shipped Media mail (book rate). If you prefer priority handling, send \$6 US or \$12 CANADA postal fees.

For now - I must go to work on our yearbook. We wish you great luck and success with your beautiful birds.



Review of the Factors That Influence Egg Fertility and Hatchabilty in Poultry

A.M. King`ori

ABSTRACT*

Poultry production at all scales of operation is wholly dependent on the supply of day-old chicks. Fertility and hatchability are two major parameters that highly influence the supply of day-old chicks. Fertility refers to the percentage of incubated eggs that are fertile while hatchability is the percentage of fertile eggs that hatch. It is therefore important to understand the factors that influence fertility and hatchability of eggs.

For the hatchability traits, breed has little effect on hatchability of poultry eggs, although light breeds have been reported to have higher fertility and hatchability.

The diet of breeder poultry should be adequate in both quality and quantity to meet the recommended levels set out in the feed standards for the category.

The most influential egg parameters that influence hatchability are: weight, shell thickness and porosity, shape index (described as maximum breadth to length ratio) and the consistency of the contents.

Heat stress reduces the external and internal egg qualities. Heat stress affects all phases of semen production in breeder cocks. Hatchability for small eggs is lower compared to that of medium and large eggs.

There are many factors contributing to the failure of a fertile egg to hatch which include lethal genes, insufficient nutrients in the egg and exposure to conditions that do not meet the needs of the developing embryo.

Breeder factors that affect hatchability include strain, health, nutrition and age of the flock, egg size, weight and quality, egg storage duration and conditions. The optimum temperature range for poultry is 12-26 dgrees C.

Fertile eggs should not be stored for more than 10-14 days, after 14 days of storage; hatchability begins to decline significantly. The position (large end up or vice versa) of egg storage influences hatchability. Eggs stored with the small end up have higher hatchability as compared to the large end up. Incubation of fertile eggs can be done naturally by a broody hen or in an incubator.

The broody hen provides the fertile eggs with optimum environmental conditions (temperature, egg turning and humidity) to stimulate embryonic development until hatching. The incubator is a simulated artificial design that mimics the broody hen's role of providing fertile eggs with optimum environmental conditions (temperature, egg turning and humidity) to stimulate embryonic development until hatching.

A constant incubation temperature of 37.8 degrees C is the thermal homeostasis in the chick embryo and gives the best embryo development and hatchability. Mortality is seen if the temperature drops below 35.6 degrees C or rises above 39.4 degrees C for a number of hours.

Egg turning during incubation is critical for successful hatching and influences hatchability. No turning of eggs during incubation results in low hatchability and delays hatch by a few days.

* A. M. King'ori, 2011. Review of the Factors That Influence Egg Fertility and Hatchabilty in Poultry. International Journal of Poultry Science, 10: 483-492.

A Twice-a-Day Feeding Regimen Optimizes Performance in Broiler Breeder Hens

By R. Taherkhani, M. Zaghari, M. Shivazad and A. Zare Shahneh

ABSTRACT*

To evaluate the effects of different methods of feed allocation on performance, plasma hormone concentration, and ovarian morphology, an experiment was conducted using 32 Cobb 500 broiler breeder hens. The experiment was started at 27 wk and lasted to 39 wk of age. Feeding regimens included: i) hens with an ad libitum feeding program, ii) hens that received their restricted feed once a day, iii) hens that received their restricted feed twice a day, and iv) hens that received their restricted feed 3 times a day.

Results showed inferior egg production in ad libitum-fed birds along with high levels of plasma glucose, TAG, cholesterol, leptinlike concentration, and testosterone. Twicea-day-fed birds produced more egg in the entire production period than once-a-dayfed birds. Better performance of twice-a-dayfed hens was associated with lower plasma glucose, TAG, and leptin-like concentration, whereas their estradiol and glucagon were higher than once-a-day-fed hens. Results obtained in our study suggest that allocation of restricted feed 2 times a day may alleviate or delay lipotoxicity development and improve reproductive performance in broiler breeder hens.

*Abstract courtesy of the National Library of Medicine. http://www.ncbi. nlm.nih.gov/pubmed

Fatty Liver Hemorrhagic Syndrome

Fatty liver syndrome is a condition that affects only hens. The basic cause is thought to be excessive dietary energy intake. Hereditary tendencies vary among various strains of egg production stock, but heredity is not the entire cause for this malady. Laying hens housed in cages are most often affected since they are less able to get sufficient exercise and dispose of the extra dietary energy.

Birds within a flock that are most often affected are the high producers. This indicates that physiological energy metabolism and production are closely associated with this condition. Mortality varies considerably among flocks but can become excessive in some cases. Lesions include accumulation of large amount of abdominal fat; enlarged, easily damaged liver and presence of blood clots that indicate that hemorrhages have occurred prior to death. Death usually is caused by a fatal internal hemorrhage originating in a portion of the liver. This hemorrhage is often caused as the hen is straining to lay her egg and the enlarged, friable liver is more vulnerable to injury. When a large blood vessel ruptures, sufficient blood is lost to cause death of the hen.

The primary treatment for this condition requires an alteration of the diet or amount of dietary energy consumed. Replacement of some of the corn in the diet with lower energy feedstuffs like wheat bran can provide a lower energy diet. If a complete layer ration is being fed, addition of vitamins can be of benefit. If grains are the primary feedstuff, it is suggested that the birds be switched to a complete layer diet. Control of body fat is the only successful remedy for this condition and is best accomplished by regulation and reduction of total energy intake.

Reprinted from an MSU Extension Service publication. Read more at: http:// www.msucares.com

A Simple Breeding Plan

By Matt Lhamon

When I was asked to write this article for the Plymouth Rock Fanciers of America Yearbook, I thought "What single thing could I share that would help my fellow fanciers?" I got started in poultry through my great-great uncle Fred Lhamon, who was a purebred stock farmer. He raised Guernsey Dairy Cattle, Polled Hereford Beef Cattle, Hampshire Hogs and Belgian Draft Horses along with a production flock of White & Barred Rocks. His mother gave him a copy of the 1911 Conkey's Stock Book for his 18th birthday. He used this all his life as a reference to breeding and husbandry of his livestock. I have this rather worn out copy in my collection of old poultry stuff and it is a prized as much as the old family Bible.

I divide exhibition poultry people into

four different groups. First there are the Collectors: they have way too many different breeds and varieties and never do any serious improvement to them. Next, there are the Exhibitors-they chose to purchase birds to exhibit and not raise any themselves. Then we have the **Propagators**- they multiply birds but seldom make any improvements to them. Finally, we have the Breeders- they continually strive for consistency in their birds and work every year to improve them better than the previous generation. I know in my lifetime in the fancy, I have been all four of these types and pretty much settled out as a breeder so that's what I will concentrate on in this article. I think one of the most common misconceptions in the exhibition poultry hobby is that you need to raise hundreds of chicks from several different matings to get good exhibition birds. My idea was to present a simple breeding plan that the average person can use without all the mumbo jumbo and charts the genetics guru's use.

My great-great uncle Fred believed that any breeding program, for any species of livestock needed to start with the best Sire (male) that you could buy. His breeding method was rather simple but he had great success with it in all kinds of animals and birds. He called it the **"Get of Sire**" formula and the goal of the whole breeding program was to concentrate the qualities of an exceptional Sire into several generations of its offspring. I have had great success with this in several of my lines of exhibition poultry and rabbits and you don't need to have lots of breeders and raise hundreds of babies. I have never shared this method with anyone before and look forward to your feedback and comments.

Basically, you find the best male that you can get and a related female but not a mother or sister to the Sire. I also like to get a completely different female from an unrelated line. This enables me to start two distinct families both tied back to a common Sire. I have attached a scan of the "Get of Sire" chart from the Conkey's Stock book so you can follow along or use for a reference.

In the first generation, I cross our Sire to the two females and make sure to mark or toe-punch the chicks so I know which fe-

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Conkey's stock book, a handy reference manual on farm animals - Conkey, G.E. co., Cleveland

CARE OF LIVESTOCK

to breed only the best you've got, and always to use good blood for sires. Do not select for pedigree alone, or even individual performance. Put your real money in a proved sire: let his sons and daughters be the test of quality. You could experiment twenty years in breeding, and learn nothing more important than this statement you have just read.

Figure for yourself what you can do in a half dozen generations with strict attention to selecting pure bred sires in your herd.

GENERATION	SIRE Per cent Pure Blood	DAM Per cent Pure Blood	OFFSPRING	
			Per cent Improved Blood	Per cent Unimproved Blood
lst	100	0	50	50
2nd	100	50	75	25
3rd	100	75	87.5	12.5
4th	100	87.50	93.75	6.25
5th	100	93.75	96.87	3.12
6th	100	96.87	98.84	1.56

This table has equal application in the breeding of all classes of live stock.

You can see that it really does pay, as nothing else on the farm can pay, to put money into the right kind of a sire.

male they came from. This generation will carry 50% of the blood of the male and 50% of the blood of the females. I am trying to concentrate the good qualities of the Sire and gain consistency in our line. I also keep in the back of my mind that I maybe concentrating any bad qualities in the line. From these matings I try to raise about 25 chicks each. Cull them out and keep a couple cockerels from each cross for spares in case we lose the original Sire. The cockerels need to as good as or better than their Sire. Keep as many pullets as you want; I use two from each mating in the next generation giving me two trios to breed from. I want the females to look almost identical Remember all the extra birds can be used to show or sell to others. I never show the birds I am using in the breeding plan as they are too valuable to risk their loss.

In generation 2, I use the original Sire on two females from both of our lines. These are his daughters and have 50% his blood. I either rotate the male to each pen every two or three days or hatch from one pen till I get about 30-40 chicks and then move him to the other. Mark the chicks so you know which female line they came from. I do not mark each individual female's chicks just the chicks from the mating. These chicks from this mating will contain 75% of the original Sire's blood. Once again we cull all the inferior birds and we should notice some similarity in the males and even some of the females will start to look alike. I like to keep a few extra cockerels for show birds and spares and as many females as I have room for from both lines. Once again I select two of the females from each line for use in generation 3 and keep in mind we want them as identical as possible.

In generation 3, once again I use the original Sire on two females from both of our lines. Basically do the same steps we did in generation 2, raise 30-40 from each set of females, cull hard and keep two identical females back for generation 4. Keep the other birds back to sell or show. These chicks in generation 3 will contain 87.5% of the original Sire's blood.

I repeat the same process for generations 4-5-6. Generation 4 will contain 93.75% of the Sire's blood, generation 5 will contain 96.87% and generation 6 will contain 98.84%.

As you can see this method involves line breeding, in breeding and cross breeding all in one simple plan. Every year you are basically working with no more than 5 breeder birds. Your birds will be more consistent in type and color and hopefully improved along the way.

The first thing you are thinking is "How can I use the same male for 6 generations?" I was able to do this only once, with my Black Wyandottes. But I have used the same male several times for 4 or 5 generations. Another common question is, "By in breeding this close, will I lose productivity and get genetic defects?" Productivity and fertility is something I cull for every year. I want females that lay well and males that produce fertile eggs. If any of the birds fail in that respect, don't use them and start over. I have abandoned breeding programs because the birds did notlay well or fertility was too low.

The beauty of this simple breeding plan is I don't need a lot of breeders or chicks from them. By using an unrelated female in generation 1, I have built some hybrid vigor and genetic diversity into the plan. After 5

SkyBlueEgg

or 6 generations, I have enough similar birds to work with, that I can start several separate but related families and should be able to go several years without an out cross as long as I cull diligently for production and fertility. If I need an outcross somewhere down the road for whatever reason, we find another Sire and start the process over again. If the chicks from any of the generations appear to be worse than their parents, we can back up a generation and try it again. If at any time you produce a male superior to the original male, either start over with him or start a separate breeding program. I would like to challenge all my fellow fanciers to try this method and see if it works for you. While you are at it, try it on one of the rarer colors of Plymouth Rock as we have several that need work in preserving their beauty for future generations of poultry fanciers.

ATELUCENE www.Araucana.com

> Showing & breeding large fowl Araucana, primarily in Black, Black Breasted Red, and Blue. . . Chicks and adult stock for sale in September 2012.

SkyBlueEgg Araucana Ann Charles, Winnfield, Louisiana Email: contact@SkyBlueEgg.com http://www.SkyBlueEgg.com & http://www.Araucana.com

Upcoming APA & ABA Shows

August 2012

August 3, 2012

Great Falls, Montana. Montana State Fair. Contact: Vicki Stevenson, PO BOX 7.2 Ulm-Vaughn Rd.. Ulm. MT 59485: ookiisorawildblue.net

August 4, 2012

Dandridge, Tennessee, Jefferson County Fair. Contact: tnjeffersonfair@gmail.com, 865-475-8805.

August 9-13, 2012

Sedalia, Missourri, Missouri State Fair. Contact: Tony Perryman, tony.perryman@ mds.mo.gov, 573-522-3378, 573-443-0998

August 11, 2012

Des Monies, Iowa, Iowa State Fair. Contact: Jen Cannon, (515) 262-3111 ext:245, jcannon@iowastatefair.org. Website: http:/ /www.iowastatefair.org/

August 12-15, 2012

Indianapolis, Indiana, Indiana State Fair, http://www.indianastatefair.com

August 18-25, 2012

Meadville, Pennsylvania, Crawford County Fair. Contact: Curtis Oakes, 814-333-7400 http://www.crawfordcountyfairpa.com

August 16-19, 2012

Louisville, Kentucky, Kentucky State Fair. Alice Hayse, KFFCEntry@ksfb.ky.gov, 502-367-5190, http://www.kystatefair.org/

August, 22, 2012

Boise, Idaho, Western Idaho Fair, http:// www.idahofair.com. Contact: Jerry Hensley - Poultry Superintendent, Hans Bruijn - Premium Office, hbruijn@idahofair.com, 208-287-5663, 208-287-5674.

August 25-26, 2012

Pueblo, Colorado, Colorado State Fair. Contact: Marie Adams, 719-404-2035, 719-404-2027 marie.adams@ag.state.co.us, http:// www.coloradostatefair.com/.

August 25, 2012

Lancaster, California, Antelope Valley Fair. Contact: Becky McRoberts, 661-948-6060 ext(s) 410/226/154, becky@avfair.com, http://www.avfair.com/

September 2012

September 7-8, 2012

Abilene, Texas, West Texas Fair and Rodeo. Contact: Holly Hoogstra, 325-795-6705, www.taylorcountyexpocenter.com, hhoogstra@taylorcounty expocenter.com.

September 7-16, 2012

Hutchinson, Kansas, Kansas State Fair Contact: Debbie Anderson, 609-669-3614 https://www.kansasstatefair.com/

September 7-16, 2012

Knoxville, Tennessee, Chilhowee Park, Tennessee Valley Fair, Contact: Rebecca McKnight, Rebecca@tnvalleyfair.org, 865-215-1480, http://www.tnvalleyfair.org/

September 8-9, 2012

Belvidere, Illinois, Boone County Fairgrounds. Illini Poultry Club, 28th Annual Fall Show. Contact: Ruth Ann Van Fleet, 18763 Grade School Rd., Caledonia, IL 61011. Phone: 815-814-9206

September 9, 2012

Bath, New York, Steuben County Fairgrounds. Twin Tier Poultry Club Annual Show. Contact: contact: Mary Learn 607-776-7992 - mlearn2@stny.rr.com

Sept. 13-15, 2012

Santa Rosa, California, Sonoma County



Fairgrounds, Heirloom Exposition Show. Contact: info@theheirloomexpo.com, http://theheirloomexpo.com

September 15, 2012

Odessa, Texas, Permian Basin Fair, Contact: Jerry Wiley, kb5yyc@juno.com, 432-366-3026, http://www.pbfair.com/index.html

September, 15-16, 2012

Amarillo, Texas, Amarillo Bantam Club Show. Contact: Martin Willhite, 806-383-0658

September 16, 2012

Waddington, New York, Fairgrounds. Northern New York Poultry Fanciers Fall Show. Contact: Gary Wells, 315-322-8993

September 22, 2012

Albuquerque, New Mexico, New Mexico State Fair. Contact: Marilyn Novat, 505-222-9700, novatdgm@aol.com, http:// exponm.com/

September 22-23, 2012

Mason City, Iowa, North Iowa Fairgrounds. North Iowa Poultry Association Double Show Contact: Bart Pals, 641-424-3709, apa@netins.net, NorthIowaPoultry.com

September 21-30, 2012

Yakima, Washington, Central Washington State Fair, Contact: Ruth Anglin, 509-248-7160, rutha@fairfun.com, http:// www.fairfun.com/fair/

September 22-23, 2012

Portage, Wisconsin, Columbia County Fairgrounds. Wisconsin International Poultry Club Show. Contact: Terry Lund, 608-455-2318, wipoultryclub@yahoo.com, http:// wisconsinpoultry.org/

September 29, 2012

Decatur, Texas, Red River Bantam Club Show. Contact: Erma Eldred, 940-825-4770.

Advice on Reducing Heat Stress in Poultry

Dealing with summertime heat is a great challenge for people in Louisiana. LSU AgCenter poultry specialist Dr. Theresia Lavergne says high heat and humidity combine to pose severe problems for all types of poultry.

"Under conditions of severe heat stress, poultry will have a reduced growth rate, decreased feed intake, poor feed conversion, decreased egg production, reduced hatchability rate, reduced egg shell quality, reduced egg size and reduced internal egg quality," Lavergne explained. "Additionally, heat stress can cause increased mortality."

All types and ages of poultry are susceptible to heat stress, but older poultry face a bigger risk. As poultry get older, they increase in size as well as insulation (feathering). Lavergne says this makes it harder for them to dissipate heat.

"The most obvious sign of heat stress in poultry is panting," the LSU AgCenter specialist says. "Poultry do not have sweat glands that can cool their skin, so instead they must use evaporation from their throat and respiratory system as a means of cooling themselves."

Lavergne points out that panting takes a lot of energy which, in turn, generates an appreciable amount of body heat for poultry.

"Ultimately, if poultry are not relieved of heat stress, their body temperature can continue to rise and increase the possibility of mortality," she stresses, "Fortunately there are several things you can do to help your home poultry flock handle heat stress."



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Provide a comfortable environment for your poultry. Always make sure your poultry are in a well-ventilated area in which there is nothing to obstruct the airflow. Placing poultry in a well-ventilated area will help reduce the incidence of heat stress. In addition, a misting/fogging system can be used in a well-ventilated area to help the birds cool themselves.

Provide feed during the coolest part of the day. Poultry produce heat during the process of digestion, and when this heat is combined with the significant rise in body temperature that occurs during the late afternoon of a hot day, there is a greater risk of heat stress for poultry.

Supplement drinking water with electrolytes. During true heat stress, the electrolyte balance in birds is altered as a result of panting. The addition of electrolytes to the drinking water will help balance the electrolytes in the birds and increase the birds' water intake. The increased water intake will aid in cooling the birds and will improve the evaporative cooling of the birds. However, you should consult your veterinarian before using any heat stress supplements such as electrolytes.

Avoid overcrowding your poultry. You should reduce the number of birds kept in a house or in an area. Birds produce body heat. Thus, by reducing the number of birds in a house you will reduce the amount of body heat produced in the house.

Avoid excessive activity during the hottest part of the day. The hot weather is a great stress on the birds, so avoid bothering and disturbing the birds during periods of peak heat.

"The heat of the summertime is unavoidable," Lavergne said. "However, by recognizing the signs of heat stress and taking steps to prevent heat stress in your home poultry flock, you can help keep your poultry comfortable and productive during the summertime."

(Courtesy of LSU Ag Center and Reserach Extension)

August Issue Deadline July 24th

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John Monaco, 1600 Maple Ave, San Martin, CA 95046. Phone # 408-489-3308, email: john@poultryshow.com. APA& ABA General Licensed (07-12)

FLORIDA

Mike Schmidt, 1170 NE Town Terr., Jensen Beach FL 34957. Phone: (772) 260-6120, email: michaeljschmidt@bellsouth.net, APA General License. (05-12)

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Bart Pals, 146 Brook Terrace, Mason City, IA 50401. (641) 424-3709, apa@netins.net. APA-ABA General License (02-12)

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Jackie Koedatich, 47 Cottage Street, Belchertown, MA 01007. 570-269-4666, chickenlittle@noln.com. Bantam Chicken (0412)

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Jeff Halbach, 31601 High Dr. Burlington, WI 53105. jeff.halbach@tds.net, 262-534-6994. Bantam Chicken & Duck. (12-12)

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Heather Hayes, 5019 Lansdowne Road, Armstrong, British Columbia, Canada, V0E 1B4. APA/ABA general licensed +ABA Bantam Duck, 250-546-4969, triple-h@telus.net (02.12)

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Rico Sebastianelli, Box 178, Bon Accord, Alberta Canada T0A0K0. APA General Licensed Judge. Phone: 780-921-2119, Cell: 780-721-1283, Fax: 780-921-3925, Email: ricoseb@shaw.ca (03-12)

BREED CLUBS

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American Serama Association. Dues: \$15 Individual, \$20 Family, youth under 18 Free. AmericanSeramaAssociation.com. Contact: Dianne Brewer, 7955 Gilliam Road, Orlando, FL 32818, Psdianne@gmail.com. Sanctioning information for ASA Table Top Shows. Contact Edgar Mongold at edgarmongold@live.com (02-13)

American Sumatra Association, http:// sumatraassociation.org/ \$18/2yrs; \$25/ 3yrs. Doug Akers, 300 S. 400 W., Lebanon, IN 46052, email: dakers@purdue.edu (12-12)

American Sussex Association, Dues: \$10 or \$15. Mail to: 16813 Bridgeview Rd., Madill, OK 73446-8448. Website: americansussexbreeders.webs.com, americansussexassociation@yahoo.com, asamembership@ymail.com. (06-13) Ameraucana Breeders Club, http:// www.ameraucana.org. Contact: Michael Muenks, Secretary/Treasurer, Ameraucana Breeders Club, 1222 Coldspring Road, Elgin, IL, Phone: (573)796-3999, email: Michael@bantamhill.com (03-12)

International Cornish Breeders Association, Contact: Chris Tamayo, 9829 Falcon Meadow Dr., Elk Grove, CA 95624, email: icbasectreas@gmail.com (12-11)

National Call Breeders of America: http://www.callducks.org, Secretary: Dennis Fuller, email: wapsiwaterfowl@aol.com, 319-334-3497, Mail Membershipsto: NCBA c/o Steve Jones, 9677 Butler Lane, Poetry, TX 75160 (12-12)

National Jersey Giant Club:Secretary:Robert Vaughn, 28143 CR 4, Pequot Lakes,MN56472,http://

nationaljerseygiantclub.com (12-12)

Rhode Island Red Club Of America: http://www.showbirdbid.com/joomla/ redclub, Secretary: Frank Harris, 15483 Coatesville Rd., Beaverdam, VA 23015, email: fbharris@earthlink.net, 804-883-5682 (12-12)

United Orpington Club: http:// www.unitedorpingtonclub.com, Secretary: Christina Korfus, PO Box 681, Cle Elum, WA. 98922, email: korfuskluckers@aol.com, 509-607-0405 (12-12)

Serama Council of North America: www.scnaonline.org, contact Jerry Schexnayder, jerschex@gmail.com. (12-11)

Wyandotte Breeders of America: www.Wyandottebreeders of america.net, Secretary/Treasurer: Karolyn Sutton, 1901 N. 181st HWY, Sylvan Grove, KS 67481. kksutton@wtciweb.com (03-12) Check box above for this size ad.

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ExhibitionPoultry.net

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The club promotes opportunities to practice showmanship, cooperation and fellowship and to be involved with their home community and with the poultry fancy in general.

For more info go to: http://www.apa-abayouthpoultryclub.org/ or contact: Doris Robinson National Director/Coordinator APA-ABA Youth Poultry Club 810 Sweetwater Rd., Philadelphia, TN 37846 Phone: 865-717-6270 Email: nanamamabrahma@att.net