

# Poultrynz

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## Poultrynz Editorial

Half way through the breeding season and all the cockerels are showing up in the chicks. Don't be too hard in culling them out if you are a Poultry show Fancier. I have always reared them all on a bit longer even if I see faults. I have 2 settings out so far and if I get another 3 or 4 then I think that will do for the season. Costs are always

a problem so if you have a handful of money paying for a handful of chicks, the problems start when you get a bigger handful of chicks you are sure going to have a bigger handful of money.

Until next issue.

Regards,  
Ian Selby.

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# CHICKEN SATAY SKEWERS WITH MATCHSTICK VEGES

## INGREDIENTS

- 6 skewers
- 340g chicken breast, sliced into strips
- 400ml coconut cream
- salt to taste
- 2 tsp curry powder
- 30g peanut butter
- 2 Tbsp soy sauce
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 1 cup long grain rice
- 1 Tbsp + 2 tsp oil
- 1 cucumber, sliced into matchsticks
- 1 carrot, peeled & sliced into matchsticks
- 1 spring onion, thinly sliced

## METHOD

1. Preheat the BBQ or oven grill to 200°C.
  2. Soak skewers for 10 min in cold water.
  3. Meanwhile, marinate chicken strips with 3 Tbsp coconut cream, pinch of salt and 1 tsp curry powder.
  4. Thread chicken strips onto skewers, brush with 1 Tbsp oil then cook on a hot BBQ or under the grill for 3-4 min each side or until chicken is cooked through.
  5. In a small saucepan, make the satay sauce by bringing to the boil the remaining coconut cream, peanut butter, 1 tsp curry powder, soy sauce and crushed garlic.
  6. Simmer for 10-15 min on a low heat until sauce begins to thicken.
  7. While the sauce is cooking prepare the rice. In a medium pot place rice, 1¾ cups water and salt to taste. Bring to the boil then turn the heat down to low, cover with a lid and simmer for 12 min or until rice is tender. Fluff rice up with a fork and keep warm.
  8. In a small bowl mix cucumber and carrot matchsticks with spring onion, 2 tsp oil and season with salt to taste.
- To serve: Divide the rice onto two dinner plates. Arrange 3 chicken skewers on top of each plate and spoon over the hot satay sauce. Place matchstick vegetable mix next to the rice. to cool before cutting and serving.

# THE RED PEKIN BANTAM



by George A. McCarley. Abridged.

Red Pekin Trio. Male showing some black in tail.

When one stops to think of trying to describe something that no definite pattern has been laid out for, it is like a builder trying to describe a building that no blue print has been drawn for. I would like to bring to attention before going into detail, than any idea or thought expressed here after are mine and are open for discussion.

To me, a good Red Pekin is a joy to behold. The first thing naturally one would think of in breeding would be type. Good feathers, plenty of them and a loose or fluffy nature, deep breast, body close to ground, neat wings and with head and tail carried almost on a even keel, body being tilted slightly forward. This to my way of thinking is type that no one would be ashamed of. Never sacrifice type for colour. This would be a sad mistake. So after we have our type, colour comes next. I definitely believe that colour is a real factor to offspring. I will probably draw some crossfire here in my article as I state that I think that a good Red can only come from a Black- Buff combination.

Now as to colour. My ideal of colour is the same as the Rhode Island Red. By this Red, I mean one that is a clear red and not a reddish brown. Undercolour should show a good colour of red on down to skin. White or buff undercolour is undesirable.

The quill of feather must be red also and not orange or buff. There should be no patches of black or brown feathers on shawl or body. I think that maybe a few black feathers in wing or tail would be permissible. I have talked to some breeders on this matter and they say that the black in wings or tail should be a must. My answer on this is, no. A top quality Red Pekin should be solid red. Of course, this is only my opinion. They have come a long way and by the help of true Pekin fanciers, he will take his place besides the other varieties. I know that there are many breeders who will be willing to put their time and patience with this fellow and help him earn the place he so rightly deserves.

My Reds are a cross. Their origin being a Black Pekin cock crossed over a deep Buff Pekin hen. From this start, it has been a program of crossing back the best to the best over a period of a good many years. This requires a lot of time and patience. One generally does not get what he expects when cross breeding. The larger percentage of ours now come Red but every year we still get some almost black and a few golden buff. Of course these run in a low percentage. In our breeding program we take our very best Reds every year for our breeders. As

stated before, stick to that colour if you still hold type. This has been our program since we have been breeding Reds. It will be our program in years to come. But regardless whatever one's program is, there will come off-colours regardless of breed or variety. I think that this is to teach us that there is a Master Breeder over us all who shows us sometimes how weak we are when we try to figure above the law of average.

One might ask the question of why I am so sure that a solid Red can be bred and still hold type. My answer is, I have tried it and know it can be done.



Red Pekin Cockerel

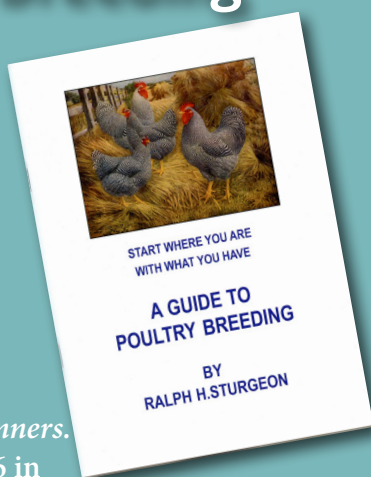
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By R. Sturgeon

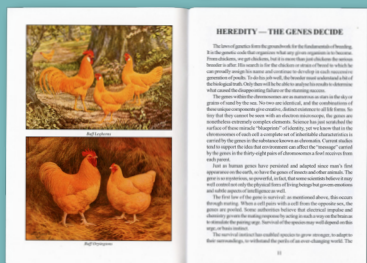
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# WELL-BALANCED RATIONS FOR BETTER HATCHING



*Author unknown.*

Plenty of strong chicks in this hatch

Reproduction in poultry is different in several ways from reproduction in other farm animals:

1. It is much more rapid;
2. The embryo develops outside the body;
3. The food of the young is not prepared within the body of the mother. In the chicken, as in all birds, the food supply for the developing embryo is concentrated within the yolk of the egg before it ever leaves the mother's body. Once a fertile egg is laid, the nutritional fate of the contained embryo is fixed, except insofar as it may be influenced by the egg's environment. Nevertheless, diet may affect reproduction just as much in chickens and other poultry as in cattle, sheep and swine.

The three ways in which diet may affect reproduction in chickens are:

1. It may affect the quantity and fertilizing capacity of the sperm produced by the male and thereby affect the number of eggs fertilized;
2. It may affect the egg production of the females;
3. It may affect the composition of the eggs and thus the hatchability of those which are fertile.

## **DIET AND THE MALE BREEDER**

There is very little information about the effect of the diet of the male chicken on the ability to produce sperm or on the fertilizing capacity of their sperm. There is no acceptable experimental evidence that the sperm production or fertilizing capacity of healthy male chickens can be increased by feeding special diets. However, researches have found some compounds which cause a marked decrease in semen production.

There is an abundance of evidence that egg production is affected by diet. According to this evidence, a marked deficiency in any one or more of the following listed nutrients causes a reduction or even a stoppage of egg production; calcium, manganese, protein, vitamin A, vitamin D, riboflavin, choline or water.

## **DIET AND EGG PRODUCTION**

Egg production may be affected by both the quality and quantity of the protein in the diet. Only a few eggs are produced when the level of protein intake is reduced below approximately 1% of the diet. On the other hand, egg production cannot be increased a great deal by increasing the quantity of protein in the diet above 16 to 17% if the protein is or good

quality. Chickens often continue to produce eggs on diets that are partially deficient in vitamin A, vitamin D, riboflavin or choline; even a fairly high rate of egg production may be maintained for a time. The composition of an egg is, to a certain extent, dependent on the diet of the chicken that laid it. The egg's content of virtually all the vitamins required by the chicken is influenced by the quantities of these vitamins in the feed. The composition of the fat in the egg's yolk is very readily influenced by the composition of the fat in the feed. However, no one has been able to demonstrate that the composition of the protein in the egg can be influenced by the diet. Since composition of all eggs is not the same and composition of the diet determines to some extent the composition of the egg, it is logical to assume that hatchability can be markedly affected by diet.

### DIET AND HATCHABILITY

Hatchability is a much more sensitive indicator to the adequacy of a given diet than is egg production. It is possible to formulate two or more diets in which the egg production is essentially the same but the hatchability differs greatly. Among the dietary factors that have been found to affect hatchability are: the quantity and quality of the proteins; the quantity of several or the mineral elements; and the quantity of several vitamins. When the usual feedstuffs are red, no improvement in hatchability will normally result from increasing the protein in the total feed above 15%. If the protein of the total feed falls below 12%, however, there is a tendency for a hatchability to decrease. It has been found that when the basic grain in the diet is milo rather than yellow corn, the total protein content needs to be at least 17%.

In 1938, South Dakota University made efforts to improve the hatchability of turkey eggs by feeding a ration with a higher level of vitamins. The control (lot's) ration was commonly recognized as nutritionally adequate for hatchability. The other lot, which included half the turkeys, was given a ration considerably higher in vitamin A, D and riboflavin. Their percent hatchability increased when the turkeys received the ration higher in vitamin A, D and riboflavin. There was a progressive increase in the hatchability of eggs produced by the turkeys fed the vitamin rich ration as the season advanced. Hatchability of the fertile eggs produced by birds on the control diet did not exceed 58.8%, while the vitamin enriched ration exceeded 71% hatchability.

Almost nothing is known about what constitutes good quality in protein from the standpoint of

hatchability. But it has been observed that some protein supplements tend to improve hatchability while others have a depressing effect on hatchability.

Vitamin B12 is extremely important to good hatchability. Calcium and manganese are two of the most important minerals.

Although apparently no studies have been made on the effects of typical carbohydrates in hatchability, a number of workers have studied effects of several grains in otherwise similar diets. From the standpoint of hatchability, wheat appears to be the best of the four common grains. Its advantage is very slight and perhaps non-existent when the grains are singly included in properly balanced diets.

### METHODS OF FEEDING

1. The All Mash Method – all the feedstuff is suitably ground and mixed together in a form of mash which may be put together in pellets or crumbles. Grit may or may not be supplied, but it is not necessary. In all mash feeds, it is customary to include all the required calcium,

2. The Mash-Grain Method – both the feeding of mash and grain are involved. The all mash method has many advantages because of its greater simplicity. But the mash grain method is the more flexible of the two and permits the poultryman

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who is familiar with the nutritional requirements of his chickens to feed them accordingly.

The mash grain method yields the best results in the hands of a skilled feeder, On the other hand, the all mash method is usually the safest in the hands of an inexperienced poultryman, The all mash method generally is accepted as the best approach for feeding from one day old to six weeks of age.

All mash diets are most suitable for the production or hatching eggs or uniform quality and hatch-ability. Really, a complete pelleted or crumbled breeder feed is best for producing hatching eggs. This breeder ration should be fed at least 30 days prior to saving hatching eggs for maximum hatch-ability. By the same principle that a mother grows a stronger, healthier baby by eating a good diet during pregnancy, the hen directly improves the quality of chick by eating a well balanced ration while she is producing the hatching eggs.

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# CONTROL COOP DUST FOR BETTER FLOCK HEALTH



by S.F. Ridlen

Most poultry houses have dust. Some have a little, others, a lot. Ideally there should be none. But some dust can be seen in any house. Dust can be a nuisance and cause problems. Heavy dust generally indicates improper management.

Dust webs occur in most poultry houses. They look like cobwebs, but spiders are seldom involved. These webs or strands are strictly composed of dust particles.

Sources of dust: Dust in poultry houses arises from several sources. A goodly amount is chicken dander from feather follicles. Some is bits of feathers, skin and scales from the birds. Fine particles of feed often become dispersed into the air. Litter in floor operations and dried bits of manure are other sources.

## CAUSES OF DUST

The amount of dust present is directly related to humidity in the house. The lower the humidity, the greater the dust. Movement of the birds, operation of mechanical equipment, and activity of people working in the house stir up dust and move it into the air. Once in the air, dust particles tend to stay in suspension for

A Dust Bath can also contribute to the Dust in the air a relatively long time. The amount and velocity of air movement in the house is a major cause of dust in the air. When air movement slows or stops, the larger, main in suspension. So, as houses are closed down for the winter and ventilation rates are reduced, dust tends to accumulate more.

The development of dust webs is promoted by electrostatic charges carried by dust particles. The strength of these charges is related to the humidity in the house. It tends to be greater when the humidity is lower. High humidity then can lessen the generation and suspension of particles.

## EFFECTS OF DUST

Dust is a pollutant. It is almost entirely the cause of waste odours in the air because the odours become attached to airborne particles. It is a health hazard to poultry and people, irritating the respiratory tract and lowering resistance to respiratory diseases. It can lodge in birds' nostrils and plug them tightly. Dust's chief threat to poultry health, however, is as a carrier of disease organisms, including Marek's disease. Accumulated dust interferes with ventilation, too.



Web catching Dust in house

## DUST CONTROL

Controlling dust is not easy. Some will occur even with the best of management, but dust can be minimized. Proper ventilation is one of the most effective tools in dust control.

Another good control measure is to vacuum or sweep the floors frequently. Sweeping should be done carefully to avoid adding dust to the atmosphere.

A poultry house free of excessive dust is a better place to work and less hazardous to the health of both you and your birds. Moreover, it is an indication that ventilation is probably right and overall management good. Minor changes in cleaning, management and ventilation could help you.

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# FUNGI AS ENEMIES OF POULTRY HEALTH

*From the American Bantam Association.*

**F**ungi (yeast and moulds) can be enemies of Poultry health. Fungi are microscopic forms of plant life higher in rank than bacteria. They have more complicated forms and methods of growth than bacteria. Some are not microscopic, for the group includes such plants as mushrooms. Other forms are seen readily as fuzzy, slimy, moist, or crumbly masses of millions of organisms piled one on top of the other which we call "mouldy."

The general condition caused by fungi is called mycosis. Fungi may affect various parts of the body. The condition tends to come on slowly, spreads gradually, and produces chronic conditions from which recovery is slow.

Affected birds are droopy, may have a diarrhoea, and look as if they were infested with parasites (worms) or chronic coccidiosis.

Usually, the results of the growth of the fungus on the surface may be seen without the use of a microscope.

There are four different types of diseases caused by fungi:

1. **Favus** - A white growth that forms on the comb. It can be transmitted to persons who handle infected birds.
2. **Aspergilosis** - Formerly called brooder pneumonia, this form is more often seen in young chicks and is manifested by gasping, sleepiness and diarrhoea.
3. **Moneliasis** - Often called "thrush" because of the granular, white patches on the affected parts. This is a specific mould infection that attacks the lining of the mouth, gullet, crop and even further down the digestive tract. In the crop, the white patches, which vary from the size of a pinhead to that of a dime, are firmly attached to the lining. When the patch is removed, the underlining is red and inflamed.
4. **Mould Poisoning** - We don't know very much about this one. Spoiled or mouldy feed may become toxic. Experiments have shown that feeding moulds in high concentration may produce hemorrhagic disease. The crop is remarkable in its ability to take care of the feed that appears to us to be spoiled.

Practically without exception, moulds are associated with dampness and poor sanitation. The moulds grow freely in damp feed, moist litter and wet places in general. Fungi produce spores as a means of reproduction - like the dust in puffballs. These spores are blown freely by even, light movements of air.

With a mass infection of spores and a slightly damaged lining of the mouth or crop, it is easy to see how the fun-



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gus infection gets started. Mycosis is a springtime infection.

Fungus infections (mycosis) are recognized by the mould-like growths on the comb, in the mouth, crop, or other parts of the digestive tract. You must, however, exclude wet pox. The infection may be in stages where the patches have not formed.

Laboratory examinations consist of eliminating other causes and culturing for the mould involved.

Mouldy feeds are more difficult to incriminate as a cause of losses.

The mouldy smell is easily detected, but that is not a sure sign of toxicity.

Here is the case where good sanitation, dry quarters and proper storage of feed and litter from the first of the season really pay off. Mould spores will not germinate in dry surroundings. But it is not easy to keep things dry in wet weather. Yet most damage from mould growth occurs in storage rather than while feed or litter is in use. In damp

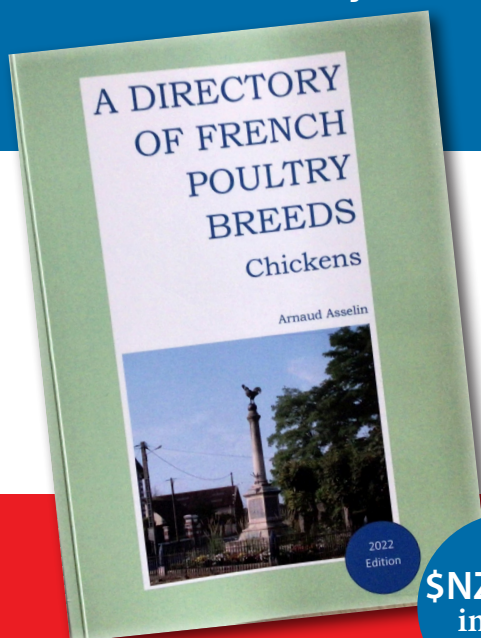


Chicks effected by Aspergillosis

weather, use more lime in the litter, stir more frequently and apply heat or forced ventilation when necessary. Dry grains properly at harvest time. Mouldy material may be exposed to the sun a few hours before use.

## A DIRECTORY OF FRENCH POULTRY BREEDS

by Arnaud Asselin



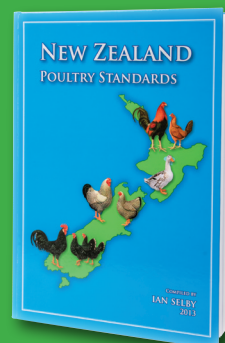
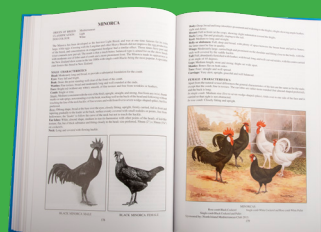
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